



Greenwich Voice and Influence Programme

November 2023 Greenwich Hub for Influence, Voice, and Engagement Networking Event Report

Prepared by

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Workshop Details

Date: 2 November 2023

Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: METRO Woolwich

Conference Facilitators:

- Naomi Goldberg (NG) – METRO GAVS
- Andrew Kerr (AK) – METRO GAVS
- Pauline O’Hare (PO’H) – METRO GAVS
- Roy Gopaul (RG) – METRO GAVS
- Charity Aienobe-Asekharen (CA-A) – METRO GAVS
- Adam Tipping (AT) – METRO GAVS

Groups and Organisations in Attendance:

- ARC and You
- Between Humans
- Big Red Bus Club
- Debt Centre Greenwich
- Derrick and Atlas Gardens Residents Association
- DG Community Organisation
- Dyslexia Care Foundation
- First Step Trust
- Forward (Foundation of Women's Health Research & Development)
- Greenwich Carers Centre
- Greenwich Co-Operative Development Agency (GCDA)
- HER Centre
- Mama2Mama Baby Essentials
- METRO Centre
- Michael Streete Foundation (MSFDN)
- MumsAid
- New Arrivals Support
- Oxleas Foundation NHS Trust
- POhWER
- Reconnection (Formerly East African Diaspora Community Network)
- Royal Borough of Greenwich
 - Communities and Environment
 - Public Health
- Somali Parents Network (SPN)



- Somali Teaching Group
- South East London Integrated Care System
- South London Counselling and Support Services (SLCSS)
- Volunteer Centre Greenwich (VCG)
- Woolwich Service Users Support
- World of Hope



Aim, Objectives, and Approach

The November 2023 Greenwich Hub for Influence, Voice, and Engagement (G-HIVE) Networking Event was the third workshop in the second phase of the Greenwich Voice and Influence Programme, which began in September 2022. It was the second dedicated networking opportunity hosted by METRO GAVS during the first year of G-HIVE's second phase. Originally planned for July 2023, the event had to be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances.

The first aim of the event was to continue building professional relationships and networks between the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors within the Health and Social Care System in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. This was achieved through a formal networking activity during the first half of the event, and informal opportunities throughout the rest of the event. The second aim of the event was to facilitate the G-HIVE Programme Team to design the G-HIVE Learning, Development, and Training Support Package for Phase 2 Year 2. This was achieved through working with the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors to:

- Outline knowledge and information requirements to enable them to have better understandings of the Health and Social Care System, including the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors, which includes local communities
- Identify skill and ability needs to both deliver and partake in engagement and consultation activities

Building upon the January 2023 G-HIVE Networking Event, the November 2023 G-HIVE Networking Event incorporated a mixture of activities and presentations. The activities included both formal and informal networking opportunities, and an opportunity for attendees to co-create and co-develop the delivery of G-HIVE in 2024. By METRO GAVS adopting this methodology and approach within G-HIVE, there is a role model for culture change across the system which G-HIVE is working to support and facilitate. The structure of the event was based around two activities and two presentations. This enabled attendees to network and get to know each other (Activity 1), input into and co-design the G-HIVE Learning, Development, and Training Support Package (Activity 2), and understand current community development work currently taking place in the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors (Presentations 1 and 2).

With Phase 1 of the Greenwich Voice and Influence Programme taking place entirely virtually, the decision was made to hold the event in person, with attendees registering with METRO GAVS. In total, sixty people attend the November 2023 G-HIVE Networking Event.

Activity 1: Speed Activity

The first activity of the event was focused on attendees getting to know each other in order to understand more about them as individuals and their roles within the borough. This was facilitated through Activity 1 – Speed Networking.



As part of this activity, attendees were seated across from each other and given five minutes (two-and-a-half each) to 'speed' network, in a similar way to speed dating. Whilst the topic(s) of discussion was open to each pairing, the following prompt questions were suggested in order to 'kickstart' conversations:

- Name, Organisation, and Role within the Royal Borough of Greenwich
- Top tips for facilitating and driving representation and engagement

Each attendee was also provided with a blank Contact Information Sheet and a pen in order to record the contact details of attendees they engaged with during the activity, and throughout the event.

The first activity proved to be highly successful, with a number of attendees commenting that they have spoken with several other attendees who they had not previously met. Moreover, as attendees got to know about each other and the projects, programmes, services, and/or activities they deliver within the borough, ad hoc feedback during the event suggested that opportunities for potential collaboration and partnership working arose.

