

# Co-Production Values & Principles

On Wednesday 6 March 2019, people gathered at The Whitworth Gallery in response to an invitation from Jam and Justice to work together toward pioneering Greater Manchester as a leading example of a co-productive city-region. This was the second of three sessions curated by Jam and Justice, and we began by exploring values and principles that underpin co-production.

- Beth Perry, academic lead for the Jam & Justice project, spoke about the different reasons people become involved in co-production.



Transdisciplinary knowledge co-production

Co-production of knowledge and community empowerment

Co-production of capacity, networks, communities of common cause, action

Co-production of knowledge and community empowerment

# The 'Elephants' Project - Principles for Co-production

The 'Elephants' project was a co-production project in Greater Manchester, involving a group of people who were working together to create a new service. The project was based on the principle of co-production, which is a process where people who are affected by a problem or service work together with professionals to create a solution. The project was successful in creating a new service that was better suited to the needs of the community. The project was based on the following principles:

- 1. People who are affected by a problem or service should be involved in the process of creating a solution.
- 2. Professionals should work in partnership with people who are affected by a problem or service.
- 3. The process of creating a solution should be based on the needs and experiences of people who are affected by the problem or service.
- 4. The process of creating a solution should be based on the strengths and resources of people who are affected by the problem or service.
- 5. The process of creating a solution should be based on the values and beliefs of people who are affected by the problem or service.

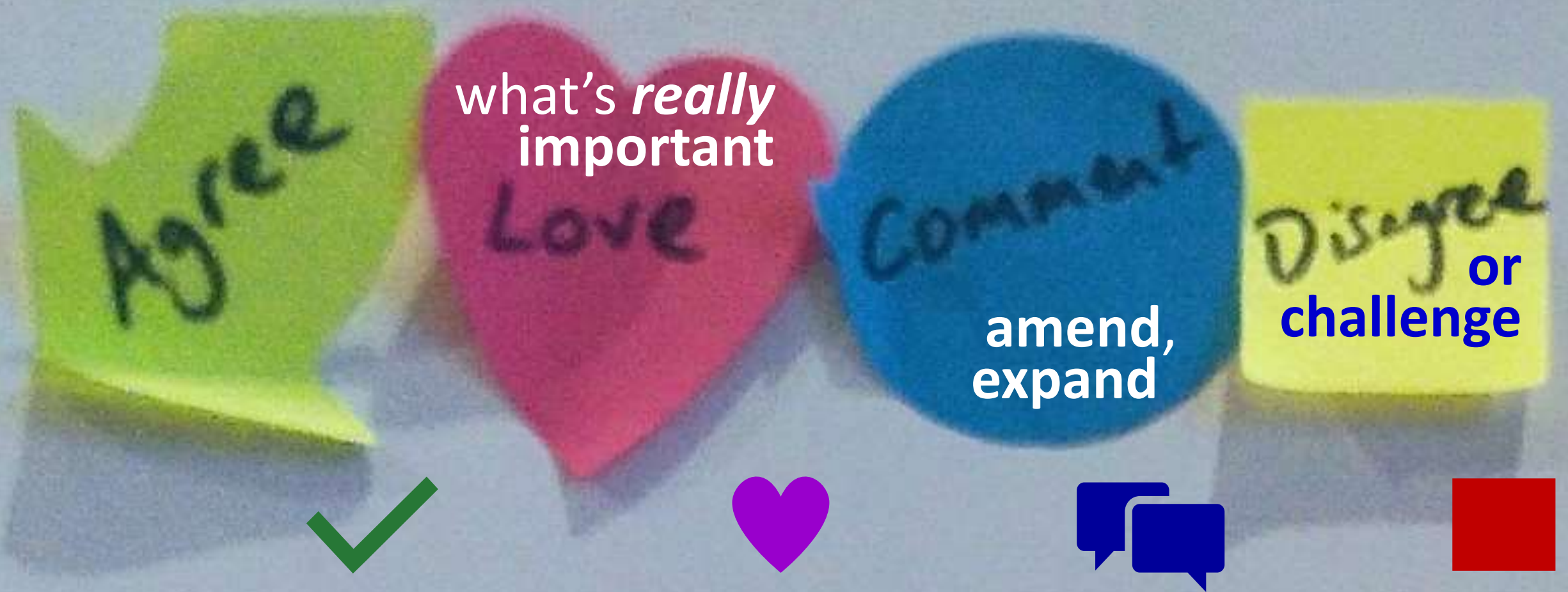
- Matthew Kidd spoke on behalf of the Elephants project, sharing principles that had emerged from co-production in Greater Manchester.



# TERRAPINS: Designing for Co-production



- Everyone was asked to respond to the principles and values from the Elephants project and from TERRAPINS—characteristics for designing co-production developed by Catherine Durose & Liz Richardson.



- Responses were written on sticky notes. Ticks indicated agreement. Hearts indicated something important. Speech bubbles were used to amend or expand on a principle. Small squares created space for challenges and disagreement.



