

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND**  
**"Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live"**  
**WARD PROPOSAL FORM**

**WARD** ...Aston.....

**INNOVATION**

**TITLE:** Youth In Aston, Aston Park Youth  
Diversionary Hub

**Innovations have to meet the LIF priorities and add value to the City wide core priorities listed below.**

(Tick all those that apply)

**City Core Priorities**

- **Children** - a Great City to Grow Up In ☒
- **Jobs & Skills** a great City to succeed in ☒
- **Housing** a great City to live in ☐
- **Health** a great City to lead a healthy & active life ☒

**LIF Priorities**

- **Citizens' Independence & Well Being** ☒
- **New approaches to investment** ☒
- **Active citizens & communities stepping up** ☒
- **Clean streets** ☐
- **Improving local centres** ☒

**What is your innovative idea and how does it show collaborative, partnership working and active citizenship?**

The project will take place at the Aston Park Pavilion (B6 6JD) and the "Pod" at Mansfield Park, both of which are in Aston, in close proximity to Witton, Perry Barr and surrounding areas.

The aim of the project is to provide opportunities, direction, mediation and support structures for young people to develop social skills, build self-confidence and help break down barriers to training, education and employment. This project will give young people the opportunity to participate and engage in sport, gain formal and informal qualifications as well as develop lifelong learning skills. By setting up various youth based activities, the young people have an opportunity to engage with other members of the community, develop social skills and to be able integrate themselves into society.

Community outreach officers will liaise with local businesses, community centres and the like to identify the main areas of concern (this process has begun with community consultation). The potential participants will be approached whether through their schools, social clubs and groups, or direct approaches, to attend various sessions at the above locations.

Through hosting a youth club with various activities, it gives the residents of Aston the opportunity to try new things. For example, for a teenager who feels they have no guidance or path in life, they now have the opportunity; which is currently lacking in the area, to identify their skills and develop a plan for their own future.

Workshops and various qualifications will be organised for these participants (as well as local residents) to teach and educate the residents of Aston. With around 20% of over 18's without formal qualifications in Aston, we believe this is an important area to target.

As the participants of the project develop themselves through these qualifications, the ultimate aim of Bidgley Power Foundation is to encourage the young people of Aston to create their own projects, such as this, to spread their knowledge, experiences and ideas to a wider community. A funding officer will be appointed to help develop project ideas with the participants, teach and assist them with the funding process and creation of funding applications, as well as offer

support prior to and during the project itself.

By giving the local people an opportunity to run their own projects, we are creating a sustainable vision for the local area whereby people will see that there are opportunities to grow and be able to support their community and run projects themselves. This assistance from Bidgley Power Foundation will also help improve the skills of the local work force, encourage steps into further education and training, as well as be a factor in reducing the unemployment levels in the area.

Last summer in partnership with West Midlands Police young people participated in radicalization and extremists workshop organized by Prevent. This project is the follow up to that workshop and discussions and consultations we had with the group of young people and other members of the community.

With recent incidents of crime within the area, it is crucial that an intervention is in place to help reduce the impact it has on the young people within the community and the possibility of them following a life of crime.

We will be delivering regular youth sessions (we are aiming for 3 x 2 hourly sessions per week, dependent upon interest; can be adjusted to suit the needs of the community) based at the above locations with the beginning of the project currently proposed for early August.

**These are the workshops we will deliver:**

- Drugs and Alcohol Abuse
  - Religious understanding and tolerance
  - ASBOS
  - Gangs and Gang Culture
  - Health and Lifestyle
  - Leadership Training
- I. The workshops and training will be delivered by our partners, StreetGames and Sport Birmingham will deliver leadership and skills training which will include First Aid, Safeguarding, Risk Assessment, Behaviour Management and Sports specific coaching qualifications.
  - II. The Religious Understanding and Tolerance Workshops will be delivered by Local Scholars and Prevent.
  - III. ASBOS and Gangs Culture will be delivered by West midlands Police from the Broadway Neighbourhood Team.
  - IV. Health and Life Style will be delivered by Health and Wellbeing and Extreme Pharmacy a local business that wants to help in the improvement of health and Wellbeing.
  - V. Training young people to be future trainers and volunteers to continue the project.

All the workshops will also be open to the wider community to ensure that as many people are able to benefit and help create a stronger and more Cohesive Community. We aim to help improve the opinion of the area as well as reducing crime, develop community cohesion and help reduce unemployment by offering opportunities to volunteer, train, coach and develop further skills to enhance the CVs of the participants.

Partnership and Collaboration: The partners on this project include: Aston Voice Residents Association, West Midlands Police, Health and Wellbeing, Aston Villa Foundation, Friends Of Aston Hall and Park, Extreme Pharmacy, StreetGames, and Sport Birmingham.

**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 project will be Volunteer led and Implemented by Bidgley Power Foundation in collaboration with our partners in accordance to a set timescale. A project Coordinator will be appointed to deliver the project, members of the Aston Voice Residents Association have expressed that they want to volunteer and support the project by:

- I. Setting up Aston Youth Diversionary Hub Steering Group, this will consist of partner organisations and local young people.
- II. Members of the steering group and Aston Voice Residents Association will volunteer on outreach and volunteer in the running of the activities.

**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?**

**Long Term out comes:**

- Better informed Young people
- Building positive relationships with and amongst young people
- Increase volunteering
- Training and educational opportunities
- Helping Young people find employment
- Safe and Healthy and Active Young people.

**Effectiveness Of the project and the targets to be used:**

- No of Participants
- Delivery of targeted workshops
- Number of Young people Volunteering
- Number of young people into training, education and employment
- Club events
- Young people Feedback

This is part of a 3 year Youth Diversionary programme; LIF (Local Innovation Fund) will act as a catalyst to bring in inward investment to Aston. LIF will help to get the Youth In Aston, Aston Park Youth Diversionary Hub Project Started.

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

Yes, This is a Match Funding Application to West Midlands Police "Active Citizens Fund" for a larger long term investment in creating sustainable long term Youth Provisions, social interaction and intervention for Children and Young People in the Aston Area. Local innovation funds will act as a catalyst to bringing long term investments for the communities of Aston in particular Children and Young People.

**What resources will be required?**

- Capital
- Running costs
- People power volunteers

£

10500-00
11200-00

Amount required from LIF **£10500.00**

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

- £9360.00 x 3 = £28080.00 in Kind from Health and Wellbeing over 3 years (confirmed).
- Active Citizens Funds £41560.00 from West Midlands Police (to be confirmed).

**Contact person for proposal**

Name: Harun Raza.....

Telephone 07870591723.....

E-mail harun@bidgleypower.org.....

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

The project was discussed at length on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April and 1st of March at the friends of the Aston Hall and Park meeting.

Mark Van Beeumen vice chair of Aston Voice Residents Association Stated that "there are major concerns with regards to lack of youth provisions in the area for children and young people" at the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> of April attended by Councillor Islam and Councillor Afzal.

This project has not been discussed at ward committee meetings.

Ward meeting .....

Date .....

**Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors**

Name MUHAMMAD AFZAL Signature [Signature] Date 16.11.17

Name NADINA KAWER Signature [Signature] Date 13.11.17

Name ZINAB ISLAM Signature [Signature] Date 09.11.2017

£9,500

**Internal use only**

Received: Date .....

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date .....

Approved

Yes	
No	

