

The NNS Northfield Younger Adult Fund

Factsheet

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.

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

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

The priorities for the fund in 2026 - 2027 include:

- Mental Health
- Digital inclusion/safety
- Pathways to adulthood
- Supporting diverse communities
- Inclusive communication

What will we support?

- Start-up costs for a new project.
- To extend or develop an existing project.

- To purchase equipment or resources.
- Volunteer costs

Grants of up to £10,000 are available for organisations in Edgbaston. The minimum grant request is £500.

Funding must be spent within 2 years.

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.

Northfield:

Northfield Community Partnership
NNSTeam@northfieldcommunity.org

Deadlines

The NNS Northfield Fund is a rolling fund, without specific deadlines, you can apply at any time. The panel meet every other month.

Eligibility

You can apply to this fund if you are one of the following:

- Registered Charities and Charitable Incorporated Organisations, but applications from the following will be considered:
 - Constituted Community groups
 - Companies Limited by Guarantee with charitable aims
 - Parish Councils, Schools, PTAs and Churches if community benefit can be demonstrated (but see 'Sorry we cannot fund' below)
 - Community Interest Company* -
 - Co-operative - registered Community Benefit Society and Registered Industrial and Provident Society

*Funding to Community Interest Companies and other non-charities may include conditions to restrict funding to charitable objectives only. **CICs less than 2 years old will not be considered.**

Additionally, your organisation/company income level must be equal to or less than £500,000, as shown in your most recent annual accounts.

Organisations 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 applying.

What 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
- 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 (but we could consider local branches who have their own bank account and management committee).
- Overseas travel or expeditions.
- Medical research and equipment for statutory or private healthcare.
- General appeals.
- Animal welfare, unless the project benefits people (e.g. disabled riding schemes).
- Statutory work in 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.

Additional Supporting Information

To be eligible to apply you must be able to provide:

- Proof that your organisation has a governing body with at least three unrelated people as members. You will need to submit a list of those members who have bank authorisation (at least two unrelated signatories).
- A written constitution / articles / set of rules.
- A copy of your most recent annual accounts or financial records showing your organisation's income, expenditure and balance of funds and reserves.
- A bank statement from the last three months.

- A copy of your safeguarding policy(s). If you have any separate safeguarding procedures, please share them.
- A copy of your equal opportunities / EDI policy.
- Quotes for capital items over £300.

Your policies must show clearly that they are within their review date.

The documents listed above must be provided when submitting the application form. If any documents are unavailable at the time of submission, they must be provided within 7 days of submitting the application. Failure to provide the required documents within this timeframe will result in the application being rejected.

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

For monitoring visit the Foundations website.

Additional Impact Measurement

Applicants who receive a grant of over £5,000 are required to measure impact by using one of the following public health impact measure tools:

What are the Public Health Impact Measures?

Public Health are helping to fund the NNS in return for which they have asked that Impact Measures are used by some NNS grant funded projects, details of types of projects included are set out below. The measures are used for activities that aim to improve health and wellbeing across Birmingham. The aim is to standardise measures used, to provide clarity and transparency, and enable accurate and meaningful assessment against KPIs.

The commissioning team, responsible for the NNS, have adapted these measures and put in place a process to record and return the data.

Your local NNS Team will be able to provide the forms you need and explain the process.

Using the Impact Measures will demonstrate the positive contribution that your organisation's project (and the NNS) is making to the health and wellbeing of Birmingham's older citizens, and younger disabled adults.

The table below shows the measures and how they align to 5 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) from our agreement with Public Health.

Validated Impact Measure	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
30-Second Chair Stand Test OR Active Lives Questionnaire	% Fairly Physically Active or Better
Mental Health Wellbeing Questionnaire (WEMWBS)	% increase in Wellbeing by 3 or more points on WEMWBS 14-point scale
Social Isolation Tool (The three-item UCLA Loneliness scale)	% not self-reporting loneliness
Nutrition Toolkit	% self-reporting an increase in nutritional understanding
All Aspects of Health Literacy Questionnaire (AAHLS)	% self-reporting an increase in health literacy

Which NNS funded Projects need to use a Public Health Impact Measure?

Projects awarded an NNS grant of £5000 or more*

1. Types of project activities in scope:
 - a. social participation,
 - b. healthier lifestyles (physical, mental, and social)
 - c. carers support
2. Types of project activity excluded:
 - a. General information advice and guidance / income maximisation services
 - b. Independence at home, such as minor repairs and garden clearance

For more information, visit the Foundation's [Essential Information page](#).