Activity 2 – Knowledge and Skills Development Audit for Current and Future Training Needs

Activity 2 was focused on attendees partaking in two discussions:

- Discussion 1 – Knowledge and Information Audit
- Discussion 2 – Skills and Abilities Audit

In order to do so, attendees were asked to mix into small groups, with each group being asked to discuss the following questions:

- What knowledge and information do you need to enable you to better:
 - Understand the Health and Social Care System
 - Understand the breadth and depth of Statutory Sector
 - Understand the breadth and depth of the Voluntary Sector
 - Understand the needs and aspirations of local communities
- What skills and abilities can G-HIVE help you develop in relation to:
 - Consultation and Engagement Activities
 - Supporting local community representation and engagement
 - Having a voice and influence within the Health and Social Care System

Each group was provided with post-it notes and pens, and flipchart paper was placed around the room to capture all discussion points for each question and associated sub-questions.



Overall, a wide range of ideas were put forward by all attendees, which the G-HIVE Programme Team will use to create the G-HIVE Learning, Development, and Training Support Package. However, some areas will be delivered in other ways, depending upon their nature.



Knowledge and Information Audit

What Knowledge and Information Do You Need to Enable You to Better:

Understand the Health and Social Care System	Understand the Breadth and Depth of Statutory Sector	Understand the Breadth and Depth of the Voluntary Sector	Understand the Needs and Aspirations of Local Communities
Up-to-date directory of senior officials which includes their contact information	Up-to-date directory of strategic and operational officials which includes their contact information	Up-to-date directory of strategic and operational officials which includes their contact information	Quantitative and qualitative data on, cohesive understandings of, local communities
Training on how the Health and Social Care System operates including projects, programmes, services, and activities being delivered	Training of what the Statutory Sector is, including the different organisations which encompass it within the Royal Borough of Greenwich	Training of what the Voluntary Sector is, including the different groups organisations which encompass it within the Royal Borough of Greenwich	Introductions to groups and organisations who work with local communities directly and how to signpost to them
Database of consultation and engagement outcomes which is up-to-date and in simple language	Up-to-date of statutory projects, programmes, services, and activities being delivered		Information on local communities' venues and partnerships / networks
Established communication channels for sharing information gathered and insights gained including both in person and online	Updates on any changes within the Statutory Sector as and when they occur		
Continued opportunities to network with stakeholders within the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors including opportunities to shadow stakeholders within the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors			

Skills and Abilities Audit

What Skills and Abilities can G-HIVE Help You Develop in Relation to

Consultation and Engagement Activities	Supporting local community representation and engagement	Having a voice and influence within the Health and Social Care System
How to co-create, co-develop, co-design, and co-produce with different stakeholders	Approaches to co-design and co-produce with local communities	How to engage with senior officials within the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors including public speaking
How to successfully facilitate workshops with a range of stakeholders	How to utilise digital infrastructure and social media channels for consultation and engagement with local communities	How to network and build relationships based on trust with different stakeholders including formulating constructive questions
How to conduct and deliver research projects and programmes	How to communicate and negotiate with a range of stakeholders, including local communities and community leaders	How to utilise lived experience when negotiating with senior officials within the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors
How to capture and utilise expertise from across the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors	How to conduct outreach and engagement with local communities	How to monitor and evaluate projects, programmes, services and/or activities which produces learning for future delivery



Next Steps

The November 2023 G-HIVE Networking Event was the second of two networking events planned for first year of developing G-HIVE, which has been extended by three months. METRO GAVS will conclude Year 1 with the delivery of the G-HIVE Voice and Influence Conference in December 2023. Year 1 will also conclude with the launching of the Royal Borough of Greenwich Voice and Influence Charter in September 2023.

Using input from across the system, METRO GAVS will continue to co-develop G-HIVE in a way which can support the involvement and collaboration of the Statutory and Voluntary Sector, and how it will influence and deliver change within the Royal Borough of Greenwich. This will include the G-HIVE Programme Team taking the Knowledge and Skills Development Audit for Current and Future Training Needs and developing the G-HIVE Learning, Development, and Training Support Package.

For further information, please contact the following:

- Andrew Kerr – Voice and Influence Programme Manager (Andrew.Kerr@metrocharity.org.uk)
- Roy Gopaul – Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator (Roy.Gopaul@metrocharity.org.uk)
- Charity Aienobe-Asekharen – Programme Support Officer (Charity.Aienobe-Asekharen@metrocharity.org.uk)