

3rd Annual Research Seminar
“Partnership Working”
Conference Evaluation



Enjoyable Event
Future Partnerships
Informative
Partnership Working
Very Useful
Well Organised
Great
Good
Interesting
Local Initiatives

*Thursday 15th October 2015, Auditorium, Woodcock
Street*

Partnership Working – Next Steps

Introduction

On Thursday 15th October 2015 Birmingham City Council (BCC) Public Health team hosted a conference titled “Partnership Working” to raise the awareness of research, provide an opportunity for networking with external partners and showcasing how collaborative research is conducted within Birmingham City Council. This was the third in a series of annual seminars that public health has organised since transferring from the NHS in 2013.

The seminar was chaired by Steven Rose (Head of Strategic Research) and introduced by Hashum Mahmood (Evidence Manager) and Karl Beese (Project Officer).

Background to the Conference

Previous seminars in 2013 and 2014 had highlighted the need to provide a mechanism through which “partnerships” could be developed and a forum where such discussion could develop. With this premise it was decided by the organisers that the 2015 seminar would be themed “partnerships”. The main outcomes of the event would be:

- Raising awareness of Partnership Working within Birmingham City Council
- Creating a community of individuals who are interested in Partnership Working
- Providing an opportunity for networking

Conference

The conference was attended by 59 delegates representing a wide array of organisations and transcending private, public and third sectors. Appendix 1 is the day’s agenda and Appendix 2 shows a list of the 23 organisations that were represented at the event. There were six presentations delivered on topics ranging from European funding, childhood obesity and the Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board consultation. The two key speakers, a local Member of Parliament and a senior council officer spoke of the importance of local and national government research. A number of poster presentation also adorned the walls of the auditorium, provided kindly by the University of Birmingham and Heartlands Hospital.

Evaluation Questions

The requirement to complete evaluation forms (Appendix 3) was stressed numerously as this would be one of the mechanisms through which future direction of the events would be determined. Delegates were asked:

- What they thought of the event
- Possible future event topics
- If they were interest in hosting future events
- Would they be interested in regular meetings to discuss research methods and strategy
- Any other comments, feedback or ideas for future collaborative research events

A response rate of 37% (22) was achieved from delegates completing the evaluation form.

Partnership Working – Next Steps

Evaluation Summary Comments

The conference was well attended, with a good representation from a wide range of external organisations and internal representation. The main points were:

- Attendees felt that the event was useful, interesting and insightful. It informed them of local projects as well as giving an understanding of the partnerships that exist within BCC and providing an opportunity to network. The variety of speakers was another positive outcome along with highlighting research methodology.
- The identification of potential collaborative research and a greater sharing of research opportunities were seen as priorities. An online forum/resource for research discussion and details of funding available/alignment of priorities would be useful.
- Five different organisations expressed an interest in hosting future events.
- Attendees would be happy to attend lunchtime sessions, workshops and quarterly meetings to discuss research methods and strategy.
- There were a wide variety of positive comments as well as constructive criticism around the need to make the length of the event longer and applicability of topic / speaker to the work of BCC.

Next Steps

This evaluation will provide some intelligence to the organising committee around how to take the research agenda forward within BCC and how this aligns with current strategic thinking both internally and externally. In the short term it is envisaged that more development will take place around providing educational sessions and utilising the BCC Research Website (<https://researchbcc.wordpress.com/>) as a means through which information can be disseminated. Over the long term, greater involvement is required with localised stakeholders including community groups and academic institutions, which have expressed great appetite and enthusiasm to move this agenda forward, especially around collaborative funding and student projects.

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Appendix 1

**Conference - 'Partnership Working' - Thursday 15th October
2015, 1pm – 4pm, Auditorium, Woodcock Street**

Agenda

12.30pm onwards – Registration

1.00pm – 1.05pm: Welcome and housekeeping by Steven Rose (Chair)

1.05pm – 1.10pm: Overview and outline of the day/achievements
by Hashum Mahmood & Karl Beese

1.10pm – 1.30pm: Keynote Speaker: **Dr M Mashuq Ally** - Assistant Director
Equalities, Community Safety and Cohesion – Birmingham City Council

1.30pm – 2.20pm: 3 presentations

1. 1.30 – 1.45 Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board: Alan Lotinga
2. 1.45 - 2.00 Smart Cities: Nicola Bryant & Raj Mack
3. 2.00 - 2.15 KIKIT Pathways to Recovery: Mo Ashfaq

2.20pm – 2.50pm: Break for light refreshments plus opportunity to view Posters,
Display and Leaflet Stand and network with colleagues

2.50pm – 3.40pm: 3 presentations

4. 2.50 - 3.05 Schools & Childhood Obesity: Eleanor
5. 3.05 - 3.20 European Team: Jennifer Crisp
6. 3.20 - 3.35 Reducing Unemployment: Lesley Bradnam

3.40pm – 4.00pm: Closing remarks by Keynote Speaker: **Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell
MP**

4.00pm – 4.30pm: Further networking opportunities if required, view posters/stalls

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Appendix 2

Organisations in attendance

Aston University

BCC - Economy Directorate

BCC – Future Council

BCC - People Directorate

BCC - Place Directorate

Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Birmingham Community Nutrition

Birmingham Cross City CCG

Birmingham Public Health

Birmingham Voluntary Service Council (BVSC)

Coventry University

Dudley MBC

Health Education West Midlands

Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust

HSMC Library

KIKIT Pathways to Recovery

My Time CIC

Newman University

Public Health – University of Birmingham

Reach Out Recovery - CRI

RnR Organisation

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

University of Staffordshire

West Midlands Ambulance Service

West Midlands Fire Service

Wolverhampton University

Worcestershire County Council

Partnership Working – Next Steps

Appendix 3

15 October 2015 Auditorium Woodcock Street

Your views matter! Please give us your views on how we can support researchers in the Council and encourage sharing of good practice.

Delegate Name				
Organisation / Directorate				
Email address				
What did you think of today's event?				
<i>Overall</i>				
<i>Most useful</i>				
Future Research Events				
Based on previous presentations and feedback, the following research topics have been identified as possible future event topics. Please rate which sessions you would find most useful or suggest other potential topics to take forward.				
	Priority	Useful	Maybe	No
<i>Identification of potential collaborative research</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Online forum/resource for research discussion</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Greater sharing of research opportunities</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Funding available and alignment of priorities</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Any other suggestions:</i>				
Would you be interested in hosting these or other related events in the future?				Yes / No
Would you be interested in regular meetings to discuss research methods and strategy?				Yes / No
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Quarterly meetings</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Lunchtime seminars</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Workshops</i>		
Any other comments, feedback or ideas for future collaborative research events?				