

Neighbourhood Fund Proposals

Application 1

Project Details	
Project Title	Coalfield Pride 2024
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	A one day Pride event, taking place on Saturday 17 August 2024 at Houghton Rectory Field.
Total Project Cost	£13,392
Match Funding	£0
Total NF Requested	£13,392
Project Start Date	August 2024
Project End Date	August 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	The Rectory Field, Houghton le Spring
Project Description	
<p>Coalfields LGBTQ+ Support Group was set up in July 2021, with a social media platform to support members of the LGBTQ+ community in the Coalfield area, and they are now a constituted voluntary organisation. The management committee and members from the group decided to organise their very own PRIDE event, which took place at Hetton School in July 2022, with the support from the Neighbourhood Fund. The first PRIDE event was a great success and as a result, Coalfields LGBTQ+ Support Group went on to hold a second PRIDE event which took place at Houghton Rectory field in August 2023. Learning from the experience and successes of Coalfields PRIDE 2022 and 2023, the group are requesting financial support from Sunderland City Council's Coalfield Neighbourhood Fund to hold Coalfields PRIDE 2024. Coalfields PRIDE 2024 will take place on Saturday 17th August 2024, again at Houghton Rectory field, as it was deemed a great success due to its location and accessibility.</p> <p>Coalfields LGBTQ+ Support Group are working alongside O'Brien's Fun Fairs, PRIDE Radio, AMV Live Entertainment, East Durham College, Print2Gogo, MW Security, MRS Training and Rescue, all of which will ensure the event is run professionally and is well managed. We have arranged for the event to be hosted by our drag queen host from Coalfields PRIDE 2023, who is also an active member of Coalfields Support Group, and has been involved in fundraising throughout the past year. Five other drag queens will perform on the day, along with two singers from the LGBTQ+ community, three tribute acts, and our headline act is 90s Reborn, who are three singers and four dancers.</p> <p>The event will start at 12.30pm and end at 8pm. We will have full public liability insurance in place to cover the event, four SIA registered security officers, and a First Aid tent, all of which will ensure members of the public's safety. Six event staff will be available throughout the day to ensure members of the public have a visible go to person to offer assistance, and they will take part in a full litter clean after the event. O'Brien's Fun Fairs have full public liability insurance along with up to date risk assessments to cover the fun fair equipment and catering stalls. Coalfields LGBTQ+ Support Group are working closely with PRIDE Radio to cover the event, producing advertising and marketing leading up to the event, and they will be broadcasting the whole event live on PRIDE Radio on the day. PRIDE Radio have been a great support to Coalfields LGBTQ+ Support Group since our establishment and they have hosted various shows interviewing our members, and have given our members a tour of their radio station.</p>	

FUNDING BUDGET	
Budget Heading/Item	NF

Stage Hire	£4,800
Performers/Acts/Host	£4,781
Toilets and Gazebo	£772
Health and Safety (First Aid, Security and Insurance)	£1,545
Advertising/Printing/Promotion	£820
Event Staff and Catering	£674
NF Funding Total	£13,392

Outputs		Target
CODE	Vibrant Smart City Outputs	
306	number of volunteers participating	12
309	number of cultural, heritage and community events supported and delivered	1
310	number of visitors footfall at neighbourhood events	300

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Heritage and Community Events priority. A condition of funding is that a full events safety plan is provided and permission from landowner is evidenced.

Application 2

Project Details	
Project Title	Elemore Park Music Event 2024
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	A one day music festival at Elemore Park
Total Project Cost	£20,000
Match Funding	£10,000
Total NF Requested	£10,000
Project Start Date	August 2024
Project End Date	August 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Elemore Park, Hetton le Hole
Project Description	
<p>Building on the success of the inaugural Elemore Festival, we will hold a one day music festival running 11am- 5pm at Elemore Park in August 2024 (date tbc). The stage programme will include performances from local acts, for example DENNIS, Lake Poets and Houghton Brass band who performed in 2023.</p> <p>There will be free family activities on site, such as face painting, balloon modelling, circus skills workshop, bubble making workshops and walkabout characters. We will also work in partnership with the Elemore café/garden centre, and the Elemore Park Manager to maximise the offer for local residents.</p> <p>We will liaise with ward members and Coalfield Area Committee, via the N&C Board, to finalise the programme and other relevant details.</p>	
FUNDING BUDGET	
Budget Heading/Item	NF
Acts, entertainers and walkabout characters	£6,700
Contribution to staging	£3,300

		Total	£10,000
Outputs			
			Target
CODE	Vibrant Smart City Outputs		
309	number of cultural, heritage and community events supported and delivered		1
310	number of visitors footfall at neighbourhood events		300

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Heritage and Community Events priority. A condition of funding is that a full events plan is submitted.

