

Project Brief	
<p><i>The Project Brief is the first thing to do. It should be completed before any activity of any sort takes place. This is because the Brief is the document that subject to authorisation triggers the development of the Business Case.</i></p>	
Project Name	Western CEF Disability Action Group
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Organisation Name	Selby District Disability Forum



Benefit

Why would the community benefit from this project? Is there clear evidence of need for this project- detail any consultation, statistics or reports that back up for project brief.

Selby District Disability Forum (SDDF) was set up to identify issues in day to day life that affect disabled people, such as physical access to local provisions, shops and services, transport issues and barriers to taking up opportunities and using services.

This project will enable us to make this happen for people living in some of the most isolated areas of the district. Giving them the opportunity to feel listened to and a part of their local community, by asking them what they think could be improved and then looking together at ways to remove barriers they may face.

This project will be a continuation of the work SDDF has been set up to do, but will directly benefit communities in a more local and targeted way, throughout the Western CEF area, by:

- Telling service providers about what's not working for those with disabilities and helping them to understand how to make things better.
- Taking part in wider consultations, so that individual's experiences can help improve services at a local level.
- Working with the Western CEF, to tackle issues and have productive conversations with local decision makers and community leaders, who want to improve the local area in an informed way.
- Expanding this reach wherever possible to the North Yorkshire Disability forum, so that these voices and experiences can be utilised on a county-wide basis.

The focus of this project will be to improve the Western area of the district for the benefit of anyone living within it who has disabilities of any kind, supports someone with disabilities, or simply wants to see the area improved for all. From experience, we know that in doing so these suggestions and observations can only go towards improving local provision, access and opportunity for all local residents.

Last year we ran a unique survey across the whole of Selby district; a major consultation with residents, working in partnership with Selby District AVS. This has enabled us to capture a detailed picture of service needs among people with disabilities, those supporting individuals with disabilities, or those who feel it is important to address these needs. The results of this survey will kick start this project, giving us a wealth of information and insight.

Over 400 people to date have completed the survey and it continues to remain live. We have interrogated the findings of this survey, specifically focusing on the Western CEF area residents, to enable us to draw on incredibly valuable feedback.

Certain areas of the survey results have already helped us to identify that change needs to happen and shows that currently local provision or attitudes are just not good enough. This project will tackle those issues head on, in an inclusive, positive and proactive way.

Of those living in the Western CEF who completed the survey we are pleased to report that 73% felt positive about where they live. However, 57% said they felt a lack of confidence because of their disability and 34% said they feel isolated and excluded. A staggering 33% said that they had experienced hate crime. We need to tackle these issues and work with local people to improve attitudes, facilities, and access, to improve the lives of those living with disabilities in our district.

Details of the Project

Please list the details of your project

This project is primarily to identify and bring together a group of Western CEF area residents, who can become a locally focused Disability Action Group for SDDF. Working together, with our support, we will empower people to discuss their local needs and create a united voice to action change and inform decision makers.

The theme which will run throughout the project will be to 'challenge thoughtlessness'. Finding ways to encourage local people to think about how actions or physical barriers can affect the everyday life of someone living with disabilities. Raising our profile as an organisation, whilst insisting on people living with disabilities not being an afterthought or an issue to be dealt with, but an integral part of moving our communities forward in a positive and inclusive way.

We already have a list of 7 local residents who would love to be members of a new Action Group for the Western CEF area. We also have details of a further 19 people who completed the survey and also indicated that they would be interested in being kept informed and/or provided with the opportunity to potentially get involved. We would start by contacting all these individuals. Secondly, we will liaise with a number of local community organisations supporting people with various disabilities, to reach out to more individuals in the area, who could benefit from being involved and would be an asset to the project. Thirdly, we will publicise the project through our own districtwide database and networks.

Our Western CEF Disability Action Group, will develop themselves over the course of twelve locally run action planning sessions, discussing and identifying local issues and barriers facing disabled people.

The twelve action planning sessions will cement the group to become a local resource, identifying areas for improvement and discussing measures and solutions to progress and improve issues raised moving forward. As well as other topics which the group themselves may identify, our intention is to encourage a combination of the following to be discussed and acted upon through the use of these sessions:

- Access reviews – supporting local community buildings, new developments or general service buildings to identify and advise on access requirements and improvements.
- Campaigns – ensuring that the Western CEF area has a platform for disabled residents to have their say and be a part of bigger conversations, the results of which can have a hugely positive impact on wellbeing, practical needs and quality of life.

