



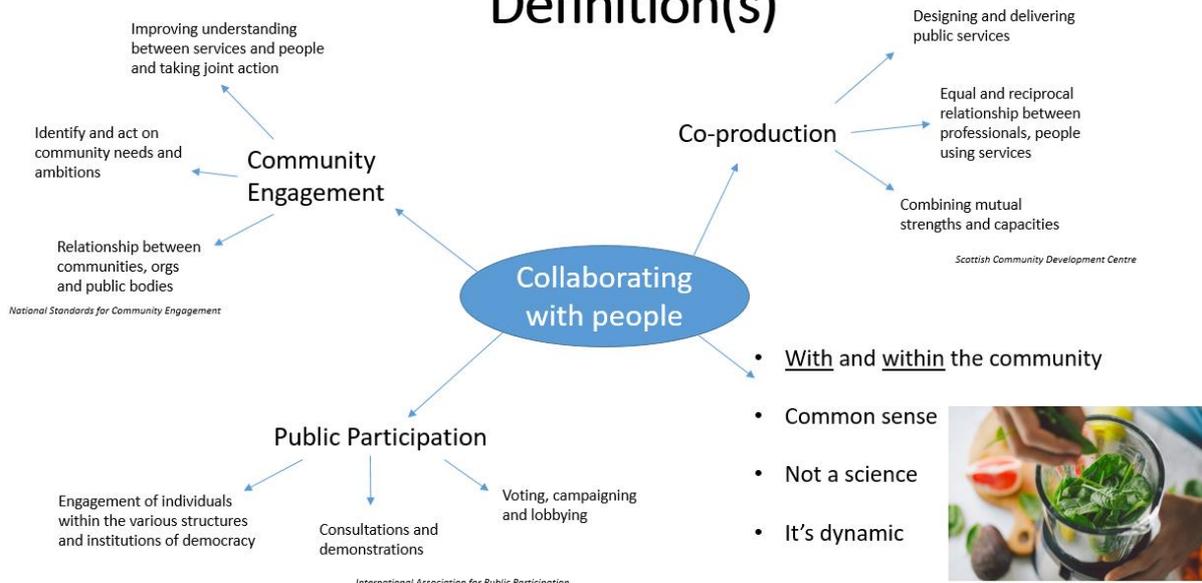
Collaborating with People

On Wednesday 30th March, SCSN hosted the online webinar 'Collaborating with People'. The event was an opportunity to learn more about ways to enhance and increase community engagement when working within the field of community safety. Over 15 people attended on an online Teams event, all of whom were professionals working across Community Safety Partnerships in Scotland.

The event was in response to various research that indicates an increased need and importance for community safety practitioners to continue to engage with their local communities on a range of issues. Community safety practitioners themselves have also highlighted the importance of having the skills and resources in the area of citizen participation and community engagement. In addition, following the previous SCSN participation webinar, feedback suggested a need for more practical resources and events, using real life scenarios within the area of community engagement and community safety.

The workshop began with a presentation from Josh Box (SCSN). First, a definition of Collaborating with People was provided. Collaborating with People takes the best and strongest elements from co-production, community engagement and participation (see image below). Following definitions, Josh shared a range of tools and frameworks. This included things such as the location of collaboration time of day it happens and the resources and skills needed. Following Josh, Dave Shea (SCSN) shared his reflections when working on the Distant Voices project in his previous job. Dave spoke about topics such as power dynamics, language use and communication skills.

Definition(s)



Following the presentation, the workshop took a very practical and hands on approach to exploring the different aspects that make up strong and effective community engagement. Attendees were split into 3 groups facilitated by a SCSN staff members. In each group, Jam Boards were used to map out ideas and what community safety professionals identified as the most effective ways to engage community members in different community safety scenarios. The three scenarios explored in groups were:

1. Strategic priorities

You are developing a 3-year strategy, but you need to better understand the issues that people in the area feel are the most important. Who do you listen to and how?

