

Flash report

Community Led Approaches – COVID-19 Health and Social Care Learning in Scotland

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Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the key role of communities in supporting health and wellbeing. This raises many questions about how we recognise, resource and sustain activity as we transition into recovery. The ihub is keen to explore how to use the learning from community responses during COVID-19 to inform the future of health and social care in Scotland.

This first session focused on sharing insights from the Scottish Government and national community development organisations. The panel discussion centred on the opportunity to influence the national agenda for health and social care.

Speakers

Karen Geekie, *Self-directed Support Policy Lead, Scottish Government*

- The Scottish Government Adult Social Care Reform programme recognises the need to do things differently and the valued role of community. The programme includes a ‘Communities, Care and Support’ work stream.
- What can be done nationally to support communities and where do the Scottish Government need to “get out the way”?

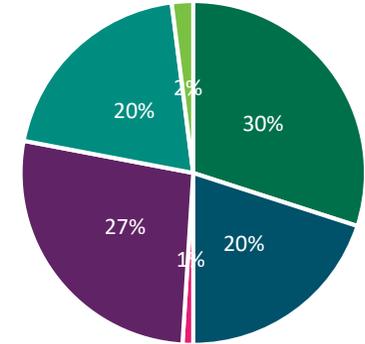
Anne Connor, *Chief Executive, Outside the Box*

- The role of community in health and social care is not new.
- Communities offer a broad spectrum of support from formal services to people looking out for each other.
- How do we develop trust in our community organisations to ensure they are properly valued and supported?

Lindsay Chalmers, *Development Manager, Community Land Scotland*

- A large number of community land owners have responded during COVID-19 to supporting health and wellbeing of communities.
- They have a rich experience of working in complex communities and understand local need.
- How do we sustain activity that has developed in recent months?

A total of 165 people attended the online discussion session from a range of organisations



- Local: public sector
- Local: third sector
- Local: community organisation
- National: public sector
- National: third sector
- Other

Useful Links

The speakers and participants shared a lot of interesting links with good examples of community work (both as a response to COVID-19 and more generally), interesting articles and resources.

Links shared by the panel

Reforming adult social care support <https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-care/reforming-adult-social-care/>

More stories can be found on Community Land Scotland's website <https://www.communitylandscotland.org.uk/whats-new/community-coronavirus-responses/> new report also highlights community landowners' responses to the COVID-19 Crisis [Built-in Resilience: Community Landowners' Responses to the Covid19 Crisis](#)

Bringing Care Services and Communities Together <https://otbds.org/community-care/>

Examples of community groups/collaborations:

TSI Moray community database: <https://www.tsimoray.org.uk/community-database>

Video examples of groups in Moray: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnE7Gr8f3oU&t=26s>

COVID-19 specific examples of community responses (DTAS): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnE7Gr8f3oU&t=26s>

Example of a peer led approach to recovery: <https://www.scottishrecovery.net/friends-family/>

Resources:

Nesta, People Powered Health Programme: <https://www.nesta.org.uk/project/people-powered-health/>

Nesta, People Powered Commissioning: embedding innovation in practice https://media.nesta.org.uk/documents/people_powered_commissioning.pdf

Tool-kit for communities to support people at the end of life: https://www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk/content/toolkit_homepage/

Interesting reads:

The Local Area Co-ordination approach looks for natural networks of supports available for people in the communities: <https://lacnetwork.org/local-area-coordination/>

Nesta, Innovation in the Public Sector report <https://www.nesta.org.uk/report/innovation-in-the-public-sector/>