

Islington Local Wellbeing Networks Event
Wednesday 22 February 2023
10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.

Highbury Roundhouse Community Centre 71 Ronalds Road N5 1XB

The event focused on:

1. Reflecting on Year 1 of the Local Wellbeing Networks.
2. Celebrate the work of our amazing Change Makers/Community Organisers.
3. Devise the Year 2 programme - Including a plan for implementing Listening Campaigns across the networks for user groups/residents.

A hot lunch was provided.

Booking for the event was via Eventbrite.

Events Programme

Please see Appendix 1 below

Achievements to date

Please refer to the PowerPoint presentation slides sent with this report.

Reflecting on Year 1 of the Local Wellbeing Networks.

Group 1 - North Locality

Resources we have:

- Community Centres/resources.
- Skills, knowledge and experience.
- Local insight.
- VCS organisations.
- Social Action Hubs.
- Network Mapping.

Resources we need:

- Community events.
- Identifying community leaders.
- Strategic/focussed plan.
- Community Organisers/outreach.
- Representative of the community.
- Strong social media presence.
- Funding – Lots of it.

Group 2 – Central Locality

Next Steps

- A tangible outcome needs to come out of the network.

- Understanding of what needs to be changed in the area – A strategy is needed.
- More membership which is reflective e.g. young people, older people, people from all communities – How do we do this?
- Linking into events we are celebrating in the area as a way of engaging with residents.
- Rotation of venues for meetings to ensure access.
- Awareness and promotion – Getting to know each other and the services. – Comms: How do we get information out.
- Reaching out to the Housing Association.
- Link with Safer Neighbourhood Teams and other networks e.g. Octopus.
- Social action changes in the area - What is needed.
- Comms, WhatsApp group – Mirror what other networks are using.
- Change make programme need to be succinct.
- Access to spaces for residents.

Group 3 – South Locality

Next steps

- Outreach: Provide help - Better relationships, approach schools – provide help.
- Communication: (Don't over consult), Website, Instagram, social media... WhatsApp Group (potential GDPR issues), Facebook, Twitter, schools, libraries, coffee mornings.
- Residents: (charge of community).
- Resources: What? Where? What does it look like (Council, private, TRA), networking. Space, (meaningful) training leading to qualifications, employability skills, advice and guidance.
- How to reach other communities? See communications section.
- Enabling change: To small groups and individuals.
- Representatives: Change Makers – E.g. Going to spaces when invited.
- Information being gathered – How do we start?

Devising the Year 2 Programme - Including a plan for implementing Listening Campaigns across the networks for user groups/residents

Group A:

Reflections:

- Networking, building better relationships and small outcomes out of those connections.
- Mainly grassroot organisations – More residents needed.
- Resident reflection – Lots of changes needed in Islington to bring changes in community voice to bring changes in community voice, Wellbeing Networks is a start of this.
- Equity and Equality has come into the Borough. But this should have been done sooner.
- Change Makers given a platform to have a voice change withing the system has emerged.
- Residents (Change makers) encouraged to lead on local events e.g. Black History Month.
- Change Makers enabled a route to get community voices heard. It has opened doors.
- Recognition of residents who are Community Champions.

Challenges:

- Need to include local residents about meetings

Group B:

Strengths:

- Good for organisations to network.

- Building connections.
- Empowering residents to engage more -. This gives the residents more voice through the Change Makers
- Impetus to visit new spaces.
- Sharing Knowledge.
- Benefits – Platforms developed.
- Opportunity.
- Link into schools – More going forward.
- More people like Dee.
- Engage more faith based representatives.
- Collaborating on campaigns key days e.g. Mental Health Awareness Day, Black History Month, Pride etc.

Weaknesses/Challenges:

- Inaccessible for residents e.g. times of meetings, language
- Poor representation by all the community (especially men).
- Need to think holistically about health and Wellbeing.
- Listening, but no action.
- A lack of strategy.
- Try to collaborate with TRAs more.
- Then engage Change Makers from different ages and communities – Young people and TRAs.

Group C

Benefits:

- Building relationships.
- Access to wider networks.
- Knowing what's available.
- Comms/promoting each other's services.
- Opens up what can be offered to families.
- Holistic/branching out networks.
- Lots of agencies in one place.
- Front facing people with access to residents.
- Helping with design of projects and work generally.

Challenges:

- Maintaining relationships.
- Consistency - Meeting individuals to follow up actions.
- Tangible outcomes are needed. Actions/things to take away . Question: What are the needs of each locality?
- There are quite a lot of meetings. 3 in a week. Maybe they can be held every two months. This may make them more accessible to residents.
- Monthly meetings can be alternated to have one in the evening and then the next during the daytime.
- Getting residents views . Bringing them onto the table. A space for them to raise their issues.
- How do we go to them/Where do they meet?

Opportunities:

- Change Makers.
- Database to share contacts.

- Network Mapping (e.g. Octopus Network Mapping tool). What's on? When? – How do we get the wider community involved.
- An App to capture metrics. Encouraging community engagement. Question: What are the metrics? How do we promote? – Communication of value – “Each one bring one new resident”.
- We are enablers
- Theory of Change.

Appendix 1

EVENT PROGRAMME		
Time	Activity	Presenter
10.00 - 10.15 (15 min)	Start time and refreshments	
10.15 - 10.30 (15 min)	Achievements to date	Navinder Kaur - Chief Executive Voluntary Action Islington and, Julie Parish - Development Manager, Octopus Community Network
10.30 - 11.15	Reflections	Tsigereda Tekletsadik - Network Development Officer, Octopus Community Network Primrose Christie – Network Development Officer, Octopus Community Network Cliff Joseph - Community Development Manager, Voluntary Action Islington
11.15 - 11.25	Break	
11.25 - 12.00	Change Makers experiences	
12.00 - 12.30	Lunch	
12.30 - 12.40	Next steps/Listening Campaign	Cliff Joseph
12.40 - 13.15	Next steps discussion	
13.15 - 14.00	Next steps full discussion/questions/general discussion	
14.00	Close	

[Here](#) is some information about Listening Campaigns

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