

SYNERGY

U R B A N I M P A C T

URBAN IMPACT is a daring initiative that gives young people the chance to make new friends, experience God in a powerful way and make a difference in local communities.

After seeing hundreds of young people drawing closer to God with a renewed sense of urgency and passion to impact lives during Grapevine 2003, we began to ask “What sort of Impact could be made by 300+ fired up young people being released all over a city?”

Forming partnerships with all sorts of churches and community groups who share the same belief that young people can make a huge difference in the lives of everyday people is at the core of the Synergy vision to empower, resource and equip people to explore and serve the needs of their communities.

We soon identified areas of Lincoln that could really do with some support, whether it was an area that would benefit from us putting on activities for families with young children and providing sports opportunities for local teenagers or helping to tidy up local parks and gardens.

Before long many of the young people who helped out on the various projects came back in the evenings with stories of individuals that they had come into contact with being deeply impacted by what they had witnessed. For many it was a wonderful opportunity to grow in confidence, grow in faith and develop new skills and experience.

We believe that there are many other towns and cities all across the UK that could benefit from something like *URBAN IMPACT* happening where they are. So, with the help of lots of enthusiastic young people, willing community groups and most importantly God’s prompting, we are now starting to roll out *URBAN IMPACT* across the country.

As a team, we are really encouraged that your church has expressed an interest in connecting with *URBAN IMPACT* and would love to explore how we can support you operating a focused event that properly serves the needs of your local community.

Please read on where we will talk you through some of the issues that you need to be thinking about in order to properly fill out the application form at the back of this pack.

The Synergy Team





Specific areas for consideration

Serving the needs of your community...

For a project to be effective and for young people to become empowered and inspired through running it, there must be real scope for impact to be made. We recommend that prior to filling in the application form your church completes a community needs audit that gives local people a chance to have a say about what help they need. This ensures that participation is increased from the local community and helps to alleviate suspicion over what may be perceived as a Christian agenda.

Working within your means...

We want to develop vision that is captivating but also realistic. Understanding what resources are needed and available will really help in the planning process. We are keen to help support the development of your project and explore the possibility of partnering with you further still.

If you can establish exactly what your budget and scope is we can then help you formulate the best project for you that will most effectively serve your locality and encourage those that are taking part in it.

Considering areas like how much you can afford, what time of year is best, how to effectively recruit and support your volunteers and who can take overall responsibility for the development of vision and structured planning will all help you to develop the most effective project possible.

Understanding the wider vision...

Ground Level and Synergy are passionate about reaching young people across the nation and the world to engage them in mission. Synergy Urban Impact is a package that aims to support *your* church in meeting the requirements of *your* locality. The information we are giving you is intended to provide a dynamic framework that gives you maximum flexibility to tailor a project that engages *your church's* vision for *your* community.

