



## Summit event: Co-production – is it worth it? Learning from Short Breaks

Tuesday 18th March 2025

### RESOURCES



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Part of the 2024/2025 phase of Surrey's Short Breaks Co-production Project, which has been funded by the Department for Education through their national Short Breaks Innovation Fund.

## THANK YOU!



## TO ALL OF YOU FOR JOINING THIS SUMMIT



## Co-Production – a definition

The term 'co-production' was originally linked to work with the disability and mental health rights movements, as well as [participatory democracy](#). It has been used for some years now to describe work in the social care sector and is gaining currency in the wider health and care system. Co-production is a way of working that places the input from people using services on an equal footing with those who work in the system (Kings Fund)

*'Co-production is not just a word, it is not just a concept, it is a meeting of minds coming together to find shared solutions. In practice, co-production involves people who use services being consulted, included, and working together from the start to the end of any project that affects them. When co-production works best, people who use services and carers are valued by organisations as equal partners, can share power and have influence over decisions made.'*  
(Think Local Act Personal)

## Co-Production – what does it look and feel like?



Visit this link: [Co-production - TLAP](#)

## Co-production in the context of commissioning

A couple of useful research papers from Tony Bovaird (Tony Bovaird is a leading authority on public sector strategic management, performance management and user and community co-production. In addition to being Emeritus Professor at the University of Birmingham he is a Visiting Professor at the National School of Public Administration, Brazil, a member of the Scientific Board of the German Public Administration Research Foundation and a non-executive director of Governance International) [Governance International](#)

- [We're all in this together: harnessing user and community co-production of public outcomes](#)
- [Activating Citizens to Participate in Collective Co-Production of Public Services | Journal of Social Policy | Cambridge Core](#)

And a 2014 publication by NEF that talks about co-production and outcomes-led thinking in commissioning.

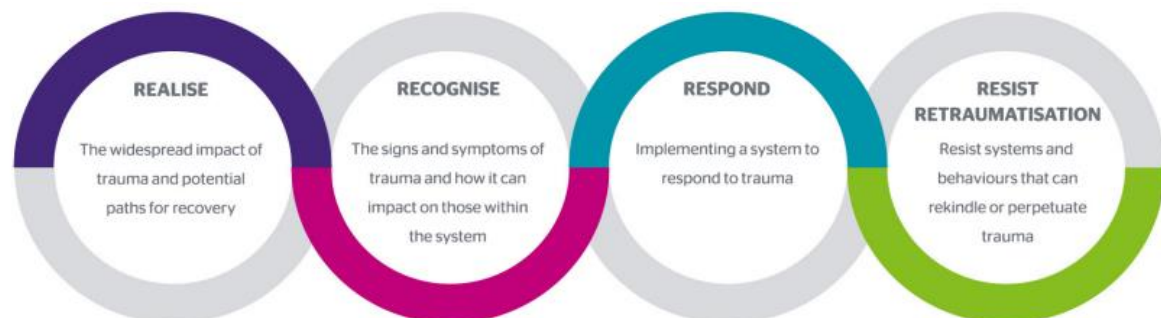
- [NEF Commissioning for Outcomes and Co-production](#)

## A Trauma-Informed Approach to Co-production, Collaboration and Participation

A TIA is a strengths-based methodology grounded in an understanding of and responsiveness to the impact of trauma. TIA emphasises the physical, psychological, and emotional safety of those providing and seeking support...and creates opportunities for people who have experienced trauma to rebuild a sense of control and empowerment. TIA is a whole system approach; its focus is not to treat trauma related difficulties, which is the role of trauma-specialist services and practitioners (which needs to be trauma informed), but to address the barriers that people affected by trauma can experience. Trauma informed services are structured, organised, and delivered in ways to improve their accessibility and quality by creating culturally sensitive, safe environments that people trust and want to use. Applying a TIA seeks to prepare staff to work in collaboration and partnership with people to empower them to make choices about their own health and wellbeing (Surrey & NE Hants TI Service)

Partners across the system can currently apply as teams for **free training**, see more here: [Trauma Informed Surrey and North East Hampshire](#)

Visit this link – written by a well renowned expert in this field: [Trauma informed co-production](#)



