

Haringey Community Action Research Programme 2022/23 Commissioning brief

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Introduction

Haringey Borough Partnership (comprising all NHS, council and voluntary and community sector representative organisations within Haringey) is committed to hearing and acting upon the voice of our local communities. We are also committed to ensuring there is equitable access for all of the diverse Haringey population. We recognise that certain communities face specific barriers to accessing health and social care services and will often seek support through their local community first. We also recognise the skills and strengths which exist in local communities and through the grass roots organisations that work closely with them. Often these strengths and connections provide invaluable support where statutory services, for whatever reason, have not been able to reach or support local people and communities.

It's imperative that we are able to work with local communities and VCSE to listen to local communities around their life experiences, what matters to them in terms of starting 'well', living 'well' and aging 'well' and their experience of accessing care and services. These experiences must shape how we develop services, programmes and undertake strategic planning both within Haringey and within North Central London programmes.

A crucial part of working with our local communities are also the relationships that have been built with the community and voluntary sector. We would like to continue to strengthen these relationships for the year ahead.

Project overview

Haringey Borough Partnership would like to undertake community action research around priority areas to support open conversations with local communities to identify and explore key inequalities around reach, access, outcomes and experiences.

We are looking to work with a lead facilitating VCSE organisation and a group of grassroots organisations – working as a joint VCSE Partnership - that are best placed to support the research ambition around the defined priority areas (see below).

Aims and objectives

- To build a flexible, strong, and equitable VCSE partnership, bringing together a lead facilitating VCSE organisation and grass roots organisations, with equitable sharing of funding and utilising of unique skills of each organisation to work with local Haringey communities;
- To develop a simple training programme (i.e. workshop with some additional peer training / mentoring) to upskill the partnership's knowledge on Haringey's health and care system and services;
- For the partnership to conduct action and community research, which includes, to:
 - collaborate with and amplify the voice of local communities who experience high inequalities (in reach, access, outcomes or experiences) to identify unmet wellbeing needs;
 - meet communities where they are, so they can raise issues which matter to them and set outcomes which are meaningful for their lives;

- address identified issues as they arise – co-designing solutions with local communities and people; bringing the services and support they need to them (working collaboratively, in conjunction with Haringey Borough Partnership, with existing programmes of work where research findings can be incorporated – e.g. an existing service);
- raise knowledge of local health and care services across VCSE organisations and local communities;
- act upon the feedback and views of Haringey communities to ensure services are planned and commissioned with local people – and to meet their needs in terms of reach, access, outcomes and experiences.

The key objectives we are looking to be achieved as part of the work are:

- To better understand people’s experiences of services, so that we can listen to and develop ideas on how to improve, local solutions, services and partnerships across the statutory and voluntary health, care and housing system with local people and communities. This work will directly inform Haringey Borough Partnership’s development;
- To engage and collaborate with local communities;
- To harness local VCSE and communities’ strength;
- To provide support to local communities and individuals to access the information and advice that’s useful for them in the way they want it, and to explore with local communities how best we could support and encourage people to manage their health and well-being.

Please note that the successful organisations can work with the Haringey Borough Partnership and, where appropriate, invite statutory partners’ staff to listen directly to local people and communities.

Community research

This brief is focused on exploring some space for open conversations alongside key thematic areas (our priorities), and we expect the partnership to reflect these themes and come together in a way that ensures appropriate expertise and access to the impacted community groups:

These are:

1. Children and Young People (CYP) and their mental wellbeing – in the context of COVID-19 recovery, and what works and doesn’t work to support mental wellbeing, what are current barriers to accessing or using mental health support, and what would make a difference.
2. People in ‘grey areas’ where they are on the edge of society and don’t fit neatly into our service boxes, or they are very complex individuals with chaotic lifestyles. There is a tipping point where people “at the edge” become harder to support to a better life and are more costly as a system (e.g. rough sleepers or those in Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) whose lives remain chaotic even if placed in shelter). It would be good to know what those tipping points and barriers to a good life are, to help inform our localities offer and tie in with our community navigation offer
3. Supporting older people and their carers experiencing low mood and mental health issues or isolation during the pandemic to get better connected with others, including

family, friends and make sure they can connect to the wider health, care and housing system at the right time.

- This can include a focus on dementia, and how best partners can raise awareness of the condition, and how best people with the condition can be supported to have as fulfilling a life as possible. As with (2), we are interested in engaging with particularly under-served communities or groups
- 4. Needs of residents who require extra help to be supported into employment in health and care, including care leavers transitioning into adulthood, carers, people with learning disabilities or autism – research required on understanding the barriers to pathways and services, in conjunction with an employment pathways programme within Haringey Council focusing on these groups.
- 5. People with Long-Term Conditions (LTCs), in conjunction with separate bids being commissioned through a different tender, and in collaboration with other participatory work we do already on LTCs through our Healthy Neighbourhoods programme.

Working with the lead organisation and partnership, these priorities may still change slightly, as and when community research work is instigated and/or additional work is funded at an NCL or London level on these areas of work and priorities.