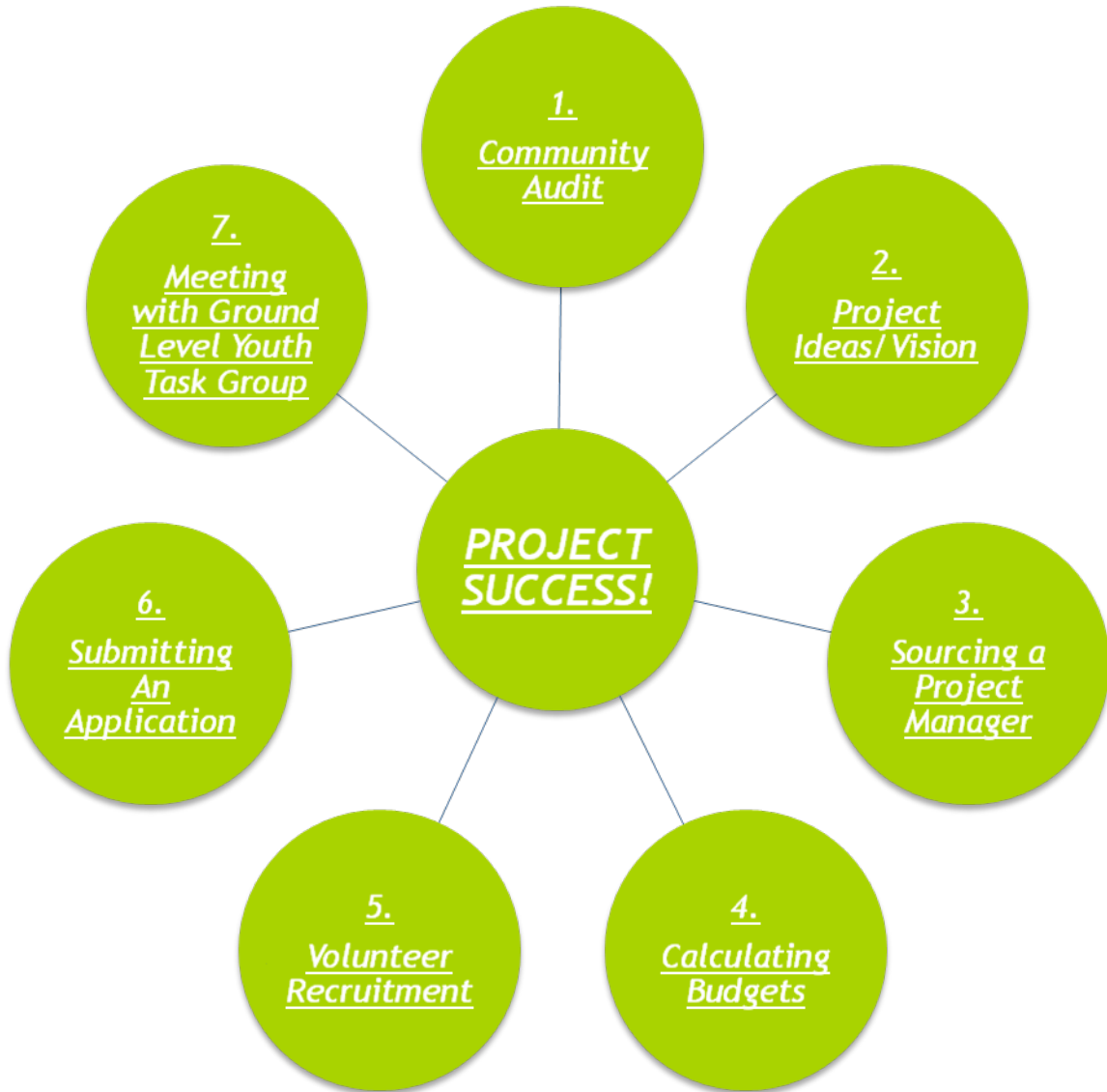
We are happy to partner with you to support the development of planning and sourcing a team of passionate young people that will do your project justice and develop themselves in the process. Please take time to complete the application form and feel free to hold onto it if you feel that there are things you need to develop before you can host an URBAN IMPACT event.

What happens to your application...

Once you have carried out your community audit and completed the form we will respond initially to confirm that we have received your application. From there Ground Level Youth Task Group will process your proposal and contact you.



7 Point Project Development Plan





Proposed Timetable

6-12 Months Prior

- Beginning to share the vision with your local church
- Formulating a core planning team
- Ensuring that meetings with connecting churches are scheduled during coming months

4 Months Prior

- Developing weekly meetings with the core planning team
- Holding a brainstorming session between planning team and connecting churches
- Presenting the results of this brainstorm for all members to see and use as a central focus during planning development
- Generating a 'jobs to do' list and to distribute amongst the team for ongoing review during meetings
- Developing local church funding options
- Publicly launching the Urban Impact Vision to connecting church congregations

3 Months Prior

- Beginning publicity drive - designing flyers etc
- Arranging meetings with relevant local council agencies to organise support
- Sponsorship sourcing form local companies and businesses





2 Months Prior

- Releasing publicity
- Developing systems to record community requests relating to inclusion in your project
- Developing clear timetables for the Urban Impact event
- Finalising volunteer accommodation/developing menus and food supply
- Publicising the event within churches and team members - e.g setup, prayer, catering etc.
- Organising prayer nights/information meetings
- Visiting potential projects
- Producing welcome packs for Urban Impact delegates to include a welcome letter, teaching booklet, gifts, pens, t-shirts, safety equipment
- Drafting teams and allocating leaders
- Developing follow-up packs for each of the people met/served
- Design and print of flyers for projects during the week
- Planning for evening outreach events e.g. BBQ's, sports nights and DJ nights

Final Stages

- Arranging volunteers to suit the right projects
- Checking and finalising timings of projects

