

## Neighbourhood Network Scheme NORTHFIELD ADULTS WITH LONG TERM DISABILITIES /ADDITIONAL NEEDS FUND CRITERIA

Neighbourhood Network Schemes are locality and constituency-based networks funded by Birmingham City Council which enable the engagement with and investment in community assets.

The Northfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme has been extended to include adults aged 18 + up to 49 with long term disabilities.

For the purpose of this fund, the following definition is applied:

**Disabled adults:** adults age 18 - 49 years with a **long-term disability** likely to mean they will have care and support needs in the future -those with a learning disability, physical disability, autism, mental health difficulties, sensory loss, or impairment. It includes those who are likely to have a care or support need in the future as well as people living in a community setting who can access and participate in activities independently or with the support of an informal or paid carer or personal assistant employed via a direct payment. Neurodiversity conditions other than Autism are not specifically included, although awareness raising and supporting assets to be accessible to citizens with these conditions should be.

All grant applications should contribute to the Adult Social Care Prevention First vision which is that “Citizens lead healthy, happy, independent lives within their own homes and communities” and enable them to connect with individuals, groups, organisations, activities, services, and places in their local neighbourhood.

**You can call us on the numbers listed on the website for advice on your project before applying.**

### Fund Aims

The aim of the fund is to increase the accessibility of and participation in existing community activities for disabled adults and to increase the number of disabled adults who are participating in community activities in their neighbourhood, and in doing so either prevent or reduce social isolation and loneliness. This can be done through:

- Helping to make existing places and activities more accessible to disabled adults. This might be more physically accessible, more visible to disabled adults or through changing the attitudes and perceptions of disabled adults.
- Investing in new and additional community activities, which disabled adults can access. This must be directly relevant to and informed by the ideas, aspirations and requirements of disabled citizens
- Investing in the development of the skills, knowledge and support available to community-based networks, groups and organisations. This must be done for the purposes of enabling existing and independently funded community activity, which disabled adults can benefit from, to sustain itself and/or grow.

**Outcomes:** individual grant awards must contribute to the “Citizens” theme of the Prevention First framework and achieve at least one of the following outcomes:

- Increased social participation
- Healthier lifestyles
- Maximised income
- Housing which supports independence
- Carers feel more supported (as people and as carers)

Across all grant awards, investment must contribute to the “Communities” theme of the Prevention First framework and ensure that disabled adults living in each Constituency are able to:

- Access a relevant and diverse community offer
- Access more opportunities to participate in neighbourhoods

The following are priorities for the fund:

- Mental health & Befriending
- Easy Read
- Pathways to adulthood (transition)
- Frankley Great Park & Hawkesley

Applicants must demonstrate that they have spoken with / engaged / co-produced this proposal with beneficiary group

### Available Funding

Grants of up to £10,000 are available

### Priority Area

Groups will need to be working actively within the ward of Northfield as defined by the Parliamentary Constituency boundaries. A particular priority for the fund are Frankley Great Park and Hawkesley.

We expect all applicants to contact the NNS Lead Facilitators in advance of applying to ensure that their project fits with the NNS programme locally.

Northfield:

Northfield Community Partnership  
[NNSTeam@northfieldcommunity.org](mailto:NNSTeam@northfieldcommunity.org)

### What will we support?

- Applications should be for a project that lasts no longer than 12 months
- New or existing activities/services
- Grants for a wide range of purposes including sessional salary costs, project or activity costs, equipment, consumables or volunteer costs

### Exclusions – What we can't support

Currently, there are some groups of citizens that will not benefit directly. This is because the NNS is funded to prevent, reduce, and delay the need for long-term adult social care interventions. The NNS exists to develop activities, groups and support which enable disabled citizens [aged over 18 years] to lead happy,

healthy, independent lives. We would not want the primary beneficiaries of NNS capacity building / asset development to be:

- People in long-term registered care home placements
- People with complex care or support needs

People whose primary concern relates to one of the following will also not be a priority:

- Substance misuse
- Homelessness
- Domestic abuse
- Neurodiverse conditions [other than Autism which is included].

However, awareness raising and support to enable community assets to be more accessible to neuro-diverse citizens can form part of the NNS' work.

## Eligibility

You can apply to this fund if your organisation is one of the following:

- Registered charities
- Constituted Community groups
- Companies Limited by Guarantee with charitable aims
- Community Interest Companies (not limited by shares)
- CIO with demonstrable social purpose
- Co-operatives – registered Community Benefit Societies and registered Industrial and Provident Societies

## And

- Your organisation/company income level is equal to or less than £500,000, as shown in your most recent annual accounts (Organisation's with a higher income may be considered for a grant, depending on the needs of community. This is at the panel's discretion. Any such organisations will need to speak to the Lead Facilitator for their area prior to submitting an application)

## Sorry, we cannot fund:

- Projects that do not take place within the specified wards or provide a majority benefit to the defined groups of residents in the area
- Individuals or sole traders
- Companies Limited by Shares
- Capital builds
- Direct replacement of statutory obligation and public funding
- Promotion of religious or political activities
- Groups with significant financial free reserves
- Retrospective grants
- Contribution to endowment fund, payment of deficit funding or repayment of loans
- National charities
- Overseas travel or expeditions

- Medical research and equipment for statutory or private healthcare
- General appeals
- Animal welfare, unless the project benefits people
- Any Statutory services / work including educational institutions
- Sponsored or fundraising events or groups raising funds to distribute to other causes
- Schools, Churches, Parish Councils or PTA's unless community benefit is demonstrated
- Activities generating private profit
- Projects which are purely about research
- Costs of ongoing staff who are not working directly on the project – including salaries of permanent or fixed term staff
- Costs incurred in putting the application together
- Core costs of the organisation – (utility bills; rent; management costs etc.) which are not directly related to the project activity
- Contingency costs e.g. funds to provide a source of income or for fundraising activities
- Political or religious activities
- Projects that take place outside of Birmingham.
- VAT that can be recovered
- Loans or interest payments.
- Purchase of alcohol or illegal substances

### Additional Supporting Information

To be eligible to apply you must provide proof of:

- Your organisation / company has a management committee / board of trustees / board of directors with at least 3 unrelated people as members, a list of those directors will be required showing who has bank authorisation
- A written constitution / articles / set of rules
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records showing your organisation's balance of funds, income and reserves
- A bank account in the name of the organisation with at least two unrelated signatories.
- A bank statement from the last 3 months
- Copies of Safeguarding and Equality Opportunities Policy.
- Quotes for capital items over £300

**All grant applicants** You will need to provide project updates and photographs throughout the time of the grant. You will need to complete an end of grant monitoring form and supply at least one case study.

**All grant applicants** will be expected to participate in any appropriate publicity as requested by HoECF.

**For the Foundation's full eligibility criteria, please see our website.**