



Not Another Coproduction Project - What it is and how to get involved.

Overview:

- A 3-year-project looking at how we develop coproduction across England.
- Offering support and knowledge-exchange around coproduction.
- We're looking to partner with 12 organisations across Greater Manchester.
- If your work involves local residents, community organising, professional support or service delivery and design - we can help you listen to the voices of your community and embed collaboration and coproduction at the heart of your organisation.
- You'll need to be open to challenge, fun and mess - and willing to put the work in - but we can promise an eye-opening and transformative journey that we'll all take together.
- Participation in the project is free, but there is a commitment of time (outlined below) to ensure that you get the best out of the project.
- Read on to find out more and how you can get involved!
- [Please complete this short application by Friday 27th August](#)
(If you prefer to submit your responses as a video or audio then please email them to cat@ideas-alliance.org.uk)

Introduction:

This is a 3-year project, with Ideas Alliance and People's Voice Media to explore how we can develop coproduction in ways that benefit local people, professionals, and organisations across England. We'll do this together by engaging in coproduction workshops, Community Reporting, annual community learning festivals and a peer support network that connects people and creates a partnership of practice.

The project is shaped by what Ideas Alliance have been hearing from the people we have worked with over the last few years – including residents, local organisations, local authorities, and community professionals.

People have told us they want support and time to hear about coproduction and to learn how to make it real on the ground. They want to do more to listen to people's stories and to celebrate what they do locally.

One of our aims is to move coproduction from a buzz word into an embedded practice within grassroots organisations across England to ensure that people have a better life.

We want a future where policy, research and service design are informed by the views of local people (lived experience) and where collaboration is the heart of what we do, not the exception.

We want to start the conversation from a 'blank sheet' and facilitate a knowledge exchange which ensures local people:

- become active in their community,
- are involved in decision making,
- can shift power in their community, creating equitable partnerships between residents, services and local authorities.



This way of working is messy, fun, challenging, but can really make a difference to those who are willing to give the time and energy to it. We are not defining what the 'outcomes' are!

We're inviting groups and organisations to come alongside us, mix with others who have different ideas and experiences and work out with us how we can achieve the aim of developing coproduction in ways that benefit local people, professionals, and organisations.

How we plan to deliver the project:

1. Coproduction workshops

We will listen to and work with local community partners across Greater Manchester to embed coproduction approaches within their work with local people.

This work will directly support and upskill professional staff from local organisations to:

- think differently
- improve their knowledge
- provide them with practical skills they need to embed strengths-based approaches and coproduction
- support their work in partnerships with residents, volunteers and citizens.

2. Community Reporting and storytelling

Community Reporting is a storytelling movement that was started in 2007 by People's Voice Media, and it uses digital tools such as portable and pocket technologies to support people to tell their own stories in their own ways. These stories are then uploaded via an online network of Community Reporters. These activities will engender cross-community learning and provide the mechanisms and tools for local changemakers to share their knowledge with one another, sparking cross-sector and geographical innovation with grassroots social change.

We will support local partners to demonstrate the value of their work through Community Reporting and empower local people to make a sustainable difference to their lives and communities.

We will hold conversations with local people, and train them and the organisations we are working with to become Community Reporters to better understand people's lives in relation to their local community and the existing services delivered by our local partners, through communities of practice. We will build on what is already working on the ground, whilst supporting our partners to improve services based on the insights and lived experiences of local people.

3. Community learning festivals and peer support

We will celebrate and share our experiences in a co-produced community learning festival at the end of the year bringing grassroots changemakers together, forge new partnerships, share practice and learning from social change activities.



What will the commitment be:

Date	What to expect:
20 th September	Full day launch event part 1 – Orientation to the programme and initial 1-day reflective storytelling and sense-making session
11 th October	Launch event part 2 – Learning and scoping (including introduction to working with lived experience)
Every Wednesday 10.30-12pm 22 nd September until 24 th November	<p>Coproduction Lab – Listening spaces x 10</p> <p>A different kind of space designed to capture the depth of learning and experience. Can be wider than the core organisations. Would be great to send different people the spaces. Doesn't always have to be the same person.</p> <p>Max – 8-10 people per space.</p> <p>Participate in at least 5 coproduction listening spaces between September and November (Sept 22nd; 29th, Oct 6th; 13th; 20th; 27th; Nov 3rd; 10th; 17th; 24th from 10.30-12pm)</p>
Oct - Dec 2021	1 x individual (per organisation) mentoring/coaching session on working with lived experience (facilitated by People's Voice Media)
1 st December	What have we learned so far, where do we want to go next with this! Setting goals etc.
Jan 22	1-day interim reflective storytelling and sense-making session
Jan-May 2022	<p>Ongoing Wednesday (or other times as agreed by the group) and 1:1 sessions with organisations.</p> <p>Learning and testing coproduction.</p> <p>Combination of virtual and physical events.</p>
Feb - Mar 2022	Option to attend 4 ½ day training sessions in the Community Reporting methodology
April 2022	1-day summative reflective storytelling and sense-making session
Summer 2022	Co-created learning festival
ONGOING	<p>To contribute at least one blog, or podcast about your experiences of coproduction to the Ideas Hub.</p> <p>And to share the learning via a Facebook page and other social media platforms.</p>



How to get involved:

We are recruiting 12 organisations to work directly with over the 12 months. If you are interested in applying please make sure your group or organisation can commit to being involved for the duration of the programme

[Please complete this short application by Friday 27th August](#)

(If you prefer to submit your responses as a video or audio then please email them to cat@ideas-alliance.org.uk)

If you are unsure, and want to know more:

Please email cat@ideas-alliance.org.uk

AND/OR

Come along to a virtual drop-in session on:

16th August 1-2pm – [please register here to get the zoom link](#)

OR

17th August 6-7pm – [please register here to get the zoom link](#)

When will we contact you about next steps:

We will let the 12 organisations know by mid-September. Please keep the 20th September and 11th Oct free for now.

If your group or organisation is not one of the 12 then there will be other opportunities to follow the work and get involved. Please let us know if you would NOT like to be kept informed.

We look forward to hearing from you

Cat, Hayley, Sally and Isaac