



Co-operative Councils

Innovation Network

CCIN innovation funding – 2021 Policy Prototypes Children and Young People's Services

Expression of Interest – Policy Prototype CCIN Funding 2021

CCIN Member Organisation submitting application: South Ribble Borough Council

Name of CCIN Lead Officer: Hanna Latif

Partner organisations: Barnardo's Bay6 project; Key Unlocking Futures Charity; SLEAP Charity; The Mill Scheme- Progress Housing; CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services); Adult Mental Health Services; Lancashire County Council Youth Services

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1. What is your idea?

Provide details of what your proposed project is, the story of how you identified the need or opportunity for the proposal and how the money will be spent.

Our idea is to create a clear and accessible pathway for young people suffering from mental health issues. We aim to create strong links within the community with all mental health services to ensure a 'one stop shop' approach to any young person under the age of 24 years old who needs it.

This project will be led by our Community Development Team, who also operate the COVID-19 Response Hub here at South Ribble Borough Council. Throughout 2020, they have had first-hand experience of supporting our community members' mental health during these troubling times. We have seen themes of self-isolation, depression, loneliness, poor mental health due to social media and much more.

Seeing the affect that recent times have had on our community, and using feedback from a previous mental health engagement project, we aim to explore this further and create a whole new revolutionary pathway to ensure that our residents are receiving quality and compassionate support from local services.

This idea has been formed with a former project in mind from 2018. Called MH2K, the project was a collective exercise with Preston and Chorley Councils, working partnership with Leaders Unlocked, a social enterprise charity, to engage our youth community and find out what is important to them in regards to their mental health.

Consultations led by young people, were undertaken across the area with the key aim of finding what key themes of mental health were prevalent within our youth community, and what influences we had in being able to change them.

From the outcome of this, key themes were highlighted and in depth reports were configured into what exactly about these themes were important to the young people, and what we as a community council could do to positively change it.

2 years on, we aim to develop on the same principle of engaging with young people on a South Ribble footprint. We know the world has changed significantly since then, and we would like to get young people involved in discussions and decision making. By consulting with young people and locally based services who support young people, we aim to co-design a new pathway to improve the community resources that are available to our young people today.

Financially, we would need support in creating publications for the project to ensure that it is advertised accordingly. We would also need to run more consultations to ensure that we are indeed, putting the voices of young people at the heart of our decision making. We would need to ensure that these consultations are in a friendly and safe environment, with food and beverages provided and also have some take home resources that our young people could go away with. Alongside this, we would need to engage other services (both statutory and non-statutory) within our community to create a holistic and community based approach to support our young people.

2. Who will you work with?

You are not required to work with other CCIN members when applying to deliver a Policy Prototype, though you are more than welcome to!

We aim to work with different schools and education facilities within our local area. Community centres and youth clubs and other facilities that engage young people well.

Service wise, our workings will be with, but not limited to:

- Barnardo's Bay6 project www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/services/bay6-project
- Key Unlocking Futures Charity www.keycharity.org.uk/
- SLEAP Charity www.sleap.co.uk/en/
- The Mill Scheme- Progress Housing www.progressgroup.org.uk/news-events/news/news-2019/share-your-ideas-at-new-leyland-youth-club-launch/
- CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) www.lscft.nhs.uk/CAMHS
- Adult Mental Health Services
- Lancashire County Council Youth Services

3. What are the outcomes you hope to achieve?

What are the outcomes you hope to achieve through this project and how will you know if your outcomes are achieved? What is your measure of success?

Our outcomes will all be based on the quality of the service that we are able to deliver. We aim to:

- Run successful consultations which equip us with knowledge of what is important to young people in relation to their mental health and what factors they identify as having an impact on their mental health.

We will collate responses and prepare a feedback report for the council and other agencies. All young people who participate will be offered a copy of the report, and the opportunity to remain engaged as part of a consultation / interest group. The Council has committed to offering mental health support services as part of its Corporate Plan – success will be the design and delivery of these services.

