



ADASS East – What’s co-production got to do with it? 5 areas of work we are committed to!

1. Signed up regionally to the Think Local Act Personal I/We Statements and committed to report back on our progress over the last year

In the East we are committed to co-production and want to ensure we are leading by example to help drive local change. We have signed up as a region to the Making It Real framework and have a stocktake workshop planned with TLAP in September whereby local authorities will be showcasing how they are embedding the TLAP I/We Statements. The work emerging is very exciting and we can't wait to hear back from councils.

<https://www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk/makingitreal/directory/87/>

2. Committed to ensuring co-production is at the heart of the Regional Improvement Structure and driving improvement work

At the most recent Regional Improvement Board, we agreed to incorporate co-production into our regional Sector Led Improvement Programme and Structure. We are going to be setting up a virtual coffee space (currently called “Shine the Light” gathering but may change) every 6 weeks run by people with lived experience for people who access care and support. This will be a safe and honest space for people to meet other people and an opportunity to talk about challenges/successes and to influence regional work. In addition to this, people from the coffee group can have an opportunity to visit networks to talk about their challenges and network chairs will be able to visit the virtual coffee space to talk about their barriers and seek feedback. The way the group will operate in detail will be designed by the facilitating organisation and they will be very much in the driving seat. Further info to follow.

3. Committed to building more community based support, better personalisation and co-production through learning from lived experience and expert organisations

We have been running our Regional Building Positive Futures Programme since December 2020 and this involves outside community based organisations showcasing different ways of working and we ask them to bring a person with lived experience along or show a video/case study which brings the session alive, helps talk about the “so what difference does it make?”. The sessions are designed for commissioners in mind but anyone can come along and we generally get a good turnout. In total over 400 staff have benefited from the sessions and we can already see good practice spreading and growing.

We have published a recent Regional Building Positive Futures report with co-production case studies which can be found here: <https://adasseast.org.uk/download/1719/>

We also have a media suite which is being added to: [Videos – Association of Directors of Adult Social Services Eastern Region \(adasseast.org.uk\)](#)

The media suite shares good practice and includes the experience for people accessing care and support.

4. Ensuring our regional strategies are co-produced with people who are accessing care and support

We have co-produced our market priorities through the leadership of the Markets Network and Curators for Change, this way of working is also being used in developing work in relation to Housing and also Mental Health.

5. Growing further improvement work to drive up co-production and strength based approaches

We are committed to improving co-production and last year Central Bedfordshire used the Working Together for Change methodology to co-produce their carer's strategy which worked extremely well. This year we asked for 3 further pilots but we ended up funding 4 out of the regional Sector Led Improvement funding. The Councils are Central Beds phase II, Southend, Hertfordshire and Essex. All just starting commencement. Each will coproduce in different areas. It is a continual model and sustainable. We will share the learning across the region through the Regional Building Positive Futures Programme so everyone benefits.

We have also invested in the Social Care Institute for Excellence Strengths Based Practice Learning course and are putting through 24 nominated leads to benefit from the training. This will help spread good practice across the East.

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