

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND “Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live” WARD PROPOSAL FORM					
WARD ...XXXXXX	INNOVATION TITLE Employment Support.				
<p>Innovations have to meet the LIF priorities and add value to the City wide core priorities listed below. (Tick all those that apply)</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><u>City Core Priorities</u></th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><u>LIF Priorities</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <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 type="checkbox"/> </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input type="checkbox"/> • New approaches to investment <input type="checkbox"/> • Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Clean streets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Improving local centres <input type="checkbox"/> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>City Core Priorities</u>	<u>LIF 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 type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input type="checkbox"/> • New approaches to investment <input type="checkbox"/> • Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Clean streets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Improving local centres <input type="checkbox"/>
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<p>What is your innovative idea and how does it show collaborative, partnership working and active citizenship?</p> <p>The Future for Youth Group is a registered charity (charity number 2220006) that was set up in 2014 with a focus on getting young people back into the work place. It has become clear to us that the usual pathways for young people to get into employment do not work for all. A number of our young people have expressed a wish and desire to “get their hands dirty” while they learn a trade. As a result we have devised the “Environmental Apprenticeship Project” The Local Innovation Fund will kick start a new social enterprise and training scheme that will train young people (at an hourly rate of £1.50 above minimum wage). While supporting them through a CSCS card and a Health and Safety Training program that evidences to potential employers that they have the relevant qualifications to be able operate on any work site that involves heavy machinery or power tools. The option for the apprentices will be then to remain as part of the program or to set themselves up with our assistance to become self-employed registered companies</p> <p>Our local allotments also have 8 unattended plots and Birmingham City Council have agreed that we will be able to lease these plots to grow fresh local fruit and veg. This will be done accordance with the >>>>>> school that resides adjacent to the allotments and their young children will be part of the growing program as part of a healthy schools initiative. A local forest schools project will also be part of the allotment project and they will then be conducting healthy eating classes with the produce supplied.</p> <p>The project will enable a qualified trainer (employed by ourselves at no cost to the Local Innovation Fund) who will be training 20 young apprentices while looking towards potential long term contracts that they will be able to deliver. (To date even prior to</p>					

approval of the LIF bid we have the >>>>> Housing Association who has guaranteed that their grass maintenance across the >>>>> region will go to the project as part of the H.A's social investment in local communities. The value of the contract will be £15,000 per annum).

In order for our young people to receive genuine on the job training we have liaised with the local parks manager who has agreed along with his contractors that we will be assisting with all horticultural works within our local parks. On the job training will then be beneficial to our apprentices but it will also have an immediate positive impact on our local green open spaces.

The Friends of <<<<<<< has also been part of our initial dialogue and they will be working alongside our young people offering their help and assistance as the project develops. (this includes two professional retired workers who are keen to see their knowledge and experience utilised in a positive direction to assist our young people) . Although we have our own data base of potential young people we have agreed with the local job centre for a referral pathway to be set up and dialogue with our local third sector groups have identified a number of potential young people who want to join the program.

In conversation with the Local Town Centre Partnership they have identified a need for extra litter picking and maintenance of the green open spaces around the centre. We have expressed an interest in this as we will be able to receive a regular income from the TCP (subject to a contract being drawn up of £12,000 per annum) but we will be also improving the local environment where our young people live giving them more of an ownership of the their local shopping precinct . (and subject to the project going ahead the Town Centre Manager has suggested that one of our young people become a young person's ambassador who sits at all meetings advising the Partnership from a youth perspective.

The program has been discussed at a number of public meetings:

11/12/16 <<<<< Ward meeting of 24 residents (all local councillors in attendance)

9/10/16 <<<<<< Neighbourhood Forum 35 residents (local councillors in attendance)

16/01/16 The <<<<<< District Environmental Sub Group That included Partners

07/10/16 <<<<<<< Youth Panel of 32 young people

11/11/16 Town Centre Partnership Meeting (28 local retail representatives)

28/11/16 Schools visit 48 young people consulted with for the allotment project

We have also communicated via our web page and facebook in which we have had 480 positive comments and suggestions to help shape the project.