- How to influence others – supporting disabled people to grow in confidence and to action change in a positive way. Addressing issues surrounding bullying, harassment and hate crime and how to tackle this constructively.
- Transport – identifying where the issues are, what disabled people are struggling with and possible solutions which could be put forward.
- The power of the purple pound – looking at the potential spending power of those with disabilities and how this can be maximised within the local area, where barriers are preventing this and how local economy can be improved by addressing these issues.
- Business support – looking at tried and tested methods, as well as new options, for supporting local businesses to become more accessible. Providing advice, as well as solutions, to improve both access and potential income.
 - Working with Parish Councils, Highways, local and district councils and other decision makers, to support and inform issues and barriers identified.
 - Informing local event teams, to ensure accessibility for all and maximising potential for the local area.

These action planning sessions will culminate in an event, ideally a Western Community Engagement Forum Event, which will invite those with most influence locally to come and directly listen to these findings. Hearing the views of those living in our district, with the view to champion change, challenge opinions and develop solutions together.

Our overall aim is to empower:

- More confidence
- More campaigning
- More listening

Moving forward, we would aim to make the Western CEF Disability Action Group sustainable, by making it peer led, whilst remaining under the supportive umbrella of SDDF.

Representatives from the group will be encouraged to take part in monthly SDDF committee meetings. The group would also continue to have regular action planning sessions, to ensure that their focus and support for progress within the area remains proactive.

SDDF is strongly supported by the Selby District Equality Network. Following on from a recent event that we ran, to share our current progress, the network is very keen for regular updates on our projects moving forward, lessons to be learnt and development of services on a more local CEF supported level.

Project Objectives

What will the project deliver, or what changes will it bring about and how are these linked to the CEF's Community development plan (CDP) for the area?

This is a real Partnership Project – we want to create a dynamic relationship with the Western CEF and its Development Officer.

Working together we will transform, achieve and make a lasting impact. Our work will directly compliment and influence the success of the Western CEF Community Development Plan.

Specifically, we will achieve the following;

Improve the quality of life for individuals across the Western CEF area

(Taken from the Disability Survey in response to ‘What impact would addressing the needs of people with disabilities have on you?’)

“It would enable me to get out more, possibly meet others with similar conditions”

“A big impact. Giving me more opportunities and making things more accessible”

“It would create a better society from which I would benefit”

49% of those completing the survey in the Western CEF area identified that loneliness and isolation needs addressing, we know that this is a huge issue facing many local people, particularly those with disabilities, and needs direct action.

This project tackles this in two ways. Firstly, by providing a new and proactive opportunity for individuals to become involved in. A chance to be listened to, share their opinions and struggles and seek positive solutions with the support of those dealing with similar issues.

Secondly, this project aims to directly identify those issues locally which lead to loneliness and isolation or causes it. Highlighting areas that need change or improvement, working towards a more inclusive Western CEF area and a more informed and consulted diverse community.

The other results which we would want to look at more closely are that 38% of people stated that they would like to see bullying addressed and 28% hate crime and prejudice. Again, 33% saying that they themselves had experienced hate crime is something that urgently needs to be addressed and we would be highlighting this with the action group.

Provide solutions for community issues

Our disability action group will be set up precisely to meet this priority. Identifying issues or areas for improvement and support in the local area, and then providing solutions. Our survey has already identified a number of issues within the area which would be raised with the Action Group. For example, 69% of people stating that they would like to see public transport addressed, shows that solutions need to be considered for this ongoing problem. 49% identified loneliness and isolation as a priority and 38% are wanting improved access to local facilities.

We currently have two other newly formed local action groups, in other areas of the District. These are both working, successful examples of how we will ensure the provision of tangible support in moving the Western CEF area forward, by providing solutions to community issues.

Here are just a few examples of some of the work our other Action Groups are currently providing, delivering solutions for community issues:

In the Southern CEF area the Action Group have identified a number of access issues on local streets and raised these with Highways, with some real success and improvements now happening. They are also working with North Yorkshire County Council, to address issues around poor driving and parking at school drop-off and pick-ups, as well as working on a transport survey to inform public transport providers on how to make services more accessible.

In the Tadcaster and Villages area, the Action Group has been working closely with the local Business Forum. The issue of poor access to some of the local shops has been identified, with

many of these struggling to make changes due to being in a listed area or Landlord conflicts. The Action Group have launched their 'Doorbell' project. This encourages local businesses to opt-in to an accessible service, which will be promoted on the Town Council website. They are also working with the local events team and NY Highways, to ensure that the UCI Road races in September will be accessible for all and to promote accessible sports.

We already know, by talking to Western CEF residents, that there is a real appetite to provide solutions for similar issues in this area. An action group is set up not only to identify local issues, but to provide solutions and to support the local community in implementing change and improvements.

Trial new ideas that will benefit residents and improve the local area

The purpose of our Action Group is to continuously liaise with and advise the local community, to ensure that any new provision or idea can be maximised, by ensuring it is accessible for all.

We have designed this project to work directly with, and to the benefit of, the Western CEF. We want to support the invaluable work of the Western CEF moving forward in the most proactive way that we can. By enabling people to access it, encouraging them to engage with it and focusing on how we can help to directly inform it.

