



# The Digbeth Trust

Active in Turning Community Ideas  
Into Community Action

## CASE STUDY 4 – BANGLADESHI YOUTH FORUM

### WELCOME

This is the second edition of our Case Studies Series which will show how we are helping voluntary and community-based organisations to have a lasting impact in their communities.

For more than 20 years The Digbeth Trust has been supporting groups and communities to fulfil their ambitions and realise their potential.

These case studies illustrate how our staff and quality-assured consultants have helped groups with:

- Feasibility studies;
- Architectural plans;
- Business plans;
- Income generation strategies;
- Organisational development and performance improvement;
- Other sources of funding and support.

The case studies also show how the grants we have made have helped groups to develop their capacity to deliver important services to their communities.

**Our fourth case study is the Bangladeshi Youth Forum – a successful charitable company based in Lozells, Birmingham.**

If you would like more information about how the Trust might be able to help you please contact us.

### ABOUT THE DIGBETH TRUST

The Digbeth Trust is a development support organisation offering services to **voluntary and community groups** and **public and charitable funders** across the West Midlands.

#### Our Mission

The Digbeth Trust exists to enable the development of an influential, effective, independent and sustainable voluntary and community sector across the West Midlands through the influencing of policy and the provision of expertise.

#### Our Services

We provide specialist support to voluntary and community groups through our register of quality-assured consultants, links to other sources of support and access to funds.

We are a not-for-profit charitable company and a membership organisation.

**To find out more about The Digbeth Trust and the services we offer please contact us at:**

Unit 321 The Custard Factory  
Gibb Street  
Birmingham B9 4AA

Tel: 0121 753 0706  
Fax: 0121 248 3323

email: [info@digbethtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@digbethtrust.org.uk)

**website: [www.digbethtrust.org.uk](http://www.digbethtrust.org.uk)**

## **BANGLADESHI YOUTH FORUM (BYF) – A CASE STUDY**

In 2005 The Digbeth Trust first provided support to the Bangladeshi Youth Forum with funding to organise their Uniting Communities Badminton Championship, one of the aims of which was to promote regeneration through sport.

In this article Harun Raza, Community Sports Worker for the Bangladeshi Youth Forum, talks about the work of his organisation and how the Trust has helped them in recent years:

**“The Bangladeshi Youth Forum was established in 1994 to empower Bangladeshi Youth to participate within the West Midland region's decision making process in order to improve the quality of life within the Bangladeshi Community.”**

The Digbeth Trust, through its grant aid specialist work for The Heart of Birmingham Teaching Primary Care Trust, enabled funding for BYF's Uniting Communities Badminton Championship. The aim was to encourage regular participation in pro-active sport and also to provide health advice. This linked to community regeneration by inviting organisations who provide education, training and employment opportunities to promote their services and offer career opportunities to both the spectators and participants.

**“The Championships attracted a cross-section of the community and provided opportunities for participants and members of the local Community to obtain more information on potential employers, trainers, and educational institutions. The Championships also provided a chance for prospective employers and institutions to engage with black and minority ethnic groups who are under represented in their field of work”**



**Bangladeshi Youth Forum**



**Competitors in action at the Uniting Communities Badminton Championship**



**Participants, organisers and volunteers**

The organisation has seen a sharp increase in the number of people taking part in physical activities as a result of the event. BYF involved professional health workers in the championship, and they distributed information and gave health and nutritional advice to the 356 participants and 200 spectators. This has made people aware of the importance of physical activities and the positive benefits of regular participation to health and wellbeing.

**“This event has been a success to the BYF in terms of making links and networks with providers of training and employment. Because of this event we have been able to work with Badminton England with 24 people becoming qualified Badminton Coaches. This was the first time in a very long time courses have been held in Birmingham. In my view this is an achievement as we have helped Badminton England to reach a new community and have become recognised as promoting Badminton in the inner-City of Birmingham.”**

The funding has also led to work carried out with South Birmingham College to introduce educational courses at the BYF Centre and the organisation now has closer working links with other mainstream organisations and institutions, such as West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, and Crown Prosecution Service

**“The support we received from The Digbeth Trust in developing and submitting our application was really useful. Without the grant from the Trust we would have found it very difficult to carry out this work. The championships have made a significant difference to the lives of the participants, volunteers, the Community and the Bangladeshi Youth Forum. ”**

#### Awards:



**Bangladeshi Youth Forum  
BYF Centre  
163 Gerrard Street  
Lozells  
Birmingham B19 2AH  
Tel: 0121 554 0305  
Email: [info@byf-uk.org](mailto:info@byf-uk.org)  
Website: [www.byf-uk.org](http://www.byf-uk.org)**



## PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL AID SERVICE (PTAS)

connecting the  
voluntary sector with  
consultants' expertise

PTAS offers:

- to voluntary and community groups: access to quality-assured consultants who can help you to improve your services and organisation;
- to consultants: access to a wide range of opportunities to make a difference to voluntary and community groups;
- to other partner organisations (including funders and statutory authorities): access to our database of quality-assured consultants to help with needs assessments, service evaluations, etc.

PTAS is a **free** service for voluntary and community organisations in the West Midlands. Currently we can only fund a small number of consultancies each year. However, for every group that contacts us we will:

- Assess your needs;
- Help you write a consultancy brief;
- Help you find a quality assured consultant;
- Give you advice about how to manage the consultancy.

If we cannot fund the consultancy ourselves we will signpost you to other sources of possible funding or organisations that might be able to help free of charge.

For more information please contact us or see our website.

[www.digbethtrust.org.uk](http://www.digbethtrust.org.uk)

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## OUR APPROACH:

We aim to deliver real outcomes for the groups and partners we work with. Our approach is to:

- tailor our support to the specific needs of individual groups;
- work with groups to transfer skills to build their capacity;
- focus on sustainable development – so that groups and projects develop realistically;
- facilitate links between groups and the wider policy and funding environment in which they are working.

## OUR IMPACT:

Recent evaluations show that the Trust is:

- Effective at reaching marginalised communities and groups;
- An effective administrator of grant funds – delivering positive outcomes for groups, individuals, communities and funders;
- Effective at helping groups to build their own capacity – thereby having a lasting impact on the efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the groups we work with;
- Effective at helping to lever-in additional financial and non-financial resources to the sector.

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