

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND "Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live" PROPOSAL FORM													
WARD New Hall Sutton Coldfield	INNOVATION TITLE Stephens Pool- Access to Employment												
<p>Innovations have to meet the LIF priorities and add value to the City wide core priorities listed below.</p> <p>(Tick all those that apply)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <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>• Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Jobs & Skills <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• New approaches to investment <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Housing for Birmingham <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Health <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Clean streets <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>• Improving local centres <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>City Core Priorities</u>	<u>LIF Priorities</u>	• Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• Jobs & Skills <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• New approaches to investment <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• Housing for Birmingham <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• Health <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>	• Clean streets <input checked="" style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>		• Improving local centres <input checked="" style="float: right;" 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 Kingstanding Regeneration Trust (KRT) is a charity established in 2007 as a volunteer led group and now employ eight members of staff and a large cohort of volunteers. Our primary aim is to reduce deprivation and poverty in the communities where we are based which are among the most deprived and marginalised in the country.</p> <p>We work with our local communities and partner organisations to design and deliver initiatives that create employment and learning opportunities for our residents and young people while improving existing and creating new green spaces for community use.</p> <p>The majority of the initiatives that we deliver support young people aged 16-24 that are not in employment, education or training. These young people have left school without qualifications and face many social and economic barriers that are impacting negatively on their personal growth and progression. Our organisation has evolved due to</p>													

the wishes and needs of our young people. It became obvious in the early days of our organisation that our young people were more inclined to utilise their skills in a physical environment rather than going down an academic route. We now have a specialist team that enables the young people to gain work experience, and vocational training leading to entry level qualifications in the world of horticulture.

In the last two years we have delivered projects to improve local green spaces at Conker Island and The Pimple, improve domestic gardens for 100 elderly residents and though we are still in the early stages of implementation we have already got three young people into full time employment via the Erdington Town Centre Local Innovation Bid and six young people now have successfully gained accredited qualifications

We have now been invited to work in the Newhall Ward of Sutton Coldfield to replicate our community activities in a disused green open space that surrounds Stephens Pool. Our project will engage the local community resulting in them becoming a constituted Friends of Organisation that takes new civic pride in their local environment ensuring that the area becomes a focal point for community activities and engagement. Our long term assistance will be to support the group and train them so they are able to identify and be successful in drawing down external funding to ensure the project is sustainable in the long term. The local adjoining school will also be a key member of the project and via the Forest Schools principals of learning we will be able to utilise the area as a mechanism for outdoor learning.

Local families are leading increasingly indoor lifestyles based around artificial stimuli that discourage developmental interaction and play. This is known as Nature Deficit Disorder (NDD), leading to volatile behaviour / increased anti-social behaviour and increased apathy, depression and anxiety.

The Early Years Foundation Stage & Ofsted have published a number of articles that argue that outdoor learning provides exciting, direct and relevant learning activities that can be achieved outside the classroom recognising that outdoor learning has equal value to indoor learning and should be utilized as a tool to develop young people. Our project will create an outdoor learning environment that will benefit our children in a number of ways:

- Supports the development of healthy and active lifestyles
- Offers children opportunities for physical freedom and movement promoting a sense of wellbeing and confidence
- Provides opportunities for developing harmonious relationships with others through negotiation taking turns and cooperation
- Supports children who learn best from physical activity or movement
- Provides safe and supervised opportunities for children to experience new challenges assess risk and develop the skills to manage difficult situations.
- Supports children developing creativity and problem solving skills
- Encourages creative thinking and inventiveness
- Gives children contact with the natural world and offers them unique experiences such as direct contact with the outdoors and the various seasons offering new tactile and visual experiences.

As part of their social investment Jaguar Land Rover will be offering an extensive team to help work on site and coordinating this offer with our own young people and our trained coordinators will oversee the work. This will be an excellent opportunity for our young people to work side by side with trained professionals in a different sector giving them life skills and building up and developing their confidence so they realise that they have a future and a genuine worth.

In order to access the site a contractor will work to clean out the pool removing overhanging branches, trees and silt. We will then carry out extensive horticultural work to ensure the area becomes a local community asset

Over a six month period we will cut back and clear overgrown parts of the park making the area accessible through our work experience programme which will provide training in grounds work and horticulture for twenty young people aged 16-24 who are not in employment, education and training.