2. Drink spiking

You want to develop an approach that will help to tackle an increase in drink spiking in your area. How do you collaborate with people to create the most effective response?

3. Accidents in the home

You want to find out more about the issues surrounding why people are falling in their home. What do you do? Who do you listen to and how do you do it?

Following the breakout rooms, everyone returned to the main room where Jam Boards and ideas were shared. Each group spoke about how they approached the scenario they were assigned too. Each group discussed what they thought were the most effective ways to approach different aspects of collaborating with people. They discussed:

- Space
- Location
- Time
- Resources
- Facilitation
- People
- Methods
- Respect

It was very apparent in the workshop that community safety practitioners already have a wealth and skills and experience when collaborating with people, many of whom do it regularly and confidently in their roles. It was great to hear interesting and successful examples of good work, along with the skills and assets of community safety practitioners themselves. There was strong engagement from the start and attendees shared their thoughts and ideas which were collated on a Jam Board by each facilitator. The collated Jam Boards can accessed on the SCSN website by following [this link](#).

Thanks to all those who attended and took part.

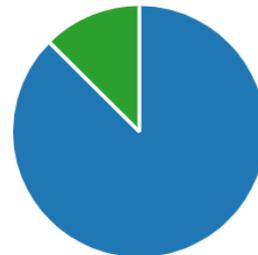
Feedback

1. Has today been useful?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Yes	14
● No	0
● A bit	2



Very practical and applicable overview of collaborative approaches

It was really useful to engage with others around Community Safety and join in with the chat rooms to discuss how to take particular areas forward.

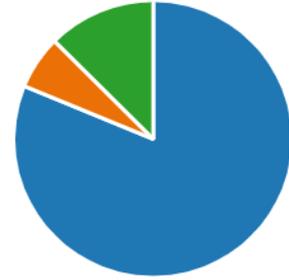
Very interesting to discuss these subject and learn how others approach each issue.

Very good discussion and informative. It might have been useful to open jam boards up for each group to contribute to on an individual basis as some people did not get much chance to speak as others were more dominant in the conversations.

3. Would you be interested in attending another workshop like this in the future?

[More Details](#)

● Yes	13
● No	1
● Maybe	2



What would you like covered in the next one?

Moving from the planning phase to the action phase

Hard to reach communities

how to have ongoing meaningful engagement - carrying on from initial engagement to ensure long term collaboration

Specific tools and ideas for facilitation

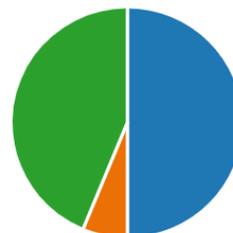
I would be to be involved in discussions round any subject under the Community Safety subject as all is relative to the work we do.

5. Would you be interested in attending a 3 monthly 'Collaborating with People' network if SCSN were to facilitate this? I.e. an opportunity for people to come along and share best practice and learn from each other.

[More Details](#)

Insights

● Yes	8
● No	1
● Perhaps	7



Always looking to learn more and get better at collaborating - this would be a great resource for that

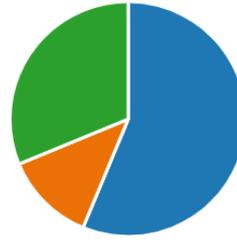
This would be dependent on how much commitment 'timewise' would be required.

Many local authorities manage issues in slightly different ways. It is always useful to collaborate and learn from each other.

7. Do you feel that you would benefit from more practical help and support around collaborating with people?

[More Details](#)

● Yes	9
● No	2
● Unsure	5



more input is always helpful particularly real world experiences

It's too easy as a stat partner to use old fashioned methods for engagement, however taking risks and trying new things is sometimes quite difficult to do in a local authority due to lack of resources or fear of reputational damage if something goes wrong.

I dont think our group was collaborative except for two people with overbearing responses the group wasnt involved as a whole and as i couldnt speak and said so at the begining nothing from the chat was included so i felt like a useless outsider thanks for the training though learned from it

Practical help and support would help me to directly apply learnings in my community and work