## BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND "Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live" WARD PROPOSAL FORM INNOVATION WARD Sutton Four Oaks TITLE: Community Cafe 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** LIF Priorities Children - a Great • Citizens' Independence & City to Grow Up In Well Being Jobs & Skills a great x New approaches to investment City to succeed in **Housing** a great Active citizens & communities stepping up City to live in **Health** a great City Clean streets to lead a healthy & active life

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

Improving local centres

We wish to meaningfully extend our Community Engagement Program by opening the 'Harvest Fields Community Café'. We current have 50,000 visits per year and therefore see a massive opportunity to serve our community well. The demographic is from new born baby's right through to the elderly. We wish to bring people together in order to make lasting connections and to amplify the community spirit over the likes of coffee and cake. This will be in both the serving, staffing and education of the whole endeavour.

Our inspiration for this project followed a number of meetings with Afric from the Kingstanding Centre Project based in Birmingham. We learned how import and impacting it will be to harness cross generational activities and be an education and motivational help for local children, especially around understanding nutrition and how produce is grown. Long-term, the project will also engage with the local school to ensure that children are part of this ongoing project. We have access to land that could be converted to an allotment in order for the children to have a hands on experience of the growing process. The produce will be used directly in the Café. This will help understanding around diet and health. We also wish to engage the elderly community and to encourage them to become volunteers and of course samplers of the home cooked food! They will find new purpose as they interact with others, especially the children as everyone shares and learns together.

Our project centres on local people having a stake in the project. We will be creating a team of volunteer to run the project. Volunteers has proven benefits not only to the recipients who get to see a local friendly face but also to the volunteers themselves. Volunteering helps individuals improve their self-worth and confidence. Volunteering is also seen as a spring board in to

an excellent opportunity to build experience and skills. Many will be trained as Barista's.
Stronger communities will be created by this project and a greater community spirit and a feeling of general well-being is sure to prevail. Local people involved in a local service can only be a good example of how communities can come together to offer a service that will serve a gap in society.
Social isolation has a number of health risks, the key indicator being depression. Loneliness is linked to lower self-esteem and limited use of active coping methods, while social isolation predicts decline in self-efficacy. Feeling lonely or being socially isolated is associated with defective functioning and high blood pressure.
It is a fact that a key issue is present in premature death where isolation in prevalent. It rivals more than the traditional mortality risks of even smoking and high blood pressures.
Time Frame – is it:- One off event/programme
Implement and complete within 6 months (2017) Implement and complete within 12 months (2018)
How will the innovation be implemented?
Through the purchase of the necessary equipment to start the Community Café which will be run by an experienced and well established hospitality team and managed by the our Centre Manager. This team will take care of the overall recruitment, health and safety but all through a Project Manager of Volunteers.

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?

We would expect to see in increase in foot flow, people staying in The Centre longer, community coming together and be a catalyst for ideas and concepts for future community endeavours. This will be self-sustaining and we will see our volunteer base grow.

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

Not at this stage

## What resources will be required?

- Capital
- Running costs
- People power volunteers

£5,000 £3,000 N/A

## Contact person for proposal

Name Craig Walford

Telephone 07711 169789

E-mail craig.walford@harvestfieldscentre.org.uk

Which residents or community groups was the proposal discussed with and when (please give details of any meetings and which councillors attended)?
Four Oaks Ward Meeting 20/6/17 + 22/05/17
Discussed at
Ward meeting
Date
Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors
Name Cllr. Anne Vadarasad Signature D.A. Vuderusond Date 16/10/17  Name Clln. M. Carns. L. Signature D. Date 16/10/17
Name Clan M. Carnes Signature
NameCLLR 17 Jenus Signature 111 Date 16/19/17
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Received Date
Gosto Cabinet Committee - Local Leadership for decision Date
Approved Approved No. 1997 No.