



Northfield NNS 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. This is for the purpose of supporting older people to connect with individuals, groups, organisations, activities, services and places in their local neighbourhood.

The fund aims to support local communities and projects, with a focus on supporting people over 50 within the **Northfield area of Birmingham** which have a focus on the themes listed in the Fund Aims.

You can call us on 02477 800 520 for advice on your project before applying.

Fund Aims

The fund is looking for applications that seek to provide opportunities which support older people to:

- Remain engaged with social activity
- Live healthy lifestyles
- Increase their financial capability
- Retain their independence in their home, whether it is their own home, rented accommodation or independent sheltered housing
- Aid families and carers to help them feel more supported

Examples of social activity initiatives:

- Ageing positively
- Increased access to dementia friendly groups and activity
- Activities which address positive wellbeing and tackle loneliness
- Supporting positive mental health and enabling older people to be more socially connected
Including but not exclusively
- Lunch clubs/clubs
- Book clubs/reading/book swops
- Bingo
- Puzzles
- Knitting

Examples of support which promotes living independently:

- Including support with shopping but someone to go shopping with not have someone do the shopping for you
- House clearance and cleaning services for people struggling
- Sustainable food provision – e.g., food pantry, hot food delivery
- Transport - Finding solutions to inaccessible transport in the area e.g., citizens and key stakeholders coming together

Examples of activities which aid families and carers to help them feel more connected

- Support for older carers
- Activities which provide respite

Examples of live healthier lifestyles

Health and Fitness Activities for Older Adults

Activities which encourage older adults to participate in exercise /being active

Activities that:

- Promote gentle exercise
- Walking groups
- Yoga
- Tai Chi
- Help older adults rebuild their strength and fitness

Examples of increased financial capability

Information, Advice and Guidance

- Services that can encourage income maximisation through IAG on welfare benefits, housing, energy and bills
- Other ways to ensure that older adults in the patch are financially solvent are needed, but none are found locally
- Money advice
- Benefits advice
- Debt supports
- Direct payments

Available Funding

Grants of up to £5,000 are available.

Part of the ethos of the NNS is to create lasting impact. With this in mind, applicants applying for over £2,000 will need to evidence how they will sustain this project or the impact associated with this project after the end of the grant. This can include plans for onward delivery, further fundraising, the organisation's own revenue generation and what additional support you will be seeking.

Priority Area

Groups will need to be working actively within the wards of Northfield as defined by the Parliamentary Constituency boundaries.

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.

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

Eligibility

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

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- 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 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
- Organisations who are already in receipt of a grant from the NNS Northfield Fund

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.