

Learning about partnering from the Healthy Communities Together programme

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Plan for the session

Introduction to the Healthy Communities Together programme

Developing the Reflective Learning Framework

Over to you – what does partnering mean in your context?

A brief run through of the RLF

Over to you – what resonated/surprised you?

Our sites

Coventry: creating better mental health and wellbeing by 2025, using a 'Big Conversations' model of local collaboration.

Gloucestershire: training, events, projects and an incubator to encourage a radical re-set of structures, commissioning practices and mindsets.

Leeds: 'commissioning from the margins' using cross sector model where the needs of marginalised communities are considered first when developing and designing services.

Croydon: transforming commissioning and shifting power and decision making to local people, to improve health and wellbeing and address health inequalities.

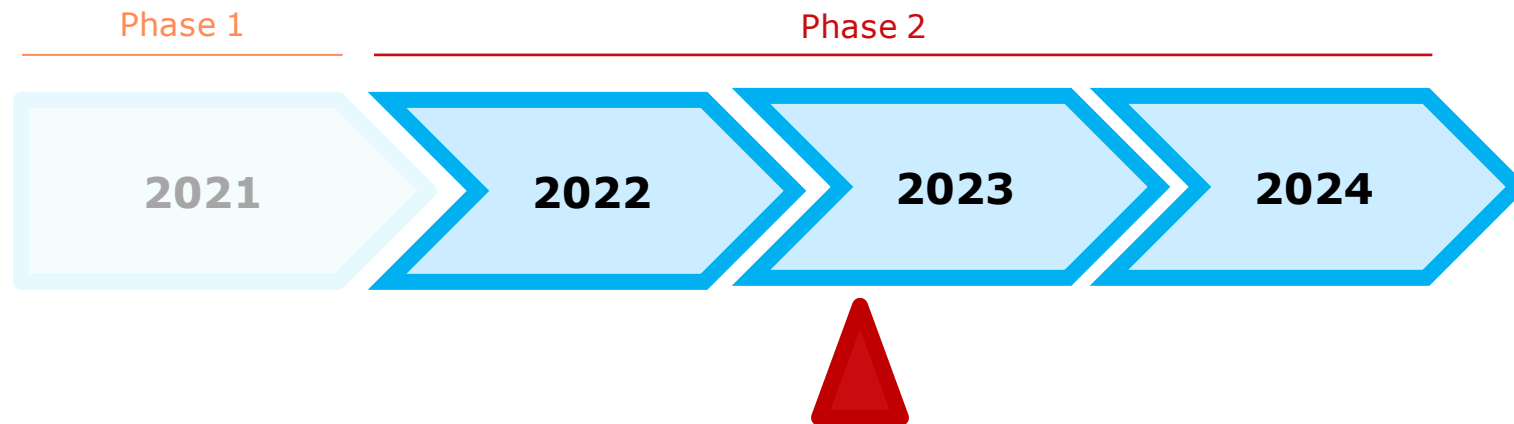
Plymouth: tackling social isolation by putting "citizen voice at the heart of the work" and "connecting citizen voice to strategic decision making".



Three hypotheses

- Outcomes for communities are better served by VCS and statutory bodies working in equal partnership towards a shared agenda.
- Ongoing investment is required to ensure the participation of VCS organisations to engage as equal partners.
- Effective and sustainable partnership working is an active learning process which benefits from expert support to work differently in relation to a shared leadership of change.

Timeline



Over to you...

What do partnership and partnering mean in the context of your own work?

Pairs or small groups - discuss

A reflective learning framework... in development

1. What is the **purpose** of the partnership's work?
2. What is the distinctive **role** of this partnership?
3. Who are the partnership's **members and stakeholders**?
4. How is work being **shared and recognised** within the partnership?
5. How is the partnership **learning and adapting**?

1. What is the purpose of the partnership's work?

- › Understanding beneficiaries and desired impact
- › Articulating shared aims – to each other and to external stakeholders
- › Responsive to changing circumstances
- › Developing the purpose collaboratively

What is the distinctive role of this partnership?

- › Understanding its position in relation to the wider system
- › Articulating its contribution in a complex environment

Who are the partnership's members and stakeholders?

- › Understanding different capacities and constraints
- › Consciously making time to get to know each other as people, beyond roles and organisations
- › Working with fluid membership and engagement
- › Developing and maintaining relationships within and beyond the partnership

How is work being shared and recognised within the partnership?

- Noticing and explicitly recognising power differentials
- Finding ways to disrupt unhelpful dynamics

How is the partnership learning and adapting?

- Balancing a focus on delivery and on partnering
- Sharing learning across projects

Over to you...

What resonated/surprised you?

How (if at all) are these issues showing up in your own work?

Plenary discussion

Thank you

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