This for us is crucial to the success of our project and something we are very excited about.

By working with the Western CEF to address the needs of those living with disabilities locally, we would hope to enhance the work of the CEF, supporting and listening to the needs of local residents, but also firmly placing the opinions and experiences of those living with disabilities at the heart of local influence and consideration:

“Less segregation and more knowledge for others. Hopefully more tolerance towards individuals with disabilities.”

(Taken from the Disability Survey in response to ‘What impact would addressing the needs of people with disabilities have on you?’)

We would like to see more people living with, or supporting someone with, disabilities, engaging with the forums; supporting, informing and influencing the work of the Western CEF. We see this project as a crucial opportunity to do this, the chance to create a public forum which can work towards highlighting and identifying future development and areas needing improvement or support, as well as discussing strategies and solutions to move forward together. We want the event element of our project to be a Western CEF Forum. We know how powerful these can be and how important it is to identify real issues for local residents and provide a platform for these to be discussed and acted upon.

Benefits

Outline any key financial or non-financial benefits the project will deliver and how this will impact the community.

The financial benefit for the Western CEF area of Selby, is that the funding for this project would help the CEF board to make more informed decisions moving forward, in relation to any specific needs and requirements, for those living in the area.

Our project directly aims to work with the CEF, celebrating what it does for the local community by offering the support and invaluable voices of those who could be most marginalised within it.

On a wider scale, the opinions and experiences of those living with disabilities are crucial when it comes to planning changes and improvements or developments for the future.

The SDDF recent 'Street Mapping Project' of Selby Town centre, proved how the collective opinion and suggestions of those living with disabilities can create positive change for the whole community; when we were told by NYCC that this report had a direct impact on the decision to double the highways budget for the coming year!

The main financial benefit of this project for us as an organisation, is that we will be able to continue using a paid Development Officer. This allows our work to be more focused, push forward with more pace and direction, whilst also fully supporting those who are volunteering their time. We have identified that most of our work has to be carried out by volunteers, but without clear aims, roles and support for those individuals, we will be unable to maintain crucial voluntary participants, who make SDDF what it is.

Project Approach / Delivery Options

Outline any initial ideas for how the project might be delivered including external delivery, consultants, governance arrangements etc.

The project will be run by our Development Officer and overseen by the SDDF Committee.

The initial approach will be to identify and bring together a group of Western CEF residents, who can become the offshoot action group within the area for SDDF. This will be coordinated by the Development Officer, working with our database taken from our district wide survey results and with a number of local community organisations.

Once established, the Western CEF Disability Action Group will be brought together by the Development Officer, over twelve sessions, to discuss and raise local issues or concerns and work together to identify areas needing improvement, with suggested actions that could be taken. Together they will implement projects, develop solutions and action change.

With the support of our Development Officer, the group will plan and establish an event, ideally in partnership with the Western CEF. The event will allow the group to share their thoughts, issues and ideas with local residents, community leaders and decision makers.

Following the event, we would aim to make this Western CEF Disability Action Group sustainable, moving it forward to be peer led, under the umbrella of SDDF and supported by our Development Officer, with at least one member attending the main SDDF Committee meetings regularly. This will give local disabled residents an ongoing voice into the heart of our organisation, whilst keeping their own agenda and priorities moving forward.

Project Timescales (Milestones)

Outline the overall timescale for project completion and include delivery phases together with milestone dates and funding deadlines, if appropriate. Your knowledge may be based on assumptions at this stage.

We aim to start this project as soon as possible. We see it lasting at least one full year, with:

- An initial set up period for establishing the local action group
- Followed by regular sessions (most likely to be monthly) to discuss local issues and strengthen the group to ensure sustainability beyond the life of the project
- Culminating in a final event, ideally in partnership with the Western CEF, inviting local residents, community leaders and decision makers to share in the group's findings

Project Resources (people and money)

These will be indicative at this early stage. However, on the basis of what you expect the project to look like, indicate your estimates together with the assumptions made in making the calculations.

Costs –

- Expenses associated with each group action planning session and project final event:
 - Venue hire – 12 sessions x 2 hours x £12 per hr = **£288**
 - Refreshments – £10 x 12 sessions = **£120**
 - Participant travel – minibus hire x 13 (12x sessions, 1x event) x £75 = **£975**
 - Contribution towards SDDF public and employers liability insurance = **£200**

People –

- Time to contact and recruit participants, following up on survey contacts, liaising with local organisations and establishing the group: - 28 hours @ £15 = **£420**
- Time for planning, running and supporting 12 group sessions and overseeing the final event:
- 5 hours per session @ £15 = 5 x 13 x £15 = **£975**
- Time for general admin, feedback to SDDF Committee and CEF board, follow up and research, participant/group support, final event planning: - 8 hours per month @ £15 = 8 x 12 x £15 = **£1,440**
- To cover staff travel associated with project = £20 x 12 months = **£240**

Total: £4,658

Funding

Where do you expect the money to come from, e.g. revenue or capital budgets, external grants, all from CEF funding or a combination? Please state if you don't know at this stage where the money is coming from. Please include any quotes you have received.

