

Questions and Answers from the ABCD Community Pathfinder Grant Information Webinar

Could I ask the Community Builders on the call how many hours a week they currently work?

'We allocate 20 hours, split into 2x10. This works well for Beeston and allows for one person to go into the community, if the other is in meetings, etc.'

'20 hours also the starting point for LS14, but can bolt on extra hours if there are large events, etc.'

During the presentation it was mentioned some of the ways the council chose the areas that will be funded. Did you look at what community work was already happening there?

Yes, extensive work was carried out with the Leeds City Council communities' team and the locality officers to ensure non duplication and links and connections could be built upon with other third sector partnership the area. We looked at which areas already had an ABCD Community Pathfinder scheme. We also worked closely with Local Care Partnerships looking at a neighbourhood level and pockets in the community which have the potential to be overlooked and would benefit from some focused development and ABCD.

How important is the formalisation of the roles, i.e., those people who are already connectors - would they need to sign up to the model more officially?

No there is no formal process for anyone in the community to sign up to the model. The Community Builder is the paid for person as part of the grant. ABCD is not about formalising anything, we use the terminology of Community Builder, Community Connector as part of the grant and for our reference. The language is not important to the community, most of the currently funded Pathfinder scheme Community Builders tell us that they do not use the language of community connectors with the community they work with. We would suggest referring to the Factsheets: What is a Community Builder and What is a Community Connector in the grant pack.

Connectors are most likely already in the community, so this is very informal. The builder builds relationships of trust within the community. It's about working with people to help them in the community.

Looking at the outcomes '10 new things/groups' our organisation has been starting new things over lots of years. 10 new things in the next 18 months feels like a lot! It feels like the assets we've already nurtured and wouldn't be counted?

As a current ABCD Community Pathfinder site we have always reached that yearly target and beyond, it happens quite naturally and it's important not to get hung up on the target figure. It's what and how to classify 'new'. A 'new' thing could be 3 people meeting to have a coffee. It's not about big events – it comes from the community and what works best for them.

Does our organisation need a specific person with this named role? Can it be someone in the community? If we have staff within our organisation currently who would be excellent Community Builders can we employ these people?

Yes, we would expect that each successful organisation to employ a paid member of staff who would be a ABCD Community Builder. It is up to each successful organisation to follow their own recruitment process and up to the discretion of each organisation.

Can you say what form the Project Plan needs to take?

We have supplied further detail in the ABCD Community Pathfinder Grant Pack Guidance section. We have suggested a project plan with a quarterly breakdown that includes how you will plan to be embedded asset-based ways of working and ABCD within the organisation. We want to see that there has been thinking around planning, support for community builders, and that the project plan shows progression.

Can organisation apply to deliver ABCD in more than one area?

Yes, you can apply to all 5 areas, but we would expect to see 5 separate applications for each of the 5 areas.