



‘A CITY FOR ALL’ IMPACT REPORT



LOTTERY FUNDED

In 2017 the Federation received funding from the Awards for All, BIG Lottery programme to hold an event for social sector tenants and new migrants. The project has been overseen by a panel of tenants and new migrants. The event took place on 25th April 2018 at the Molineux Stadium, and it was an opportunity for social sector tenants and new migrants to come together to share experiences and to discuss the issues that they face. It was also an opportunity to show case help and support available to them. We invited housing providers and other organisations to promote employment initiatives and educational/training opportunities, and information on benefits and other support available.

The day began with the deputy leader of the City Council setting the scene and promoting the many positive new developments in the area. A lecturer from the University then took a look at the history of Wolverhampton as a multi cultural City. A representative from a local college then talked about community cohesion and the positives and strengths of such a mix of ethnicity. Tenants then shared their experiences of moving to the area. After lunch there were workshops on higher education, Universal Credit, personal/community development and Wolverhampton Homes (the local Arms Length Management organisation) promoted some of their many projects for tenants. We were then entertained by a Bhangra dancer to finish off the day. The event was attended by at least 92 participants (not everyone completed the attendance sheet). There was an excellent mix of age and ethnicity which is not truly reflected by the profile from the feedback. Only 34 completed the feedback forms and not all questions were answered. However the overall feedback that we received was positive. Most people felt that the event had helped them to be more aware of the issues that tenants and new migrants face and of the opportunities, help and support available to them. General comments were that it was a good event, interesting and informative, that it showcased organisations offering support, and that it was good to see different communities coming together, and to hear peoples' experiences of coming to Wolverhampton.



Four months after the event, in August 2018, we held 2 focus groups to help us to see what difference, if any, the project has made and to measure its impact. We also carried out a case study and held a small event on 4th September 2018 .

Feedback from the event and the focus groups.

Some of the comments were that the event brought people together from different backgrounds and that it was very informative, particularly about services and where you can go for support. People also said they enjoyed hearing about different experiences that highlighted individual's achievements since coming to the country and to Wolverhampton and the issues they have faced. We are encouraged to note that since the event some people have found work placements and some have enrolled at colleges and places of higher education. There have also been some practical developments — the Dovecotes Tenant Management Organisation has introduced regular sessions for the Citizens Advice Bureau to offer advice and assistance to tenants on their estate. The TLC College has since started up a 'Chatter Group' in order to help new migrants with their English. Focus group participants said that they feel more aware of the different cultures living in the City because of the event and some have subsequently participated in new groups and taken on new activities.

Event on 4th September

The session on the 4th September 2018 was aimed at bringing together active community members and Fed Board members, in order to gain their thoughts on the April event and to share ideas for how the Fed can build on successes and achievements and to look at what we need to do better in the future. In particular it was felt that we need to be more inclusive and represent all social sector tenants whatever their age, background or ethnicity. The group developed proposals to take this forward but was aware of the financial limits that the Fed faces in order to action the plans.

Case study. Gender: female, Ethnicity: White British, Age: 75-84 years.

At the event she became aware of proposals to set up a chatter group at a local college to help non native English speakers to improve their English language. Buoyed by the inclusivity of the event she attended the chatter group and has been attending ever since. This has had a positive impact on her life and she is pleased to contribute to her community in this way.



Profile of those who took part in the project:

- 23% were males
 - 59% were female
 - 29% said they were disabled
 - 3% were under 35 years of age
 - 20% were between 35 and 64 years of age
 - 31% were aged 65 years and over
 - 52% were White English/Scottish/Welsh/Northern Irish/Irish or other white
 - 3% were mixed ethnic background
 - 14% were Black/African/Caribbean/Black UK
 - 14% were Indian or other Asian background
 - 3% were other ethnic background
- (Not everyone provided us with information)