

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND "Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live" WARD PROPOSAL FORM	
WARD: Billesley & Highters Heath	INNOVATION TITLE: Billesley & Highters Heath Development Group
Innovations have to meet the LIF priorities and add value to the City wide core priorities listed below. (Tick all those that apply)	
<u>City Core Priorities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Jobs & Skills a great City to succeed in <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Housing a great City to live in <input type="checkbox"/> • Health a great City to lead a healthy & active life <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<u>LIF Priorities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • New approaches to investment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Clean streets <input type="checkbox"/> • Improving local centres <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
What is your innovative idea and how does it show collaborative, partnership working and active citizenship? <p>Our proposal is to set up a development programme and team with the objective of establishing a Participatory Community Trust for the Billesley & Highters Heath Ward.</p> <p>The Development Group would aim to foster a participation culture in the Billesley and Highters Heath Ward with people working together on practical ideas to make the neighbourhood a better place to live.</p> <p>Research shows that only 3% of people in any area get involved in community projects, this project would aim to improve upon that. <i>University of Essex. Institute for Social and Economic Research and Nat Cen Social Research, Understanding Society.</i></p> <p>Part of the grant will be used to set up the Development Group in terms of managing and organizing the project.</p> <p>Membership would be drawn from the Billesley & Highters Heath Community and a steering group would reflect the service providers and the users of the services in the community.</p> <p>In particular, the Development Group would work with all local organisations and groups to establish a community fundraising vehicle for the Billesley & Highters Heath Ward.</p> <p>Part of the grant would be used as social capital to support local projects and up skill the community. This would make it easier for the community to start new projects and</p>	

subsequently, increase the capacity for people to make collective decisions as a community

Through consultation with local providers and community leaders, the following issues were raised as needing tackling:

- The lack of funding to provide community events
- The lack of involvement of local people in their community
- The need to engage with young local people and help make them active citizens
- The need to create capacity to sustain and develop local facilities and services
- The lack of a cohesive approach to provision of services

The Development Group would address these issues by:

- Using part of the grant to fund local projects: this will enable the Development Group and the steering group to gain skills in assessing bid criteria and would mean that decisions would be made at a local level and speedily.
- Running bid-writing workshops to up skill local residents
- Commissioning a needs, skills and provision analysis of the Billesley, Highters Heath and Yardley Wood areas
- Creating a focus point for the community and community groups
- Creating a social media forum for the community, where thoughts, ideas and community initiatives can be shared

Time Frame – is it:-

One off event/programme

Implement and complete within 6 months (2016)

Implement and complete within 12 months (2017)

✓

How will the innovation be implemented?

The Development Group would:

- Work quickly so that enthusiasm doesn't die – local people making local decisions quickly.
- Reduce and share the burden
 - Do a skills and service provision audit of Billesley & Highters Heath
 - Recruit school council pupils on to the steering group of the Development Group
 - Recruit steering group support from Youth Services
 - Engage with community leaders
 - Keep commitment and tasks to a minimum recognising that people have life commitments
- Have an agreed strategy with proper co-production design rather than just events:
 - Attend council and other relevant meetings including Ward and MPs surgeries to act as a conduit between the community and the service providers
 - Have face-to-face contact with local residents
 - Work towards establishing an independent and sustainable Trust for the Ward
- Promote effectively via social media:

- Link the B14 Facebook page to the Billesley & Highters Heath page to expand the audience
- Set up a Twitter account for Billesley & Highters Heath
- Support collections of activities:
 - Support local community projects like batch-baking sessions at the local church, bee-keeping classes for young people, local sports events, trade schools etc. with match funding – this will up-skill people in the process of fund raising and organising an event and create a sense of pride in their community. This will also engage people in making neighbourhood decisions.
- Develop a support system of fund raising, skills, spaces and time
 - Running fund-raising workshops for local people hosted by Big Lottery, Comic Relief and Cadburys and held at a local venue – again up-skilling residents and creating a stake in the community
- Use the Participation Cities framework as a model

We have established support mechanisms to create the Billesley & Highters Heath Development Group via recognised organisations. While independent of any existing project, The Development Group can piggyback on the existing structures offered by local community/voluntary sector groups, whilst building wider membership with a view to establishing the Development Group as a Trust at the end of this project.

What outcomes will the proposal achieve? What will success look like and how will its impact be measured? How will you ensure legacy/ continuation and what learning will the project provide?

