

Small change



Grants for Community and Voluntary Groups Evaluation Summary Report

Small Change



Derby City Partnership



What is Small Change?

Derby City Partnership has developed Small Change to support and fund small community based projects, across 12 of the Neighbourhood Renewal priority neighbourhoods in Derby. Small Change brings together a range of funding streams with one simple application form and decision making process.

Small Change has broad aims, which fit the needs of all its funding streams as follows:

- 1. Increase skills and creativity**
- 2. Enhance community spirit**
- 3. Celebrate diversity**

Derby City Partnership administers Small Change, however resident representatives from the local communities, the Small Change Award Partners, make the decisions on which applications to award grants to.

Small Change has been operating since 2004 and an internal evaluation of the scheme was carried out after the first year with very positive results. Small Change has been externally evaluated in 2006 by Wavehill Consulting Ltd. The aim of the evaluation was to report on the achievements and impact of Small Change, to look at any improvements that could be made and to help to make plans for the future of Small Change.



**Step Forward
Educational Trust -
Create a garden**



Derby Schools' Community Cycle Club

Within the evaluation period, January 2005 to March 2006, the Small Change Fund itself has been supported by a range of funding streams; Single Regeneration Budget, Neighbourhood Renewal, Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership and URBAN II.

The main Small Change grants programme makes awards of up to £3,000 for new community activity across 12 Neighbourhood Renewal priority areas. In addition during this time Small Change has also had two 'special' funding initiatives available only to the Normanton neighbourhood. These initiatives were the Normanton Young People, grants up to £10,000 and Normanton Crèche Facilities, grants up to £40,000.



**Funabil8y -
Take to
the water**

"The funding has brought a new dimension to what we do. It has enabled us to deliver a new activity that wouldn't have happened without this money. It has enabled us to develop and expand and has made us more sustainable"

Small Change - making an impact!

The results of the evaluation are very positive.

- Small Change has over-achieved on its output targets by 600%. Since Small Change began at least 2166 people have attended cultural events, 3880 people have benefited from new learning opportunities, 196 groups have been supported and 50 people have been involved in volunteering. Plus 63 people have taken part in Small Change monitoring workshops. To date over 16,000 people in the Neighbourhood Renewal areas of Derby have benefited from Small Change projects.
- The main beneficiaries of Small Change projects have been young people and people from Black and minority ethnic communities. Also people living in the Normanton, Osmaston and Allenton areas of Derby city.



Normanton Girls Club - Go climbing

- Everyone interviewed praised the External Funding Unit for the way it administers the Small Change Fund.

"Small Change is great for small community groups who want to do something or get something started."

"The Small Change Coordinator and the Small Change Monitoring Officer have been very helpful particularly during the application process and checking on monitoring"



Creative activities at the Village Learning Store

- The Small Change Award Partners are seen as independent decision makers working at a community level. Their role is very important as a method of keeping the Small Change community led.
- Monitoring workshops were introduced in June 2005 as a response to the findings of the first Small Change evaluation. Most people attending this training thought it was very good.

"The training was excellent, it was a really useful package; it made it absolutely clear what was wanted and I have used it in the day to day administration of the project."

"The funding has helped us to deliver to more young people. We will be able to apply for further funding because of this grant"

Small Change - the future

The evaluation made some recommendations for the future of Small Change and as a result some changes have already been made and new initiatives are being developed:

- There is an opportunity to make Small Change more strategic and linked to the Derby's Local Area Agreement. The aims of Small Change have been updated during 2006 in line with Derby's Local Area Agreement. The themes of Small Change in future will also support the strategies of each of the Derby City Partnership 'Cities'.
- Some groups struggled to use their grant within the 6 months given under Small Change, more time would help in some cases. The time period for spending Small Change grants has now been increased to 1 year.
- The impact of Small Change on an organisation seems to increase with the level of award. From March 2007 groups will be able to apply for up to £5,000.
- There have not been many applicants from some neighbourhoods. More work needs to be done to encourage groups in the low participation Neighbourhoods to make applications. This can be a job shared between the CVS, Millennium Network and the Neighbourhood Managers.
- There is potential for community groups to share resources, particularly office bases and some equipment. Shared office spaces would release funding from rental commitments into delivering services. This may also encourage groups to work together more and promote community cohesion. The new Derby Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) facility part funded by the Derby City Partnership URBAN programme will provide an opportunity for more shared office space and hot desk arrangements for community groups.



Ukrainian Celebrations

Case Studies

Persian Cultural Association

Awarded £2805 for a cultural event for members of the wider community to share in Persian traditions and culture.

The group used the grant to provide a one off event, and from this has learnt a significant amount about support networks and funding in the community.

The Small Change grant has worked for this organisation as a capacity building tool. The group has matured in its knowledge of funding, monitoring, and voluntary support networks, and has a clearer understanding of how it needs to develop in the future if it is to continue to support its members.

The group is now in contact with a further 100 people not known to it before the Small Change sponsored event and some group members have come forward to increase their level of participation and volunteering.



Messy Tots

Awarded £3728 for this new group to provide free of charge, messy play sessions for pre-school children.



Messy Tots was started by three unemployed women who decided to form a small group to entertain their own pre-school children. These sessions grew in popularity and provide an excellent opportunity for children and parents, from many ethnic backgrounds, to mix and meet.

The impact of the Small Change grant is high in terms of the number of adults and children that benefit from the activities. The children have an excellent creative and messy play environment and the parents meet and mingle.

"I never used to do creative stuff with the kids at home, but coming here regularly I feel a bit braver now and started to do one or two things with my children at home"

"It has had a huge impact. We were struggling at one stage but now we are helping many more young people and have been able to involve more volunteers"

Contact Details

If you would like more information about Small Change or a copy of the full evaluation report, please contact **Sue Jacklin** on **01332 255620** or email **sue@derbycitypartnership.co.uk**

Application forms for Small Change grants and guidance notes are available from:

Application guidance:

www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk/documents/SmallChangeGuidelines.pdf

Application form:

www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk/SmallChangeApplication.pdf.pdf

We can give you this information in any other way, style or language that will help you access it. Please contact us on 01332 255620 | Minicom 01332 256900

Hindi

हम आपको यह जानकारी किसी दूसरे तरह और ढंग से या दूसरी भाषा में भी दे सकते हैं जिससे आपको इसे प्राप्त करने में मदद मिल सकेगी. कृपया हमसे इन नंबरों द्वारा संपर्क कीजिए 01332 255620
मिनीकॉम 01332 256900

Urdu

یہ معلومات ہم آپ کو کسی دیگر ایسے طریقے، انداز اور زبان میں مہیا کر سکتے ہیں جو اس تک رسائی میں آپ کی مدد کرے۔ براہ کرم 01332 255620
منی کام 01332 256900 پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ, ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ,
ਜਿਹੜੀ ਇਸ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕਰਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ
01332 255620 ਮਿਨੀਕੌਮ 01332 256900 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।