

Draft Co-production Framework

Why do we need a council co-production framework?

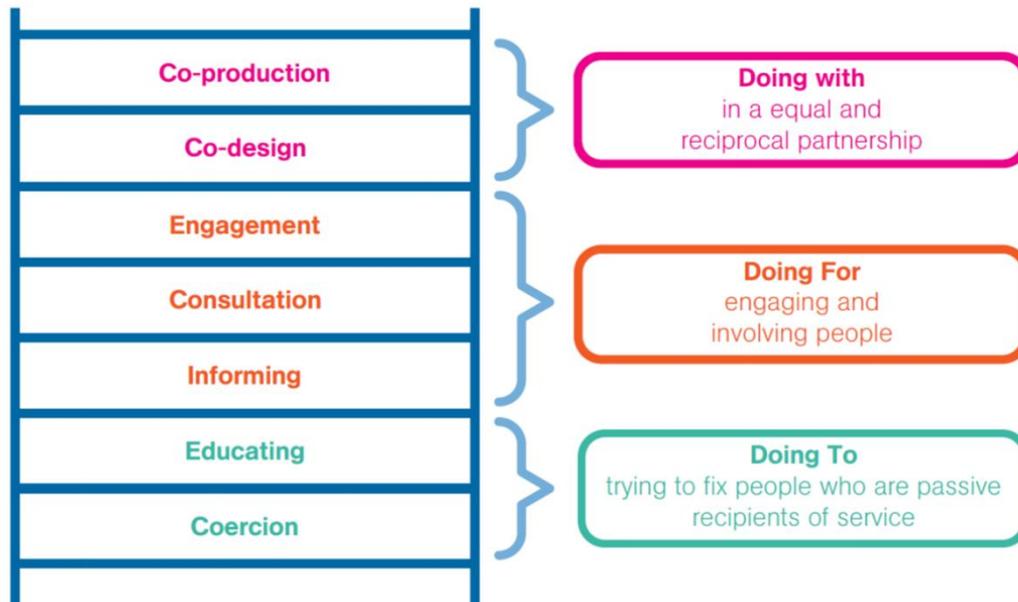
People and communities increasingly want a bigger say in the services they receive and in shaping the places where they live. Co-production is a great way of allowing this to happen because it is about involving people in the planning and delivery of public services, helping to change the way they are organised to better suit the local community.

In Tower Hamlets co-production will give local people an opportunity both to design services as an equal partner with the council and to potentially play roles in delivering the services that they have designed. In practice this can take many forms, from running everyday activities to making decisions about how the services are run.

Our vision is that:

“Local people are effectively informed, engaged, involved and empowered by the council. They actively help define and design local priorities and policies, deliver and evaluate services and inform council decision making in areas that impact on their lives.”

Ladder of Participation



What is the council's commitment to co-production?

Whenever possible council plans and policies will be co-produced. We will be clear from the start about how far we will involve communities and manage expectations. **We will** make any information supporting our decisions available on our website.

What is our definition of co-production

Co-production is an approach for sharing power in an equal and mutual relationship, bringing together professional, service users, their families and neighbours to design and deliver public services

The approach is best understood through the six principles that support it:

<u>Principles</u>	<u>What this will mean in Tower Hamlets</u>
Taking an assets-based approach	We will transform the way people are perceived so that they are seen not as bystanders but as equal partners in designing and delivering services.
Building on people's existing capabilities:	We will alter our delivery model from one that focuses on needs and inequalities to one that provides opportunities to recognise and add to people's capabilities and actively support them to put these capabilities to good use.
Reciprocity and mutuality or fair exchange	We will offer people a range of opportunities and incentives to work with each other across sector boundaries, with mutual responsibilities and expectations.
Peer support networks	We will use peer and personal networks as the best way of transferring knowledge, encouraging involvement and building expertise.
Breaking down barriers	We will remove the distinction between professionals and service users, and between those who provide services and those who use them, by changing the way programmes are developed and delivered.
Facilitating the process rather than delivering:	The Council will work to trigger change (this will ultimately be led and shaped by others).

Co-production framework stages

Stages	Plans and policies	Commissioning
1 Insight	We will involve and support communities by training them in how to identify local needs and priorities through peer research and participatory appraisal. Information collected about local needs will be supported by evidence we and our partners have gathered, and used to develop a joint needs assessment	
2 Planning	Communities, council staff and, where appropriate, service	

	from partners will come together to do the following:	
	Produce plans by developing a shared vision and making decisions about our main priorities and outcomes, and what will need to be done to achieve these outcomes.	Produce specifications for services, deciding on quality and outcomes, to make sure services properly meet the needs communities have identified. Communities and service users will also play a role in evaluating bids from suppliers and taking part in 'dialogue days' with potential bidders.
3 Delivery	Communities, services users and other relevant organisations such as Healthwatch will take the lead on assessing the effect of the outcomes and objectives, and recommend changes during the lifetime of the strategy or service. In the case of commissioning, what this stage can cover may be limited by the size of a service, how complicated it is and the number of commissioning partners involved.	