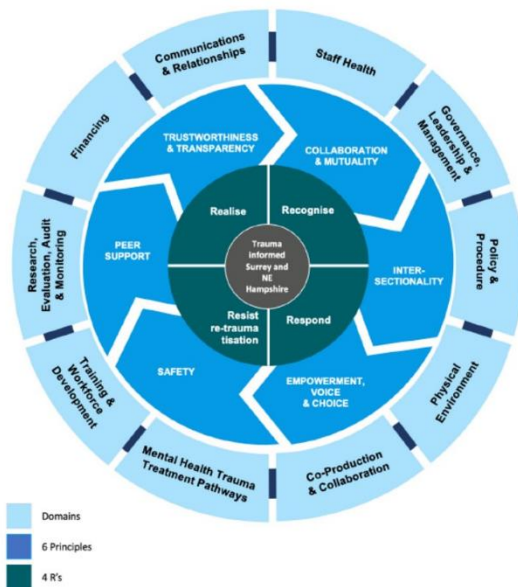
Adapted from: SAMHSA. (2014). SAMHSA's concept of trauma and Guidance for a trauma informed approach. HHS publication no. (SMA) 14-4884. Rockville, MD: SAMHSA.

# Trauma-Informed: Six Principles



\*The name of this principle has been adapted locally from "cultural, historical and gender issues" to the broader term "intersectionality". By this, we mean the interconnected nature of social categorisations such as race, ethnicity, indigeneity, gender identity and expression, socioeconomic status, sexuality, age, ability, immigration status and religion as they feel relevant to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

Organisations need to understand and address how these characteristics impact an individual's or group's wellbeing, not just in isolation, but also how they interrelate.



## Trauma-Informed Surrey & NE Hants: Local Framework

[Register here to receive the Surrey & NE Hants Trauma-Informed Approach Framework & Toolkit](#)

## Co-production and evaluation

The below two links are both useful in thinking about co-produced evaluation/ research

- National Institute for Health and Care Research Paper on Co-production - [NIHR Guidance on co-producing a research project](#)
- [What can we learn from co-production approaches in voluntary sector evaluation work? – Evidence & Policy Blog](#) a blog post is based on the Evidence & Policy article, ‘[Obstacles to co-producing evaluation knowledge: power, control and voluntary sector dynamics](#)’, part of the Special Issue: ‘[Learning from Failures in Knowledge Exchange](#)’.

# Surrey User Voice and Participation



## Surrey County Council User Voice and Participation Team / “Surrey Youth Voice”

- ❖ Surrey Youth Voice is a collaboration between young people and staff and aims to bring about positive change in services for young people aged 8 to 25.
- ❖ They do this by listening to young people via [participation groups](#) - hearing what works well and what needs to improve. They take feedback to departments in the council and other organisations across Surrey, influence development.
- ❖ They use “action cards”, where young people’s feedback (4 or more) triggers an action card which requires a response from the system. This may result in a change, a response or further exploration, and young people are in control of when they feel an action card is resolved, and closed.
- ❖ The UVP team also has an option for [formal requests from practitioners and organisations](#) to engage with young people in their participation groups, to gather their views on certain topics and work with them on various projects.
- ❖ They also have other initiatives → [More information can be found here](#)



# Amplify, Mindworks Youth Shadow Board



Amplify is a group of young people aged 16-25 and its members work closely with Mindworks (Surrey's Children, Young People Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Service) Alliance Board and attend board meetings to share their perspectives and lead their own projects to improve aspects of the service, about things they are passionate about.

'Our main purpose is to diversify the voices in meetings to make sure that the voices of children and young people are included in decision making and to improve the experience of children and young people accessing Mindworks services.'

Amplify choose 1-3 focus areas each year, which forms the basis of their work. They've also held several events to promote Mindworks and engage with young people and families.

"Being in this group has given me a sense of pride as I know that my input can help improve the mental health services."

## Some other initiatives

❖ **Youth researcher project** – A year long project to support young people to design and deliver their own social research project. This will include core young researchers, peer mentors and co-design group.

❖ **Mindworks** – Has various spaces and initiatives for voice and participation. Ranging from steering groups, youth boards, voice/experience peer support groups and more.

❖ **Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum** - Set up in 2009 to represent the needs and aspirations of a growing ethnic minority population in Surrey, becoming a charity in 2013. Their mission is to “engage and empower minoritized communities to work together to actively find solutions to the social and economic challenges they face”. They are an umbrella organisation, bringing together over 50 community groups and voicing the views of their members to strategic partners.

❖ **Surrey Coalition** – The Surrey Coalition is run and managed by Disabled people for Disabled people. Their aim is to campaign and promote the rights of Disabled people to have equality of opportunity and to live independently. Their work focuses on 6 areas, 1 being mental health.