This is part of a bigger pilot project for us, one which we have identified would have a significant impact within the Western CEF area. If we are successful with this bid, once completing this project, we would then look at future funding to develop this work further and carry this forward, providing more opportunities for those involved most locally.

We currently have no other quotes or offers for the funding of this project.

Stronger communities are very interested in what we are achieving, especially with the incredible success we have already seen through our other newly established Action Groups. With the implementation of this much needed action group in the Western CEF area, we hope this will lead us to being able to apply for a bigger funded programme, based on our momentum with the CEFs. Our long-term plans would use this to take our organisation further forward and to ensure that we continue to develop and deliver services on a district wide basis.

Risks / Issues

Identify what you consider to be the main risks at this stage. Also indicate any issues you may be aware of that the project will resolve.

We have now successfully set up two Action Groups in other area of the district and are able to learn from this to the huge benefit of our Western CEF plans.

The only risk we could foresee with this project would be in identifying individuals to engage with our work. However, because we have already carried out our district wide survey, we have a database of individuals who have indicated that they would like to be involved. We also have our own database of members who live in the Western CEF area and are asking for this group to be established. We will also be working closely with other local organisations who have members living in the Western area, who we will encourage to become involved.

This project has been designed to offer opportunity and to enrich the local area of the Western part of Selby district, by encouraging those who currently feel marginalised, to be a part of, and very much at the heart of, their community.

The project will directly tackle issues which have been highlighted through our recent disability survey. Posing questions to those who have offered to be involved further and widening that reach to encompass a varied cross section of local residents.

Links and Dependencies

Does this project link to any others in the area or services already available? Is its success dependent on the completion of other projects, funding from elsewhere, interest from volunteers etc?

Our project has direct links to the work of the Western CEF. We would like our work to have more direct involvement in supporting the ongoing work of the CEF board, in meeting the needs of local people and providing a platform for them to have a voice. From our other successfully run projects, we know that this project will allow that to happen.

The success of this project is not dependant on any other project or funding. It is dependant on involvement from local people wanting to take part, but we will be working from a database of individuals who have already stated that they would like to be involved.

We will also be working with other established organisations supporting those in the area, to help us identify more possible participants.

This project is about challenging thoughtlessness; championing change and tackling issues facing disabled people in the local community. Empowering throughout the project and on all levels - more confidence, more campaigning and more listening.

Survey Results

These are just some of the most interesting findings from those completing our survey from within the Western CEF area:

- 72% of participants considered themselves to have a disability, 36% stated that they have a family member with a disability and 29% were supporting or working with those with a disability.

- 19% of those with a disability stated that this was a physical one, 28% a mental health or emotional disability and 37% an unseen disability.

- 57% they felt a lack of confidence because of their disability, 34% said they feel isolated and excluded and nervous and anxious. The same number said that they felt different to others.

- 73% said that they feel very positive or positive about where they live, which is a great result for the area, however 12% stated they felt indifferent and 15% said they felt negative about where they live.

- When asked specifically about accessibility to various venues in the area, the following statistics stood out the most

- Work college and schools – 9% inaccessible or completely inaccessible
- In social venues – restaurants / clubs / leisure centres / pubs – 25% inaccessible or completely inaccessible
- Out and about on roads / pavements/ parks/ open spaces – 24% inaccessible or completely inaccessible
- In public service buildings – council/ GP/ hospital / police / etc – 10% inaccessible

- We asked the question 'Have you ever experienced direct or indirect bullying, harassment, street harassment or attack because you have a disability or mental health issue?' and 13% said yes.

- We asked the question 'Have you ever experienced hate crime in Selby District? This could include a verbal insult, threat, physical or sexual assault, graffiti or damage to your property.' And 33% said yes.

- When we asked, 'What would you like to see addressed?', these were the top answers:

- Improved public transport – 69%
- Tackling loneliness and isolation – 49%
- Addressing bullying – 38%
- Improving access to services – 38%
- Addressing prejudice – 31%
- Addressing hate crime – 29%
- More recreational opportunities – 23%
- More volunteering opportunities – 21%
- Increased Support – 21%

- When we asked, 'What impact would addressing the needs of people with disabilities have on you?', some of the replies we had from people living in the Western CEF were:

“A big impact. Giving me more opportunities and making things more accessible”

“Provide a more positive environment to live”

“It would enable me to take part in village facilities if access was possible. Currently I am unable to go to certain venues along with me family and friends, which is most upsetting.”