- Gain direct insight into young people’s perspective of how COVID-19 has affected mental health and the subsequent consequences

As above, we will collate responses and prepare a feedback report for the council and other agencies. All young people who participate will be offered a copy of the report, and the opportunity to remain engaged as part of a consultation / interest group. The Council has committed to offering mental health support services as part of its Corporate Plan – success will be the design and delivery of these services.

- Learn about the support services that young people would like to see – find out what their ideal pathways would look like

This will be achieved when we have enough knowledge to ensure that we are able to create a pathway with all aspects having been taken into consideration.

The measure of this will be that a representative viewpoint of every cohort of young person, be it different race, ability, sex and gender, have their voice heard.

- Engage with a variety of different young facilities such as Schools, Youth Clubs and Community Centres

We will know that this has been achieved as we will have a solid working network of different youth services and facilities that all have a common passion for supporting our young people. Also, we will have set up a Project Team that is made up of different representatives from organisations linked to the project to ensure that it is constantly being both appraised and critiqued to keep it relevant and working to its best.

- Co-design a pathway that has the input from both services and young people to ensure that we get a well-rounded foundation for the aspects that we will be able to deliver. This will be achieved when we are able to interlink all different mental health services within South Ribble in some way or another. This could be from all having a shared web area where resources and toolkits are shared with young people, to best practice sharing at across agencies.

4. How does your project support the aims and objectives of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network?

The Co-operative Councils Innovation Network aims to frame the debate on the future of sustainable solutions to public sector challenges. Our work will ultimately improve outcomes for communities by enabling members to develop radical innovation in policy and practice, sharing

best practice and learning, and enabling innovators to chart new territory together. Please provide details of how your project will support this aim.

As our project is community focused, it aims to operate with the support of the local authority, but not dependency on us. By working with existing mental health clinicians and wraparound services, we are looking to design services which do not duplicate current provision. We are seeking solutions which fill gaps and provide support where there is none.

The Council's project management framework is being used to scope, deliver and monitor this project through 2021/22 – this will highlight best practice and provide clear and concise information for sharing. Equally, we will document challenges, areas for improvement and record outcomes achieved. We are committed to ensure that our project is the first step to changing the way communities get the support they need. The sustainability of this projects comes from the co-design of its framework as it will include both those who need the service and those who are providing it. By keeping our support system local, we are ensuring that those involved keep a clear line of communication to ensure the best pathway that we can provide.

5. How does your project demonstrate the Values and Principles of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network?

Our Network is based on the Co-operative values developed by the International Co-operative Alliance: “self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity, honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others”. Further details about the CCIN's Values and Principles are available [here](#). Please provide details of how your project will demonstrate the CCIN's Values and Principles.

Our project will support and showcase the Co-operative values by making sure that it is community led and community focused throughout its entirety. It fits the values of equality, equity, social responsibility and caring for others.

The learning from our work on the MH2K project, has created a foundation on which we are able to build better community involvement and keep our work grounded. The open nature of the work we will undertake promotes openness, honesty, democracy and solidarity; we will work to make discussion around mental health the norm, and challenge any stigma.

By involving not only the young people as the service users, but South Ribble services as the service providers, we have the potential to create a significant community-based initiative that revolutionises self-access mental health services. We believe the project epitomises self-help and self-responsibility.

6. How will you share your learning with the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network?

Our project is committed to ensuring that we pave the way for positive change. We commit to documenting our progress and also creating an open book analysis and evaluation of how this project has impacted the current working. We will create details documentations of all consultation work that we undertake including the structure, attendees and engagement material for all future projects. We will highlight our successes but also shine light on areas of improvement. We will present our findings to the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network by keeping you up to date on all areas, including when initial consultations are finished and we are looking to move forward with our Initiatives. We also hope, that this project will become the

gateway for best practise sharing and problem solving between the South Ribble Council and the Co-op Council Network.