ENABLING SUSTAINABLE COLLABORATION TO IMPLEMENT A WHOLE SYSTEMS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY APPROACH

substance.

Sheffield Hallam University

Our learning timeline:

Existing Programme Theory:

Broaden and connect the network

Align values, principles, and common goals

Build relationships and trust

Work together on common projects

Productive partnerships working around common goals

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2020 SEPTEMBER

- Development of broad networks and deepening trust amongst potential partners
- Relationships working well to support Covid-19 response, but not physical activity (PA)

2021 MARCH

 Established networks around authentic interest in PA inequalities
Emergence of some productive work across organisational and hierarchical boundaries

2022 MARCH

 Key sector partners in transport, health and employment demonstrate that PA is still low priority compared to their 'core' business
Evidence of sustained collaboration still

limited

The Salford Approach

Salford Community Leisure (SCL) is a not for profit Community Benefit Society. SCL have been working with the Salford Youth Service (SYS) to increase capacity and effectiveness of youth provision

What happened?

Increased demand for physical activity provision to support a range of community, social and health issues for children and young people

Young people's voice, community engagement and co-production central to the ethos of both partners

Joint problem solving across the teams

SCL and SYS coordinate for a wider partnership of youth focussed organisations, with coproduction and community engagement at the heart

How did it help?

Mandate and opportunities to design and develop work together

Transition coproduction from 'niceto-have' to regular practice What is delivered is more holistic, built on CYP needs and benefiting from the skills and resources of both teams

Capacity, capability and experience are attractive to the wider network, which in turn provides a platform to cascade learning and ways of working

Salford team members identified 5 key elements of change

- 1. Time; afforded by the LP and ringfenced to build collaboration
- 2. Ethos of the LP "being solutions driven and tearing up the rule book"
 - 3. Synergy with Salford principles of being youth led
 - **4.** Test & Learn "if something didn't work we could collaborate to understand why not and try something new"
 - **5.** A focus on quality provision for targeted groups; not numbers through the door, but individual journeys and impact

Cross-Pilot Collective Sense-making

Contexts which enable or inhibit sustainable collaboration



Competing personal / organisation agendas



Compromising and/or complementary agendas

- Despite having LP funding for projects, if individuals / organisations cannot reach a shared purpose then relationships break down
- Barriers to collaboration include ego, personality differences, perceived loss of control and failure to compromise



One sided relationships



Genuine partnerships

- Historical transactional relationships, where one team has traditionally commissioned services from another, takes time to become equitable partnerships
- Individuals / organisations may be required to step out of their usual remit to achieve true partnerships