

KIRKLEES HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

MEETING DATE: 28th November 2024

TITLE OF PAPER: Inclusive Community Framework

1. Purpose of paper

To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) around progress in implementing the Inclusive Communities Framework (ICF) which is one of the key enablers for the achieving the Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Strategy (KHWS) priorities of Mental Wellbeing, Connected Care and Support, and Healthy Places. This will consider:

- **Champion:** What are Board members already doing to promote and champion the ICF approach in supporting the delivery of our three priorities.
- **Influence:** To what extent are Board members influencing partners to utilise ICF when beginning new initiatives in local places.
- **Implement:** How the board exercises its functions and accountability to ensure that the ICF is embedded.

2. Background

The [Inclusive Communities Framework](#) (ICF) is one of our four top-tier partnership strategies and is listed on the Health & Wellbeing Board work plan. The ICF is a commitment to work better with communities, that means we have to change how we do things.

The ICF is a partnership commitment to inclusion across the district and as such, has been a collaborative process, co-created with public, voluntary and community partners. The framework can be used with a wide range of plans and strategies across lots of different organisations and sets out how we want to work with people.

The ICF brings all of our learning together and creates a wrap-a-round framework providing three guiding principles, five inclusive approaches, a toolkit and methods for assessing our impact, which we can all use, to weave inclusion into our work. It helps organisations to get alongside communities and citizens and supports all services in Kirklees to work inclusively with communities and enables local place-based planning and action.

The (ICF) self-evaluation tool has been designed to support organisations to review their activity, outcome reporting and impact measures against the five inclusive approaches: Connecting, Communicating, Equalising, Trusting and Celebrating.

The self-evaluation tool is helping each organisation and strategic partnership to understand the impact the ICF is having on Kirklees communities by considering each approach and reflecting on how well we are incorporating them into our work. It is not a precise impact measurement tool, but it does give us an indicator of how well we are doing, as well as an organisational view of the actions we need to take to do even better.

The ICF website went live in May 2023 and ICF briefings have taken place with many organisations and strategic partnerships since it launched. The ICF is as much about having conversations as it is about working through self-assessments. Many self-assessments are still in progress, and some have been completed and submitted through a central online platform including Locala and the Integrated Care Board. Completion of the Organisational ICF Self

Evaluation is an annual exercise. The first year's self-evaluation provides the baseline for monitoring progress in subsequent years.

We are working to better understand how ICF fits with strategic Partnerships and Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board have made ICF their priority this year which is something to be celebrated. Homes England have adopted elements of the ICF to look at their own definition of community engagement and social value.

How ICF wraps around and support HWBS priorities

Mental Wellbeing

The five ways to wellbeing are evidence-based actions that promote overall physical and mental health. These actions provide a holistic framework for understanding wellbeing. The original report detailing this evidence can be found [here](#) (accessed 20th November 2024). The five ways are: connecting with others, being active, taking notice, continuous learning, and giving to others. The ICF primarily supports the areas of connecting with others and giving to others.

As highlighted in the report, feelings of happiness and life satisfaction are closely tied to active participation in social and community life. For older individuals, volunteering is linked to a greater sense of meaning in life, and offering support to others is associated with reduced mortality rates. A core component of the ICF is to foster social and community life, pride in community, and social connections, particularly through volunteering. It also supports our ambition for West Yorkshire to be trauma informed and responsive by emphasising safety, trust, cultural sensitivity, and collaboration, ensuring community members feel valued and heard, and working to avoid re-traumatization.

Connected Care and Support

Effective and holistic care and support extend beyond formal services to include the community and social infrastructure around individuals. This includes informal support from neighbours, family, and friends who assist with tasks such as shopping and gardening while providing essential human connection, a fundamental component of wellbeing as set out in the 'five ways to wellbeing'. Pride in one's place and increased social connection unite people to help others. The ICF aims to support individual volunteering, grassroots groups, and larger community organisations. Alongside formal services from health partners, the council, and others, community and a strong social fabric is foundational to people having support in the local places where they live.

Healthy Places

Health and wellbeing are greatly influenced by the creation of healthy places. As emphasized by Fred London in his study 'Healthy Placemaking' (2020), this concept encompasses both physical and social infrastructure. Local community activities provide opportunities for people to stay active and socially connected, addressing issues of physical inactivity and social isolation that can lead to long-term health challenges. The Inclusive Communities Framework establishes foundational elements to support these community activities, fostering a sense of belonging and pride in local places.

<p>3. Proposal</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>4. Financial Implications</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>5. Sign off</p> <p>Jill Greenfield, Director Communities & Access Services, 20 November 2024</p>
<p>6. Next Steps</p> <p>3 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work alongside partners to Champion, Influence and Implement ICF • Analysis of baseline data from self-assessments to enable partnership to agree priorities at strategic, organisational and team level impacts • Connect with more Health, VCSE and Faith organisations who want to engage with ICF. <p>6 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop ICF E-learning to sit alongside ICF website and tools <p><u>The ICF Process</u></p> <p>Step 1: Partners develop their own organisational implementation plan which includes raising awareness of the ICF, what is required to implement it and how it will be measured and reporting requirements.</p> <p>Step 2: Partners complete the ICF self-evaluation tool and develop an organisational support and action plan.</p> <p>Step 3: Annual submission of an organisational support and action plan to inform a high-level, Kirklees-wide implementation plan, led by the Communities Partnership Board.</p> <p>Step 4: An annual report on progress and a set of summary recommendations is provided to the Communities Partnership Board.</p> <p>Step 5: A high-level progress update is provided to the Partnership Executive.</p>
<p>7. Recommendations</p> <p>Champion: Board members promote and champion the ICF approach in supporting the delivery of our three priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Wellbeing • Connected Care and Support

- Healthy Places.

Influence: Board members influence partners to utilise ICF when beginning new initiatives in local places.

Implement: The board exercises its functions and accountability to ensure that the ICF is embedded.

8. Contact Officer

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