The following will be achieved within 1 year:

1. The establishment of a development team
2. An increase in community led projects
3. A raised level of community engagement, consultation and decision-making for the communities of the Billesley & Highters Heath Ward and its environs.
4. Engagement with young people in the community via steering group involvement, bid writing and social media
5. The creation of a community vehicle to address the charity-funding gap in Billesley & Highters Heath Ward.
6. More people skilled in writing bids, assessing bid criteria, planning and organizing events.
7. Sustainability will be secured via an active bidding strategy.
8. Increased levels of funding in Billesley & Highters Heath Ward from charitable funders for community projects promoting community cohesion and reducing deprivation (within 5 years).

Have you considered other sources of funding and whether the project can be used to leverage further funding from elsewhere (please specify funding sources)?

The major purpose of the project is to create and sustain a process of attracting external funding to the current Ward area.

What resources will be required?

	£
- Capital	0
- Running costs	24000
- People power volunteers	0

Amount required from LIF £24000

- For set up and administration
- To fund match local projects
- To fund the person responsible for the social media etc.
- To resource bid-writing workshops
- To fund a specific programme of consultation/local engagement on improved governance (i.e. Parish/Community Council models)
- To fund an immediate needs programme in the Billesley & Highters Heath Community

Have you got any match funding – in cash or in kind?

Trustees will volunteer their services. The strategy of The Development Group will focus on engagement with existing volunteer networks (e.g. Local environmental improvement groups such as the Riverside Project and Friends of Billesley Common, plus faith groups etc.) Volunteer time contributions can be factored into specific funding bids.

In the first year of the Development Group's life, Birmingham Moseley RFC will provide accommodation, services, resources, management time, trustees and accountancy and auditor services as an in kind contribution.

Contact person for proposal

Name: Lynda Batchelor
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 E-mail: lynda.mrcf@gmail.com

Which residents or community groups was the proposal discussed with and when (please give details of any meetings and which councillors attended)?

Consultations have taken place with Billesley & Highters Heath Faith Forum lead members Rev Trevor Neill, Imam Mohammed Imtiaz and colleagues at the Faith Forum lunch held at Yardley Wood Baptist Church on February 1st, 2017 Cllr Davis attended.

The idea of a community trust has also been discussed in the Ark (community centre) Partnership, a body bringing together statutory agencies, schools and others. It was also discussed at the January 18th Partnership meeting. Cllr Davis attended.

A wider meeting was held on April 11th involving statutory agencies, plus a range of community bodies (Riverside Project, Billesley & Highters Heath Tenant Management Organisation, Malachi Trust/The Ark, Grendon & Billesley & Highters Heath Children and Family Centres, Moseley Rugby Community Foundation, Yardley Wood Baptist Church (venue). Councillors Davis and Buchanan attended.

A 'steering group' meeting was held at Birmingham Moseley RFC on 24th April 2017 with Councillors Davis, Buchanan and Barnett, Gordon Lee, Sandra Jenkinson, Derek Nutt and Lynda Batchelor.

A further consultation meeting was held 15th June 2017, chaired by Karen Cheney, District Head, BCC, in attendance were:

Councillor Alex Buchanan, Councillor Susan Barnett, Lynda Batchelor & Derek Nutt, Moseley Rugby Club Community Foundation and representatives from:

South Central CCG; Big Lottery Fund; Youth Service; West Midlands Police; Christ Church Yardley Wood; B14 News; Yardley Wood Baptist Church; Maypole & Chinnbrook Children's Centre; BBC Children in Need; Comic Relief & Charitable Trusts West Midlands; Grendon Nursery & Family Centre; Malachi; BCC Housing; Holy Cross Church; BCC

Following this, a strategy meeting was held between Lynda Batchelor, Moseley Rugby Community Foundation and Dipali Chandra of Charitable Trusts West Midlands on 3rd July, 2017.

A final signing-off meeting was held at Birmingham Moseley Rugby Club on 29th August 2017.

Discussed at

Ward meeting

Date 29/8/17**Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors**Name Cllr Susan Barnett Signature [Signature] Date 29/8/17Name Cllr Alex Buchanan Signature [Signature] Date 29/8/17Name Cllr Philip M Davis Signature [Signature] Date 28/8/17**Internal use only**

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date

Approved

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>