Application 3

Project Details	
Project Title	RU Ready for UC
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Support participants in making their applications for Universal Credit (UC) and support them in meeting the requirements for UC
Total Project Cost	£42,200
Match Funding	£0
Total NF Requested	£42,200
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	September 2025
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Shiney Advice and Resource Project (ShARP)/ outreach venues when required
Project Description	
<p>Springboard and ShARP will restart work on RUready4UC project. This project will raise awareness of public access computers in the Coalfield area and support participants in making their applications for Universal Credit (UC) and support them in meeting the requirements for UC. Springboard will lead on the project, utilising established financial monitoring and control procedures, marketing and promotional materials whilst providing an outreach service to encourage participation within the community. Springboard Outreach sessions will provide support on the basics of using a computer or digital device including tablets and smart phones through a variety of timetabled, structured classes and informal drop in sessions in a variety of digital hubs across the Coalfields. Focused on the requirements set by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) sessions will be delivered by qualified staff to support participants in accessing the internet for online entries onto Universal Jobmatch, the DWP 'Find a Job' portal and Universal Credit Full Service (UCFS).</p> <p>The close partnership between Springboard and ShARP will facilitate effective IAG for participants as they will have the opportunity to access digital skills and / or tailored benefit and money management advice whenever they are ready to engage in each aspect. A signposting process will also be established to ensure participants access the support they require. ShARP will provide a benefits advice check and develop working relationships to support clients and overcome barriers: signposting to the specialist services as required, with the cost of living crisis continuing an increased number of people with little income or substantially reduced disposable income, experiencing periods of crisis and hardship where they have had to rely on Foodbanks or seek financial support from family and friends to manage as best they can. Our role is to help people manage their UC effectively so no sanctions are imposed and adapt finances as quickly and as easily as possibly to ease financial difficulties to prevent crisis and hardship. Within these changing times there are so many unknown possibilities that people may need support with.</p> <p>A rise in unemployment in the coalfield area has also seen a change in focus for some new claimants who have recently been made redundant and who will need help and support on how</p>	

to deal with financial adjustments, look at what benefit to apply for which will mainly be given by SHARP. Tutors working on the project will work hard to remove potential barriers arising from such a rise in unemployment and cost of living crisis. Springboard and SHARP will focus on splitting the training with advice given, working more closely on following the journey of the claimant, giving them the tools of empowerment and hoping to help move back into employment. The partners will actively promote the project and recruit people they know who will need support through these current financial times and increased job losses. The project will deliver up to 8 sessions per week.

FUNDING BUDGET		
Budget Heading/Item		NF
Staffing and Project Management		£38,646
Facilities		£2,000
Staff Travel		£1,434
Staff Mobile		£120
	NF Funding Total	£42,200
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Dynamic Smart City Outputs	
102	number of people accessing digital support- footfall	300
CODE	Vibrant Smart City Outputs	
302	number of individual people more resilient (financially)	180

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the ‘Support to residents to improve financial resilience’ priority.

Application 4

Project Details	
Project Title	Coalfield Communities Connected
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	The project increases public access to computers, raises awareness of services available within the Coalfields area and provides participants with appropriate training to increase their individual digital skills to use IT in their everyday life.
Total Project Cost	£31,500
Match Funding	£0
Total NF Requested	£31,500
Project Start Date	July 2024
Project End Date	June 2026
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Various community venues across the Coalfield area
Project Description	
The project increases public access to computers, raises awareness of services available within the Coalfields area and provides participants with appropriate training to increase their individual digital skills to use IT in their everyday life. It also develops confidence and ability to effectively use a range of services from key stakeholders including, but not limited to, Sunderland City Council, DWP, NHS and Third Sector support organisations. However, it is not limited to formal services and allows residents to access IT for recreation. We support and guide clients to access social media and general internet searches. It allows clients the freedom but ensures their safety online to browse the internet for personal reasons this can include shopping, gaming, job search, banking etc or for example, if a client wishes to set up a personal project we will support in their	

IT use to do this. It is a service responding to individual's requirements as we move further into the digital world.

This programme will identify the initial need of the participant and deliver a tapered plan of information, advice and guidance to enable them to become self-sufficient in the effective access of digital services in designated digital hubs. A dedicated member of staff will work with organisations with digital hubs to inform, engage, and be supported by this project within the Coalfields. This staff member will liaise directly with the Coalfield Area Committee. This collaborative approach ensures any support and training developed is complimentary to the current local offer in order to reduce the risk of duplication or possible negative impact on any local organisations. Building on the current work Springboard have completed we will continue to liaise with residents and possible participants across the Coalfields signposting to partner organisations when appropriate.

Supported by qualified staff, participants will receive up to date, appropriate Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) to identify what support they need and receive efficient signposting covering how and where to access services. First contact with the project will initiate an assessment process to identify whether the individual requirements are informal or formal.

Informal support will include drop-in group sessions at the Digital Hubs. For those who require 1:1 support this will also be available, and appointments will be arranged. Signposting will inform participants of other drop-in sessions in partner sites and other services appropriate for their needs. Times and locations for drop-in sessions will be advertised locally, promoted on social media and displayed on Springboard's website.

Sessions will provide support on the basics of using a computer or digital device including tablets and smart phones, accessing the internet for online shopping or research for personal interest, sending emails, social media such as Facebook and Instagram, managing money online, staying safe online, access to GP services online and NHS choices.

Springboard Staff have an established partnership with DWP aimed at supporting participants into employment, it is anticipated this will form a significant part of digital skills support for many of the participants. Job search, access to Universal Job match and CV writing skills are integral and will aim to reduce the distance to the labour market for those in search of employment. By the end of the project the residents of the Coalfield area will be more informed about the range of provision in the area, more confident to use IT equipment and on-line services and be equipped with the knowledge, qualifications and personal contacts to access support.

Springboard has established partnerships in place with a number of organisations via the VCS Network.

FUNDING BUDGET		
Budget Heading/Item		NF
Staffing and Project Management		£26,422
Facilities and Equipment		£3,718
Staff Travel		£1,200
Staff Mobile		£160
	NF Funding Total	£31,500
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Dynamic Smart City Outputs	
101	number of digital hubs created	8
102	number of people accessing digital support- footfall	300
103	number of NEW people accessing digital support	180

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the 'Develop digital skills of residents' priority.