Neighbourhood Network Schemes

Partnership of Birmingham City Council and the voluntary, community and faith sector in Birmingham.

Developed since 2018.

Aim - Building resilient & connected communities, supporting adults and connecting social workers to community-based activities

Focus – was older people

Expanded in April – now includes adults with disabilities

5 year commitment from Council



Birmingham's Neighbourhood Network Schemes

NNS: Connecting people, local activities & services



Purpose / Vision

The purpose of NNS is to ensure that as many adults with disabilities and over 50's as possible can access community based support which can promote well-being and a better quality of life. NNS aims to do this through better co-ordination of community-based prevention & early intervention services.



Social Work Teams

Birmingham City Councit's social work teams cover constituencies. They can have meetings and drop in surgeries in local assets such as libraries & cafes. They use the '3 Conversations' approach to get to know citizens better. This approach starts with looking at the strengths of individuals and communities. It ensures social workers have time for real conversations with citizens and focus on what is important to the individual. NNS helps them to progress these conversations. Social workers can then introduce citizens to activities & services which help them have a good life.

Social workers advise on local gaps, make suggestions & feedback on activities to NNS workers.



The Neighbourhood

NNS starts with the communities where people live. The focus is on constituencies and wards.





Asset Directory

The NNS workers list all the assets in the on-line asset directory. This is shared with social workers & is available here: https://bit.ly/Connect2Support



NNS Workers

NNS workers get to know the activities & services on their patch.

NNS workers in each constituency work closely with social work teams to link them up with assets.

NNS workers identify and fill in the local gaps by running a small grants scheme to try new things. They also provide training and support to groups & undertake community development.



Citizens with Disabilities and 50+

Citizens can get involved locally in NNS. Local NNS workers can advise on opportunities. In some areas they sit on panels; in others there are citizen forums. Many local assets rely on local citizens to run activities too.



Local Assets

Activities & services occur in many local venues, such as community centres, places of worship, parks, advice surgeries and citizens' own homes.



Prevention First Outcomes

Social participation

Physical activity

Income maximisation

Living independently at home

Support for carers

Disabled Adults Priorities 18+

Physical Disability -PD

Sensory Loss – SL

Learning Disability – LD

Poor Mental Health – MH

Nurodiverse – ND

Our Needs

To make sure anything you and other partners are offering for disabled adults in Birmingham is on Connect to Support

To see if there are possible matches between your ability to provide other activities and the priorities for grants in each constituency

Sutton & Hodge Hill Pilots 2021-2022

Pete Millington

Natalie Swain