



## COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

**Supporting people and organisations to learn and develop innovative practice and solutions.**

### Why commission courses and workshops?

Health and social care staff can find it hard in the day-to-day to step back and reflect on their own understanding and practice. Bringing in new ideas, knowledge and innovative solutions takes determined and sustained effort.

Many public and voluntary organisations already provide in-house training and staff development programmes, aligned with their strategic objectives. But sometimes it's useful to commission an outside provider of courses and workshops when:

- You want to inject new thinking and conversations and bring people together to break down siloed working.
- You want people to learn from others in different organisations or roles.
- You recognise you don't have specific in-house topic knowledge or expertise.
- People want to learn in a neutral space, away from management structures.

### The approach

Our commissioned courses and workshops are participative and bespoke to you and your organisation, grounded in our expertise in:

- Personalised health and social care

- Choice, control and creative approaches
- Strengths and asset-based working
- Neighbourhood health and wellbeing
- Communities, engagement and coproduction

We deliver courses and workshops online or in person across the UK, either as one-off events or part of an ongoing rolling programme.

Evaluation and assessment of learning is designed with you, and the way we work is driven by our values and yours.

In addition to commissioned courses and workshops we run an open programme of events that enable learning across different sectors and roles

It's worth thinking about:

- **Before commissioning courses or workshops** - do you need some engagement, insights and coproduction work with your staff to identify needs and learning styles?
- **After commissioning courses or workshops** - do you need to follow up to assess longer-term impact or develop an organisational action plan or report?

## How we will work with you

To commission a course or workshop we will start by having conversations about your organisation, your staff, how you work and what problem you're trying to solve through learning.

From that, we would give you a proposal to consider, along with an estimate of costs. We work on a day rate, including preparation. We'll also talk about whether online or in-person would work best for the attendees and the topic. Content and learning approach will be codesigned with you. Our facilitators will bring real-life examples and experience to the delivery.

One of the key issues for us to discuss and agree upon is what learning outcomes you need to see and how those will be assessed.

## What are the outcomes?

We know from experience that the outcomes from our courses and workshops can be:

- Participating colleagues understand each other better – laying the path to closer working in the future.
- People will feel stimulated and engaged, with new knowledge and connections.

- People gain insights into innovative practices and solutions.
- Commissioning organisations feel more informed and confident to move forward with actions on a given topic.

## What the partnership needs from you

**To make a single course or workshop series successful, commissioning organisations need to consider four things:**

- **Sufficient time** - to understand the context, identified need and design the right learning opportunity.
- **Management backing** - a unified message of support for attendees to prioritise and attend fully is essential.
- **Information** - about the roles of attendees and any participation needs.
- **Budget** - for venues, access and refreshments at in-person courses and workshops.

## Quality assurance

**To quality-assure our courses and workshops we:**

- Build relationships and a shared plan with commissioners.
- Nominate a Community Catalysts Director as the overall quality controller.
- Ensure that our facilitators have the relevant knowledge, experience and skills to deliver the learning outcomes.
- Have the clarity of resources and handouts checked by other Community Catalysts staff.
- Design content and approach to meet different learning styles and access needs.
- Create an inclusive and accessible learning environment from the outset.

To extend the legacy of a single course and workshop series we're always interested in:

- Following up and checking-in some months later to fully understand the impact.
- Embedding the topics of our workshops and courses in your in-house training.
- Bringing different sectors and teams in a locality together to learn.

## Our track record

Our courses and workshops have been commissioned by several public sector organisations.

Examples include:

- 'Think outside the box' about asset-based approaches | Community Catalysts
- New Social Leaders of Neighbourhood Health and Wellbeing | Community Catalysts

## Contact us

To talk to us about Courses and Workshops contact:

[info@communitycatalysts.co.uk](mailto:info@communitycatalysts.co.uk)

communitycatalysts®  
unlocking potential effecting change

[www.communitycatalysts.co.uk](http://www.communitycatalysts.co.uk)