

CITIZEN'S ORGANISING FOUNDATION

5,941

Young Citizens was started by a group of local citizens faced by the unwillingness of Birmingham City Council to address issues they see as vital. The Organisation promotes good citizenship across ethnic divisions through empowerment. Funding was sought to recruit student organisers to work in specific neighbourhoods.

The grant has been used to employ Irfan Rashid as a part time Student organiser to build the membership of Young Citizens particularly in East Birmingham. Irfan has successfully built a unique alliance of twelve mosques to work with the West Midland police and ensure both sides understand each other better and can communicate without prejudice. He has also managed to attract significant and varied media interest in this campaign. He was instrumental in running a six month campaign to 'clean up Saltley' which addressed the drugs and crime issues of the area.