



Rhwydwaith
Cydgynhyrchu
Cymru

Co-production
Network
for Wales

Pawb gyda'i gilydd
All in this together



Co-production and involvement in PSBs

Mes Yn Dderw: Co-production acorns for public service oaks

The Co-production Network for Wales has secured 5 years of funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to work with Public Services Boards (PSBs) on their implementation of co-production and involvement, with an initial focus on well-being assessments.

We are an independent non-profit, and the leading organisation in Wales with specialist expertise in these areas. We support a cross-sector community of practice, and we offer training, advice and consultancy in both strategic and delivery organisations.

We know [there is a gap](#) between the aspirations of our (still young) devolved legislation in terms of involving citizens and communities in the co-production of public services, and the reality of implementation on the ground. We believe that only by getting enough co-production and involvement happening across our Welsh public services, will we achieve the scale of impact that is required for sustainable change.

“Public bodies should be embedding a culture of citizen and stakeholder involvement...This means having meaningful conversations with people in communities, finding out what matters to them, and reflecting their views before decisions are reached.” ~ Future Generations Report, 2020



We propose to work hands-on with 3 PSBs (or clusters of PSBs in which collaborative relationships are well established), and build on the first round of well-being assessments to deepen your engagement and involvement practice. We will:

- **Work alongside your teams** to support practical implementation and develop their capabilities, capacity and confidence. We are not consultants who take the work away and do it *for* you, instead we work *with* you; through experiential learning and working on relevant and immediate issues, we shift behaviours and cultures.
- **Create the conditions for sustainable relationships** between organisations and with communities and citizens through an ongoing involvement infrastructure; relationships are fundamental to co-producing and operating in complexity, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of this work.
- **Develop meaningful engagement opportunities** including with seldom heard voices, that will lead to the involvement of communities in the co-production of local solutions, where both people and professionals leverage their strengths and resources to effect positive change.

Work will begin in June 2021 with a focus on the well-being assessments, and carry through planning and implementation. We are fortunate to have been granted funding that will enable us to support PSBs throughout the entire 5-year cycle, and through them affect the broader public services landscape in Wales.

Each of the 3 PSBs or clusters we work with will access **an average of one day (8 hours) per week** of consultancy, advice and support from our co-production consultants who bring to the table a broad range of skills and experience. You will have a primary team of two consultants, and the support of the rest of our co-production team as relevant and appropriate. With 50 days of collaborative support per year for 5 years, we can achieve a significant shift in practice and behaviours. Of course we will develop specific work plans and timings around your needs, but broadly speaking, we will work with you to:

- **Develop and deliver** the engagement and communications plan for your Well-being Assessments, utilising remote and in person approaches as applicable.
- **Consolidate relationships** of trust and continue to engage with local stakeholders and residents to shape the Well-being Plans that are informed by the assessments
- **Co-produce local responses** to the priorities identified in the Well-being Plans (through the continued involvement of communities, community-led organisations, statutory and third-sector partner organisations).
- **Build capability and confidence** with co-production, facilitation, and associated skills.

While we will be working hands-on with 3 PSBs or clusters, in order for all the other PSBs to also benefit from the programme **we will connect with the PSB network** and share findings, experiences and lessons learnt. This will also fit within the wider context of the Co-production Network's existing cross-sector community of practice. We are therefore looking to work with a range of 3 PSBs or clusters whose variety of contexts and learnings will benefit the greater number.



To let us know you're interested, email Rachel Wolfendale, programme manager, by close of play **Friday 7th May 2021** (rachel@copronet.wales). Please tell us:

1. Who you are, and which PSB (or cluster) you are writing on behalf of?
2. Which other members of the PSB (or cluster) have you discussed this opportunity with, and who is on board? Does anyone have any questions or concerns?
3. What are you already doing in terms of engagement and involvement? What has your approach been so far, specifically with regards to the Well-being Assessments?
4. What value would this programme add to your existing work, and how would it increase your impact?
5. Who would be part of the team we would be working directly with? Will they have capacity (of time, and of focus) to take on this work?
6. Is there buy-in and permission at senior leadership level to support and advance this work?
7. If you're a cluster, what are your arrangements and how well embedded are your collaborative practices?

We will get in touch to arrange meetings in the following week, so we can answer your questions and discuss this further. We will decide through these conversations which combination of 3 PSBs or clusters we will be working with, with a view to begin in early June.

We look forward to hearing from you.