



Local Community Partnerships

Invite for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) to host an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Community Builder in Croydon North East

What is ABCD?

ABCD considers local assets as the primary building blocks of sustainable community development. Building on the skills of local residents, the power of local associations, and the supportive functions of local institutions, Asset-Based Community Development draws upon existing community strengths to build stronger, more sustainable communities for the future.

What is Community Building?

This happens when people and organisations from across the community come together to envision how their ideal community should look. They then begin to develop plans to mobilise all of the community's resources to achieve their visions. Draft Job Description attached. Hear from Community Builders hosted by local VCOs in a Croydon Voluntary Action (CVA) led partnership: [Best Start ABCD - Community Builders stories. - YouTube](#)

Strategic Context

The One Croydon alliance is a partnership between the local NHS, Croydon Council and Croydon's Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). One Croydon attracted funding from the Kings Fund to initiate 'Healthy Communities Together' (HCT) developing a 'Local Community Partnerships Forward Plan 2021-2024', to: '**shift power and authority to local people and localities**'. To achieve this ambition One Croydon has created a new Locality Operating Model for Croydon that engages our local communities in co-producing services and activities that deliver transformational health outcomes¹.

As part of the new Locality Operating Model, One Croydon has confirmed funding for two Community Builders from July 2022 to December 2024. The remuneration available for the host organisation is **£34,860 per annum** to employ a Community Builder, the funding available covers a salary of £26,491, on costs (OLW, NI and pension) and a 13% contribution to the host. The host would be expected to support and enable the work of the Community Builder. The Community Builder must report and be accountable to the Local Community Partnership and, working with One Croydon and with infrastructure support, meet delivery and reporting requirements.

Criteria for Organisations interested in hosting a Community Builder in Croydon

1. Be an existing Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisation based in the locality that the Community Builder will be working in
2. Use strengths-based approaches/asset-based community development (ABCD) to grow and sustain the work of grass-roots organisations, charities and active citizens in the locality
3. Be committed to the key Community-Led Support principles* that underpin the work of the One Croydon alliance and Croydon's Integrated Network Plus (ICN+)
4. Work in partnership with other VCS organisations in the locality, together with Council and Health services, contribute to Local Community Partnerships

¹ Stated in our HCT Phase 1 bid and confirmed with LVP Board

5. Work in partnership with Community Builders based in the other Croydon localities and the VCS organisations hosting those Community Builders take part in the Community Builder network
6. Provide supervision and support for the Community Builder
7. Be supportive of opportunities for the Community Builder to learn and develop their practice, with a particular focus on strengths-based approaches and ABCD, take part in CVA's ABCD training and support
8. Be an organisation that is committed to opposing all forms of discrimination and that actively works towards promoting equality of opportunity irrespective of difference
9. Have strong Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults policies and procedures in place, which include Safer recruitment
10. Have strong commitment to Equal Opportunities and policies and procedures in place to apply it in their organisation
11. Have detailed Health & Safety policies and procedures, which include Lone working
12. Highly desirable, not essential, is prior experience on hosting an ABCD Community Builder

*Community-Led Support (CLS) Key Principles

- There is a focus on 'place', community and the whole person
- Co-production brings people and organisations together around a shared vision
- People get good support and advice when they need it so that crises are avoided
- The culture is based on trust, empowerment and shared values within and across teams
- Support is strengths-based, building independence, control and community connections
- Bureaucracy is the absolute minimum it has to be
- The system is responsive, proportionate and delivers good outcomes

Selection process

- Opportunity to host a Community Builder introduced at Local Community Partnership events in North West and South West
- Community Builder Job Description shared with LCPs in the Croydon South-West and Croydon North-West localities
- Expressions of Interest (Eols) invited from VCS organisations at these Local Community Partnership events, two weeks given for Eols
- Once Eol received, One Croydon Community Facilitator visits potential VCS organisation to discuss the role and assess suitability for hosting a Community Builder
- If only one Eol received and the criteria has been met, confirmed by One Croydon panel, then Host confirmed
- If two or more Eols received, the VCS organisations applying they will need to provide a more detailed one-page description of how they would differentiate themselves from other potential bidders in the community builder process. They will also be asked to include detail on their USPs, knowledge of HCT program and how their goals align to it and their experience/examples of partnership working
- These one-page descriptions are shared with LCPs in the Croydon South-West and Croydon North-West localities Co-Chairs
- LCP members are then invited to vote on their preferred Community Builder Host
- Host VCO announced and recruitment support provided through HCT

Expressions of Interest (Eol)

To submit an Expression of Interest, outlining your organisations suitability to be the host of the (ABCD) Community Builder for Croydon North West, please contact Sarah.Burns@cvalive.org.uk.