We will also coordinate arts workshops (this will include a local woodcarver who will be demonstrating to all participants how to make bat and bird boxes and laying on more detailed wood carving sessions) and planting days to complement and enhance the local area.

We have also identified a key gap in the work market in that all manual and construction sites require a CSCS card – of which the construction industry currently has a shortage of potential trained workers (which is in effect a mini passport that provides proof for individuals they have passed all relevant health and safety training and are able to work on potentially dangerous hard hat sites). Via the project we will be able to ensure that all the young people on the project will gain the CSCS card an accredited vocational training qualification. With the card these young people will be able to access entry level jobs.

In addition KRT staff will provide training and advice to address the many barriers that prevent these young people progressing into further education, training and work. With this support we expect to achieve positive progression routes for all twenty young people working on this project.

Time Frame – is it:-

One off event/programme

Implement and complete within 6

Implement and complete within 12

x

months (2016)

months (2017)

How will the innovation be implemented?

Overall management of the project will be via a management panel that will include local councillors / residents / school and members of the KRT board.

Day to day management of the project will be via one of our senior experienced officers and a Projects Manager. Feedback and support has been offered from the local parks manager who sees the project as a good example of how local people can not only benefit from an improved green site but also utilise horticultural skills to gain long term employment.

Two senior managers will monitor delivery of the programme to ensure that we are achieving all our outputs and outcomes and are managing the budget correctly. Monthly reports and updates on project progress will be made to our board who will make recommendations on project delivery based on these reports and feedback from our user group.

Prior to commencing the project we will prepare a detailed Project Initiation Document (PID) which will set out the aims of the project and include agreed outputs and outcomes, a risk register and mitigation plan.

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?

Our project has a number of outcomes

- Provide training opportunities and progression routes into employment for a minimum of 20 young people
- Encourage social action and active citizenship by providing volunteering opportunities for our residents and enable them to take control of their green open spaces
- Enable opportunities for Forest School Learning thereby increasing educational attainment

We will also be monitoring the increased usage of the open space and will be utilising local feedback to help us shape the services of KRT as we expand across Kingstanding into new opportunities such as Sutton Coldfield done by:

- Before and After Project Perception surveys with visitors
- Monitoring public feedback, comments and opinions on our social media and on other Erdington focused social media (particularly Facebook and Twitter)
- One to one surveys
- School feedback

KRT will monitor our targets for young people NEET and resident volunteers. We expect to see positive impacts on both groups as they gain new skills and experience and get involved in community activity. These will include increased confidence and self-esteem and reduced social isolation. This will be measured through one-to-one mentoring, focus group feedback and by using the outcome star.

Via the formulation of a Friends Of we will be supporting and developing their bid writing skills to ensure the sustainability of the site

and as they become more able to stand on their own feet and they see the positive impact they are making we believe that we have better skilled local people who feel empowered to take an active role in their local community.

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 Local Innovation Fund will be only the catalyst for finance of the project as we build up the skills of local people opportunities will arise for funding from Awards For All / SITA Fund / Peoples Postcode Lottery/Tesco Bags Of Help

What resources will be required?

£

Amount required from LIF **£48,000**

Costs include day to day supervision of trained professional Horticultural Officers

Professional contractors to open up the site and make the pool accessible

Mentoring and support officers for the young people

Initial CSCS costs

Trained Funding Officers to assist and train the Friends Of. Woodwork Craftsman to offer school and residents wood crafting sessions

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

We have in-kind support from Jaguar Land Rover that equates to several thousand pounds of equivalent funding.

Birmingham City Council Parks Department will donate time to advise us on landscaping and planting in the area.

Contact person for proposal

Name Nick Schlittner

Telephone 0121 439 6780

E-mail Nick Schlittner <nickschlittner@kingstandingregentrust.org.uk>

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

Discussed at


Ward meeting NEW HALL WARD

Date 5/9/17

Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors

Name DAVID BARRIE Signature  Date 5/9/17

Name KENNETH WOOD Signature  Date 5/9/17

Name ALEX YIP Signature  Date 12/9/17

Internal use only

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date

Approved

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

