

Encouraging Participation: Community Research

Community research allows interested residents to get directly involved in gathering information about their community. If successful, this information can influence the design and delivery of local services or community initiatives, including the development and delivery of the Local Action Plan.

Typical Process for Community Research



Project Planning and Preparation

- Establish core group of volunteers and support staff
- Agree the purpose of the research
- Agree the size and extent of the research
- Identify the skills and experience needed
- Produce Project Plan
- Start communicating and sharing information with the community
- Recruit researchers, agree principles or code of conduct

Designing the Research

- Agree the methods that researchers will use to gather the data
- Design questions and processes to suit the methods and community
- Test the methods, questions and processes
- Share more information locally

Doing the Research

- Undertake the research
- Core Group continues to meet to check progress
- Support sessions offered to researchers if necessary

Analysing the Data



- Results are gathered and analysed to identify key issues or information
- Consider theming or grouping results

Sharing the Results

- Share the results across the community, using a mix of methods
- Share the results with local services

Next Steps

- Agree with the community and services how this information will be used to inform service delivery and agree new community initiatives