

Barnet Community Innovation Fund - Project Outcomes

We would like to see innovative early intervention and prevention projects and value those that can develop stronger, more resilient and sustained communities based on collaborative partnerships. Any project that seeks to support residents most impacted by COVID-19 and other health inequalities, such as residents from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse communities, the elderly and people with disabilities are encouraged.

Support for unpaid carers as one key group adversely affected by the pandemic

1. Reduce carers' social isolation and develop social networks
2. Demonstrate creative ways of supporting carers, (friends and families providing care) through technology, local communities or, with the continuation of key support; helping people feel positively supported within their community
3. Build resilience in mental wellbeing for carers (anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health illness or an addiction)
4. Develop new community assets and resources to support carers

Digital inclusion projects for older residents to reduce social isolation especially during prolonged periods of lockdown

1. Reduce older residents' social isolation and develop social networks
2. Increased confidence and skills in using technology
3. Reduced social isolation and loneliness
4. Access to wider services, more timely and accountable pathways to services
5. Longer term support to ensure technology is used, useful, affordable and that individuals can continue to develop their skills and knowledge

Residents who have lost or are at risk of losing their jobs

1. Increasing employment and other job opportunities for residents impacted by the pandemic, reducing stigma for those facing unemployment
2. Build on community assets and work with current education and employment support providers to increase the support offer and accessibility of this
3. Increased resilience, confidence, motivation, and mental wellbeing to focus on next steps and actions to gain employment
4. People feeling supported and confident to manage their practical issues such as debt, housing
5. Increased skilled workforce and residents in employment
6. People are supported to retain employment or find new job opportunities where they are at risk of losing their jobs
7. Increased household/family income

Mitigating the risk of lost functionality and mobility in older residents

1. Increased independence
2. Residents are fitter, healthier, and happier, able to lead more independent lives
3. Improved social interactions and reduced social isolation
4. Reduced contacts or crisis to health services for falls and fractures
5. Increased diversity of wellbeing support to older population, which compliments but does not duplicate what is already available.