❖ **Healthwatch** – An “independent organisation listening to experiences from people in Surrey and providing evidence-based feedback to commissioners and providers to influence, inform and, if necessary, challenge decisions and plans”.





Anonymous Suggestion Box



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## We are your voice.

Join your voice with others and effect change.

Family Voice Surrey champions the needs and rights of SEND families in Surrey: families with children or young adults up to the age of 25 who have special educational needs, chronic illnesses, including mental health conditions, or disabilities.

Family Voice Surrey was set up in 2010 and became a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2017.

We are always pleased to hear from new members who would like to be more involved. Check out our 'Get Involved' tab for more information.

The role of Parent Carer Forums is recognised in the Children and Families Act 2014, providing a platform for us in Surrey as the official voice of parent carers of children and young people with additional needs. We gather and represent the parent carer views in meetings concerning implementation of SEND legislation and planning and delivery of SEND services, working with representatives from the local authority, local schools, and health. We also build strong relationships with other Surrey-based organisations working in different ways to support children and young people with additional needs.

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# Surrey User Voice and Participation Co-ordination Group (CYP EWMH)



- ❖ Set up to better coordinate and amplify representative young people, parent/carer feedback relating to their experiences of emotional wellbeing and mental health and EWMH services in Surrey, to influence change.
- ❖ Members include Mindworks partners, User Voice & Participation (UVP) Team at Surrey County Council, Healthwatch Surrey, Family Voice, Surrey Youth Focus, commissioners and more.
- ❖ We collate CYP, parent/carer experiences from engagement activities (events, community engagement, informal conversations) and analyse for recurring themes several times a year.
- ❖ We then have further conversations with young people, parents and carers to explore and identify actions that CYPF would like in response. This is then raised into formal decision making spaces.
- ❖ It builds on the “action card” processes used by Surrey County Councils UVP Team and Family Voice Surrey and continues to evolve.



## Want to find out more/discuss voice and participation?

Sally Stubbins – Surrey Youth Focus voice project lead [sally.stubbings@surreyyouthfocus.org.uk](mailto:sally.stubbings@surreyyouthfocus.org.uk)

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Maristelle Preece – Mindworks User Voice lead [Maristelle.preece@surreywellbeing.org](mailto:Maristelle.preece@surreywellbeing.org)

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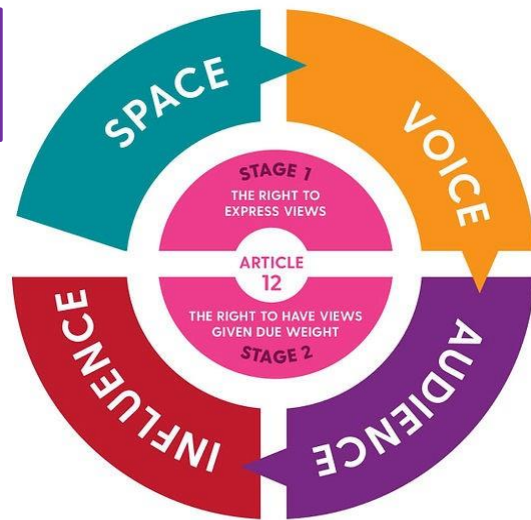


# The Lundy Model of Participation

The model is being adopted by various CYP focused organisations across Surrey (Surrey CC UVP team, Mindworks Surrey, Surrey Youth Focus) , to help guide the system approach to voice and participation.

The model provides a way to implement and understand a child's right to participation, as laid down in **Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**: The right to express their views in all matters affecting them and for their views to be given 'due weight' (taken seriously).

The model attempts to focus those who do participation on the different elements of Article 12 (a right not always known by professionals or CYP) and guides *how* to meaningfully approach participation and the legal basis.



## The Lundy Model of Participation

### 1<sup>st</sup> - Right to express view:

- **Space** – We must actively create a safe and inclusive space – Links to article 2 (equality).
- **Voice** – Ensure they know their participation is voluntary. Ensuring that they have different ways of expressing views and ensuring that they have what they need to form and express their views (e.g. time and information).

### 2<sup>nd</sup> - Obligation on duty bearer to give due weight:

- **Audience** – Ensuring the right people are actively listening, and identify who needs to hear (those who can make decisions).
- **Influence** – Being realistic– do they know what is possible/what isn't? Transparency and feedback and follow up.