Target Communities

We would expect research to focus on communities that are most affected by health inequalities, which the successful partnership, as a whole, to have good expertise on. Target communities may include but may not be limited to:

- people who are hesitant or concerned about certain areas of services or how services are delivered
- people with minority ethnic backgrounds
- people 'at the edge' of service provision
- older people with moderate to severe mental health conditions
- children, young people and their parents
- people living with (learning) disabilities
- carers
- care leavers

Alongside this, we are doing further mapping work around the insights already gathered to inform which communities to work with – so that we can identify any significant gaps in our community knowledge and relationships.

Reporting

The **lead facilitating organisation** needs to support the collation of, and provide records and reporting on:

- Number of people spoken to
- Demographics of people spoken to and population segments, if possible
- Patient/client experience surveys, where appropriate
- Qualitative thematic analysis
- Actionable recommendations

- Scope and extent of training delivered to VCSE organisations (in conjunction with Haringey Borough Partnership)
- The ways in which communities have been supported, including but not limited to:
 - Information provided to communities on how to access health services (signposting)
 - Supporting communities to access health (or other statutory) services, where needed
 - Assisting communities with more complex needs to find the right information or to access the right service
 - Assisting communities to access any type of wellbeing support
 - Any other ways of how you identified and supported specific communities around inequalities in reach, access, outcomes and experiences
 - The impact of these community interventions

Please provide reporting in the form of:

- Case studies/testimonies
- Qualitative and quantitative analysis and charts
- Thematic summary report of activities, research and outcomes

Reporting structure

- Monthly update meetings where we share the progress of the programme and current activity
 - A written activity summary of programme development every three months
 - With any emerging or consolidating themes including community interventions as well as research themes
- A final report at the end of the project that sets out the above measurements and thematic analysis.
- We will hold a **discussion session/s** with the VCSE partnership and Haringey Borough Partnership leaders to discuss the findings of the project and ways the learning can be taken forward.

We aim to reflect on and implement findings across the project's duration – rather than waiting for the final report – in this way we can respond to research in-time and develop a two-way conversation between the partnership and local communities and statutory partners.

We will work with you (the VCSE Partnership) to address the recommendations in the final report and work together to communicate with local communities how the findings have influenced and directly developed the Haringey Borough Partnership and constituent programmes.

Developing the partnership

We are keen the partnership can develop as a fluid model so that there can be the potential to bring in new partners for future funding opportunities.

Across the project's duration there will usually be specific topics or service areas we will need to work with local people to develop. Our long-term aim is that the partnership may be a key vehicle to do this, with the appropriate additional funding. But we can only do this if the partnership model is flexible enough that it can evolve to bring in new VCSE.

When developing the partnership and proposal please factor this into the model you develop.

Timescale and budget

Timeframe:

Start date: 25th July 2022

End date: 30th April 2023

Budget: £38,000

The lead provider will receive the payment in full after 25th July 2022, subject to financial checks. The lead provider will need to work with the partnership to determine an equitable funding model – that ensures grass roots organisations are fairly resourced for their time and commitment to the programme – and that the lead provider ensures the partnership brings much needed resource to grass roots organisations.

We can support the lead provider to develop an equitable funding model.

All costs of the project must be budgeted within the set amount. This includes:

- Venue cost
- Staff time
- Catering costs
- Volunteering and other expenses
- Community researchers cost
- Evaluation cost

Submitting a proposal

Invitation to bid

The Provider is asked to bid by **Monday 11 July 2022 at 5pm.**

We are looking for a partnership with:

- Experience in working closely with communities to understand their needs and strengths, in building community assets and mobilising projects and/or community development and innovation projects;
- Experience of gathering, assessing and acting upon community based insight and research;
- Strong knowledge of local Haringey communities and their strengths and needs;
- Ability to 'hit the ground' running in terms of having an existing community infrastructure through which to deliver the project;
- Experience of collaborative working with local communities and/or other partners;
- Experience of thorough and robust evaluations of projects (focus on community insight, development and innovation)

- The ability to evolve flexibly and fluidly – able to offer the opportunity to bring in new organisations if further funding becomes available

The key areas to include in your proposal, and weightings, are:

	Components	Weighting
1	Information on previous experience of designing, delivering and evaluating similar projects and similar community work <i>Word count: 1000 words</i>	20%
	Please describe the different partners within the collaborative, how you will ensure each partner has an equal voice within the partnership and how the funds will be equitably shared across the partnership Please include a financial breakdown	20%
2	A proposed model for gathering community insights and undertaking action research, including how you are planning to utilise all of the partnership's channels and innovatively engage and work with communities. Please include practicalities (e.g. how you will engage with local communities, the types of methodologies you might use e.g. peer researchers, different mediums, building on current community work you already undertake) <i>Word count: 1000 words</i>	20%
3	A timeline for delivery of the project, encompassing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and review of data already available • Definition of specific gaps • Working with the partnership to develop research questions and engagement materials • Insights gathering • Action research • Insights collation • Evaluation and reporting on the programme <i>Word count: Chart + 500 words if needed</i>	20%
5	How will you analyse and present the research findings with key recommendations. <i>Word count: 400 words</i>	20%

Contact Details

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