Midlands Co-production Network

Online Workshop, 23 June 2026, 10.00 - 11.30 a.m.

How community co-production can make societies more equal

Join our online Midlands Co-Production Network event to explore new co-production approaches with vulnerable groups.

Co-production has become one of the 'must-have's in all public service plans and strategies. One of its key attributes is that it can help to uncover and make productive use of the assets of all members of the community, including those in vulnerable groups. This can help to raise the quality of life of people in marginalised groups and, importantly, improve their self-image and self-confidence as valuable members of society – and, of course, these benefits may lead to reduced inequality in service usage and in outcomes. However, these potential benefits are not always being achieved currently by public agencies. Why not? This workshop will showcase good practice cases on innovative practices with different vulnerable groups, showing it can be done, followed by a discussion with all participants on how such inclusive co-production approaches can be scaled up and made more common.

Presentations

As always, we have lined up exciting speakers from the Midlands, UK and elsewhere in Europe:

- **Co-production with families in temporary accommodation in Coventry City Council (Jane Moffat, Operational Lead for Early Help, Coventry Council):** Coventry City Council has adopted a co-production approach to its homelessness and temporary accommodation strategy, involving people with lived experience and communities to improve key outcomes. Jane will highlight what has been achieved and the remaining challenges, with a focus on the lived experiences of families with young children resident in temporary accommodation.
- **Co-production with people experiencing problematic substance use in Northern Ireland (Michael Morgan, Social Care Support, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust**): Co-production with people experiencing limited treatment options, stigma and repeat crises involves multiple social challenges. Michael will report on his current pilot project helping male and female service users, who have been impacted by (predominantly) cocaine use, to access and make successful use of support groups with a view to changing behaviour and developing peer roles.
- **Co-production with people living in poverty to achieve more inclusive health services (Alessandro Spano, Professor of Public Management, University of Cagliari):** In Sardinia, as elsewhere, many disadvantaged groups face challenges in accessing health services. Alessandro will discuss a voluntary initiative of the Rotary Club Cagliari East (which he leads) on making it easier for people living in poverty to access health services.

Catch-up session

In the final part of the workshop, all participants will have the chance to share what they are currently up to and to seek comments from other participants.

Registration

To register, please email Yvonne.Harley@govint.org with your name and organisation. We will send a Zoom link to this online workshop to all those who register. As an online event, we expect national (and even international) participation, so hurry and register your interest!

We very much welcome newcomers, so please feel free to share this invitation with your colleagues.