# How did people respond?

**The next slides show the responses to the different headings.** (Unfortunately, some of the text in photographs cannot be read. We plan to update this record soon using the originals.)

# Make Time (7)



- Trust will only come if people make sufficient time.
- And Create spaces where people feel safer and more equal → facilitated time



- & take time
- Value time – it costs to take part



- Same as iterative?
- [no text]



- [no text]



# Asset-based (9)



- No one person has the answer, important to value different forms of expertise.



- Recognise all contributors equally (£££)
- Terminology ? ?
- I think we need to use language that makes sense to everyone.



- ↑ THIS
- [no text] x 2
- Yes, ideally aiming to always think positively about perceived deficits.



- [no text]

ASSET-BASED





# Diversity | Strengths



- Challenge to be fully aware. Need to be realistic and ... with assets. ...
- Understand + value SIMILARITIES + Differences
- Build it and they'll come approaches don't reach all communities.



- Care needed. Not diversity for its own sake.
- Need to negotiate as part of process.



- [no text]



- Utilise people's strengths differently

# POSITIVE - SUM

(win-win; opposite of 'zerosum' - everyone's a winner)



# POWER



# Positive-Sum (4)



- How do we know?
- Some power imbalances are inescapable.
- True co-production is always about shifting of power relationships. [...]
- I don't think it will always feel win-win when we recognise and address power imbalances. This might not feel a win (to people who are used to having all the power).

POSITIVE - SUM  
(win-win; opposite of 'zerosum' - everyone's a winner)



# Power (15)



- Power as in & *influence* or & *privilege*?
- Fundamental ...
- POWER WITH requires us all to know what this feels like
- RE-WOP: ... reversing power means...
- Without a standard there is no accountability
- I know it's hard to cede power
- ...this...
- [illegible]



- Unless we are effectively addressing 'redistributing power', co-production isn't happening. Power ...
- To me this is the foundation of everything and the others flow from this.
- How is this ...? Level the playing field. But power is key.
- [no text] x 4

# NOT DECIDED IN ADVANCE



# SELF-AWARE



# Not decided in advance (11)



- This is the strength of the method but may be perceived as a risk for some.
- Definitely though we also need to be honest / transparent about constraints, even a blank piece of paper has edges.
- Links to iterative & testing.
- Temporal needs – make time + iterative process. [illeg.]
- How blank is the canvas if we are honest?



- Authentic
- Yes, links to iterative/testing.
- Not be fake consultation
- With me, not about me, critical.
- If everything decided it cannot be open and ...
- ...normally set the boundaries



# Self aware (8)



- co-production is the quiet revolution that happens within us.
- Beware the trickster – dead Carlos Castaneda
- What coping strategies might be necessary for activating this?
- How might tools be designed to support this?



- V. important but needs support/framework
- Self-facilitation, stepping up and opening space for everyone



• [no text]



• [no text]

SELF - AWARE



TRANSPARENT



ENGAGED





# Transparent (6)



- How do you ensure we create this? ...?
- .... Not ....
- How transparent & ...  
Be honest about what is possible. What ... transparency and when it hasn't happened.
- [Illeg.]



- Absolutely fundamental for other principles to have value.



- Be clear on capacities, p... & restrictions

TRANSPARENT



# Engaged (6)



- Does this require someone to do the engaging?

- This seems ... [illeg.]

- Illeg.



- [no text]

- [illeg.] !

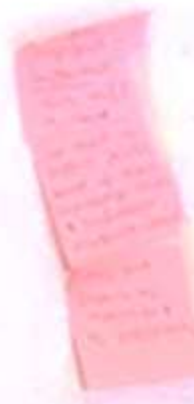
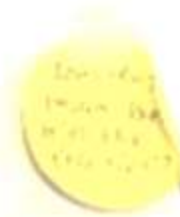


- [illeg.] in same way?



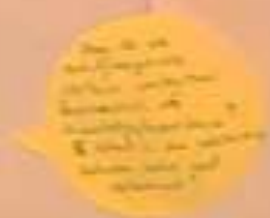
- Engaged + supported. Think sufficient if hard. We need to support people, build up their knowledge base & confidence [....] what they .... (experts by experience & by profession)

ENGAGED



2  
RESPECT FOR  
EXPERTISE

KNOWLEDGE



# Respect for Expertise



- ...?
- Do you make any input? [illeg]
- Illeg.
- Illeg.



- Yes - on both / all sides co ...
- Illeg.



[no text]

How do we [] negotiate certain contextual... of how value/...?  
What is the relationship between value and relevance?

# Knowledge



- ...?
- Illeg.



People were also invited to suggest things that were missing. The main suggestion here was Communication:

# Communication

- Good, regular comms
- A brand/idea you feel you can get behind!!



# This is work in progress...

To collaborate on the values that should  
underpin a call for action to pioneer Greater  
Manchester as a co-productive city-region,  
send an email to

[jamandjustice@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:jamandjustice@sheffield.ac.uk)