The project also follows the wishes of the >>>>> District Challenge on youth unemployment where consultation on employment issues was conducted with over 30 service providers.

We have also met with lead officers in Birmingham City Council <<<<< – Employment

and Skills (in conjunction with the District Lead Councillor on employment). To establish the viability of the program and to ensure we are cost effective. The standard template from Birmingham City Council is that an outlay of £5,000 per individual into employment is cost effective.

Time Frame – is it:-

One off event/programme

Implement and complete within 6 months (2016)

Implement and complete within 12 months (2017)

X

How will the innovation be implemented?

The coordination and analysis of the project is vital to its long term success. As such we will be setting a project panel that will monitor and evaluate the project as it progresses and develops. This panel will consist of the three elected Councillors. A nominated senior project officer from our group who is experienced in self-employment and social enterprises, parks manager and nominated officer from the Parks Contractors and three young people to ensure that their voices are the most important when developing the project.

We will be returning bi-monthly returns to Birmingham City Council updating of numbers in the scheme and work that has been undertaken.

Day to day work will be coordinated by our training officers and in conjunction with the local parks team and Town Centre Manager.

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?

There are a number of key outcomes that we will be measuring

- A minimum of 25 young people will be trained and no longer unemployed
- The number of volunteers from the Friends of and Forest School that will be offering their time. (18 signed up to the project), encouraging and promoting the active citizen agenda.
- The impact of the green and clean agenda will be immediately improved and this will be reflected in any and all environmental surveys conducted.
- A key element to the project will be the number of local environmental contracts we set up as the long term sustainability of the project will be critical to this.

Our consultation has indicated that one of the key opportunities of this project will be assisting local residents who for a number of reasons are unable to maintain their gardens. In consultation with the Age Concern we will be an approved contractor who will be able to offer an excellent gardening service at a basic cost. Similarly our Housing Association contact will be assessing the potential for ourselves to be the approved contractor of horticulture for their clients. (As dialogue is currently underway Age Concern alone have estimated over 200 properties and we will offering a rate of £5.00 per hour. Current private companies are at a rate of £10.00 per hour and over)

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

We currently have two successful bids for the project
 £10,000 Awards For All
 £4,000 Birmingham Airport Fund
 £44,000 of our own reserve funding to help kick start the project

What resources will be required?

Capital - £4,700 (mechanical horticultural equipment, Strimmer's , hedge cutters , ladders, & safety equipment, safety boots allocated to each individual, goggles, gloves.)

Apprenticeship Wages 50% contribution requested from LIF at £4.10 per hour x 10 (apprenticeships) x30 (hours per week) for 20 weeks = £24,600 (N.B. the other 10 apprenticeships will be funded via our match funding)

Amount required

Capital

£4,700...

Revenue

£24,600

Contact person for proposal

Name A.N. Anonymous

Telephone 0121 303 6666

E-mail A. Anonymous@birmingham.gov.uk

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

The proposal was discussed at a number of meetings including the following:

- >>>>> Youth Unemployment summit meeting
 - >>>>> School Consultation program
 - >>>>> Neighbourhood Partnership Board September 2016
 - Board meeting of >>>> Tenants and Residents Alliance 22 September 2016
- attended with all three councillors

Also our volunteers have spoken to residents in the >>>>> Ward to consult on this idea throughout late August and Early September 2016

Alongside this we have meet and discussed this idea with our local ward Cllrs who have confirmed the project ties in to the District Challenge and ward priorities

We have met with the three ward Cllrs on Wednesday the 5th October 2016, who are in full support of the project

Discussed at

Ward meeting

Date

Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors

Name Signature Date

Name Signature Date

Name Signature Date

Internal use only

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date

Approved

Yes	
No	