

Heart of England Community Foundation – Outcomes and Outputs Achieved as Part of NNS Contracts

Heart of England Community Foundation's first NNS grant manager contract started in late 2019. They have managed the grants programme for South very efficiently and have built strong and trusting partnerships necessary to deliver this. They have a positive reputation for being responsive and efficient. For example, from April 2021 to March 2022 the combined grants budget for South [Edgbaston and Northfield NNS] was £400,000. All of this was awarded to relevant local community organisations.

The NNS contract requires them to work in close partnership with three lead facilitator organisations, community organisations and commissioners. All applicants need to have met with local NNS leads before they will be considered by the panel.

Since the new NNS contract started in April 2022 they have set up and managed 3 grant panel meetings. Following screening / preassessment by Heart of England Community Foundation at end of November 16 applications have been brought to the grant panel others will have been rejected. They also oversee micro grants of £500 or less, decisions on these are made by local leads and 5 have been awarded to small community groups.

To illustrate their active engagement, in quarter 2 [July to Sept 2022] led or participated in the following meetings:

- Contract meeting
- Monitoring visit to a grantee [Redeemer Church]
- South Steering Committee x2
- New NNS staff as onboarding session to explain grants process, introduce grant making and Heart of England
- NNS South Team meeting to agree criteria for Younger Adults Fund
- Grants/budget catch up with NNS lead staff
- Grant Panel meeting

Heart of England Community Foundation contract requires that they bring in additional external funding to community organisations in Edgbaston and Northfield, since 2020 they have matched an additional £368,388; of this £56,252 has been achieved since April 2022.

Coproduction with citizens with lived experience is also a requirement in all NNS contracts. Heart of England Community Foundation have recruited and trained two citizens to join the grants panel with a third in the process of joining.

Heart of England Community Foundation also manages the grant making process for NNS Connected Communities which is an 'add on' to the NNS designed to reach non-geographical communities or groups not reached by the constituency model. During quarter 2 [July to Sept 2022] led or participated in the following meetings:

- Project team meeting
- Steering committee meeting
- X2 meetings with Birmingham LGBT

- Project review meetings with Birmingham Irish & DeafPlus
- Meeting with DeafPlus – re staffing issues and delivery
- Attended the pink picnic organised by Birmingham LGBT

In October Heart of England Community Foundation produced a film highlighting summarising their work with Edgbaston and Northfield NNS leads and local community assets. *Link to film*

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www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WlvTIAZA1A