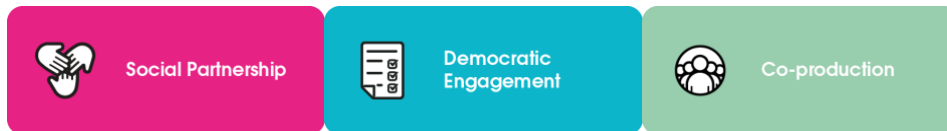




COMMUNITY



Unlimited Potential working with Greater Manchester Combined Authority

A Greater Manchester Participation Playbook

Public trust is falling and participation in traditional democratic processes – like voting – has reached historic lows. For too long, decisions have been made *about* people, not *with* them. Power can feel distant, disconnected and out of reach.

That is why Greater Manchester is 'pressing play' on a new way of doing things: one where decisions are made *by* the people, for the people – where community power and participatory democracy thrive.

GM Live Well is Greater Manchester's commitment to ensuring great everyday support is available in every neighbourhood. It represents a shift in how public services work with people and communities.

Critical to the Live Well approach is being 'community-led, system-enabled'. This means residents and public services working side by side to make Greater Manchester a healthy and happy place for everyone.

Hosted by Unlimited Potential, the Elephants Trail project works to change systems that create injustice and perpetuate disadvantage. It consists of people who have had the hardest lives – with lived experience of multiple disadvantage.



The Elephants Trail team has developed its skills and knowledge of community reporting over the past five years, working with both The Guardian and Live Well in Greater Manchester. It wants to grow the capacity for community reporting across Greater Manchester.

So, the Elephants Trail was pleased to contribute a section about community reporting to the new Greater Manchester Participation Playbook.

The Playbook is for anyone asking: how do we face today's biggest challenges, and how do we do it together? It was commissioned by GM Live Well at Greater Manchester Combined Authority, and created by a team of participatory democracy experts, practitioners and community members, all based in Greater Manchester.

Shaping How We Live Well Together

A Greater Manchester Participation Playbook



Commissioned through GM Live Well, Greater Manchester's public services, voluntary sector and communities working together to develop everyday support in every neighbourhood.

GM Participation Playbook

The Playbook is for those who want to rebuild trust, shift power closer to communities, and find practical ways to involve residents in shaping the decisions that affect their lives.

The Playbook features the core values of participation. Co-production with local people is at its heart. It describes different approaches: participatory budgeting; participatory grant making; citizens' assemblies and juries; legislative theatre; digital democracy; participatory design; and community reporting.

The Playbook celebrates the power of working together to design and deliver solutions that matter. Real change happens when we shift how we work-building a culture where participation is at the heart of everything we do.



Filming - Made in Bury

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