



Links Funding Workshop



Identifying Need

Need is the term we use to describe a problem, issue or situation where something needs to change to make things better for a person, a group of people, an environment or an organisation.

- Have a clear vision about what you want to tackle, how you will address this and will it complement other projects.
- Be prepared to revise and adapt if necessary.
- Be clear about the reasons for your project.

Key Points

- What is the problem or issue you want to address with your project?
- What evidence is there that this need exists?
- What are the reasons for the need?
- Have you carried out any research?
- Why have you prioritised this need?
- Why is your project an appropriate response to the need?
- Have you consulted with the people your project will benefit and other relevant stakeholders?
- Do you know about relevant local strategies or initiatives, or other projects working in this field and how your project will fit in?

Evidencing Need

- Asking people with experience of the need
- Your own experience, or what you have seen
- Research into the scale of the need
- Local statistics about the population in the area or levels of deprivation (such as from the census or other more recent surveys) or other statistics eg Derbyshire Observatory
- Local authority initiatives or partnership strategies between statutory and voluntary sector services that are in place because the need is already well known and evidenced.