



**SIB Funding Opportunity
Washington Area Committee Call for Projects
Project Brief: Volunteer and Community Support
Budget: £40,000**

Washington Area Committee would like to invite local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups and non-profit making organisations to submit a full application that will develop and implement a **volunteer and community support project** in the Washington area. Applications will be considered from VCS groups who have a management committee, constitution and bank account with dual signatories. VCS groups must adhere to accounting requirements in accordance with the Companies Act.

1. Introduction and Background

- There is an opportunity for local VCS groups with a track record of successful delivery in community and volunteering activity to submit a full application to deliver a project on behalf of Washington Area Committee.
- The Area Committee is keen to develop initiatives to provide support to new and existing groups, and support and co-ordinate volunteers and all aspects of volunteering
- Washington Area Committee and the Washington VCS Network identified the need for more support for local groups and communities to continue to deliver a range of valuable services within the area.
- Research was undertaken to gather information on existing projects and support within the area and identify gaps. It was identified that many local organisations traditionally operated by volunteers are struggling to attract new and younger volunteers
- The research also identified the need to develop and co-ordinate support specifically for grassroots groups and volunteers across the whole of the Washington area.

2. The Proposal

The project should:

- Be focused and specifically meet local need within the Washington area (Washington Central, Washington East, Washington North, Washington South, and Washington West).
- Proactively work with local organisations who make a real difference in the area to ensure they have the correct procedures and mechanisms in place to sustain their activity and recruit, support and retain volunteers
- Identify, advise and support local and smaller grassroots VCS organisations to build their capacity
- Provide a local DBS service for Washington based organisations
- Recognise and be familiar with existing support in the area and the city to ensure partnership working and non-duplication. It is necessary to ensure that the Washington area receives support from citywide infrastructure and support organisations and the proposed project complements and adds value to current initiatives being delivered within the City and across the Washington area
- Ensure the project delivers a partnership approach and establishes relationships with other organisations, local businesses and local voluntary and community sector groups.
- Be creative and innovative
- Attract additional funding from sources other than SIB
- Be for a period of at least two years

- Employ a dedicated member of staff to deliver the project locally and be the point of contact for stakeholders of the project. This must be a new post and not part of an existing arrangement
- Include a forward plan/exit strategy to ensure the outcomes of the project continue once the SIB funded project is complete
- Identify what added value your organisation can bring
- Evidence understanding, and potential solutions, to the issues faced by the voluntary and community sector
- Identify how volunteering activity and support is to be monitored

Project outcomes

- Volunteers are recruited and supported to a) work within a specific organisation in the area, to contribute to the development of that organisation and b) form a 'bank' of volunteers who give time on an ad hoc basis to a number of volunteering opportunities and local activities
- Local organisations are equipped to continue to deliver valuable services in the community and they have the capacity to recruit, support and retain volunteers
- A local DBS service is provided
- Increased recognition and celebration of volunteering within the local community
- A volunteering steering group specific to the area is developed to ensure collaboration and partnership working with relevant organisations

3. Strategic Fit

The proposal should acknowledge and identify how the project will fit within the current strategic activity across the Washington area and the City of Sunderland. To ensure a joined up approach, a number of partners should be considered, including:

- VCAS
- Gentoo
- Age UK
- Sunderland City Council
- Local VCS Organisations

4. Budget

- There will be a maximum overall budget of £40,000. The project will be for a **minimum of two years**, with a full review after the first year.

5. Timescale

Deadline date for return	
Appraisal and consultation on application	
Area Committee (decision made)	

6. Return Date

SIB Full Applications and guidance notes are available from 0191 561 xxx or by emailing xxx.xx@sunderland.gov.uk or karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk

The deadline date to return the completed application (in two formats), along with necessary documents is noon on xxxx xxxx 2017. **Two** formats will need to be submitted.

Format One: (Hard Copy)

A signed hard copy of the application form, along with all relevant paperwork should be posted into Sunderland City Council, xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Version Two: (Electronic Copy)

An electronic copy of the application should be emailed to xx xxxx@sunderland.gov.uk or karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk

- Only Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups, statutory providers or non profit making organisations can apply.
- After the deadline date, all received applications will be assessed against a scoring matrix and consulted upon, with recommendations being presented to Washington Committee to agree and endorse the recommendations outlined.

7. Queries

If you have any questions regarding the application process please do not hesitate to contact xxxxxxxxxx on 0191 561 xxxx or xxx.xxx@sunderland.gov.uk Additionally if you require any advice on the development of the project please contact karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk or telephone 0191 561 2449.

CLOSING DATE: NOON xxxxxx 2017