



## Co-production

This snapshot explains what co-production is, why and how we used it, and what we learned. In a nutshell, co-production means citizens and professionals sharing power to create positive changes<sup>1</sup>.

### ***Why did we use co-production?***

Our rapid assessments told us that community organisations used co-production to achieve better outcomes for their members – see rapid assessment snapshot. We reasoned that we needed to use it too for the Panel to be empowering and useful for communities. We also used co-production to help the GoWell researchers and the Panel learn from each other because previous research demonstrated that the strength of this approach is in sharing power, knowledge, skills and solutions between groups of people<sup>2</sup>.

### ***How did we use co-production?***

We combined co-production with two other processes – see the facilitation and experiential learning snapshots. These examples from our first workshop with the Panel describe how we started using co-production:

#### Equalising the knowledge playing field

All Panel members had experience of regeneration, but they had varying degrees of knowledge about the GoWell research. GoWell had research about regeneration but no lived experience. We aimed to bring the Panel to an equal knowledge footing about GoWell in a way that helped us start to familiarise ourselves with their experiences by designing a participatory set of exercises. These exercises aimed to promote the Panel's existing knowledge and introduced them to GoWell's key findings and main topics.

#### Mapping our knowledge

Over a cup of tea, Panel members were invited to put stickers on maps of GoWell study areas where they lived and on ones they had visited. They also used opinion finders to indicate the types of knowledge they had about GoWell. There were two aims:

- 1) Setting a friendly, welcoming environment that encouraged us to share our knowledge.
- 2) Appreciating and making visible the knowledge we held.

#### Co-designing workshops

One of the Panel members told his story of living and working in Townhead, giving a tour of his community centre – see facilitation snapshot. The Panel decided to host workshops in their communities to build their group knowledge of regeneration across Glasgow.

### ***What did we learn?***

For many of the Panel, joining a city-wide group and working with a research programme was a new venture. We learned that in practice, co-production came about as a result of showing the Panel the kinds of activities that we could shape together and demonstrating that we valued their knowledge.

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<sup>1</sup> To find out more about co-production, go to: [www.coproductionscotland.org.uk/about/what-is-co-production/](http://www.coproductionscotland.org.uk/about/what-is-co-production/)

<sup>2</sup> To learn more about our research on co-production, go to: [www.gcph.co.uk/latest/news/964\\_co-production\\_week\\_scotland\\_2020](http://www.gcph.co.uk/latest/news/964_co-production_week_scotland_2020)