

Community Capital: The Value of Connected Communities



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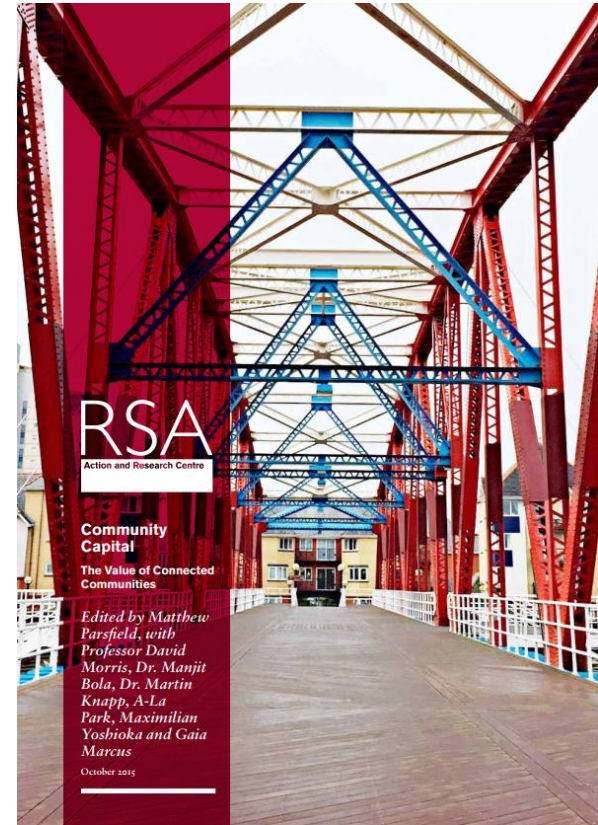
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Connected Communities

Action research project to explore how the community dimension of people's lives contributes to well-being and can be developed to analyse how different interventions build resilient, inclusive communities and empower individuals to take greater control of their lives through relationships based on shared concerns and mutual trust.



Centre for Citizenship and Community - who are we?

UCLan – research, evaluation, community engagement, courses

Associate team – health, social care and public services – senior experience in health, social care and public service sectors – commissioning, management, strategy, housing, leadership, service improvement design..

RSA Connected Communities team – action research, network analysis, policy development, thought leadership and organisational change supported by a multi-disciplinary network drawn from RSA's Fellowship.

Personal Social Services Research Unit (London School of Economics) – extensive expertise in social services and health research, economic modelling; financial analysis.



Centre for Citizenship and Community – our key principles

Change through networks

Imaginative community networks are key to social action and new approaches to governance at all levels*

Social value capture

Community engagement is imperative to local empowerment *and* to unlocking the social value – the unseen assets – of community

Organising for inter-dependence

Building from ‘the multiple practices of reciprocity’ (Taylor); public services/communities; bonding and bridging communities; individuals and social networks

A culture of co-production

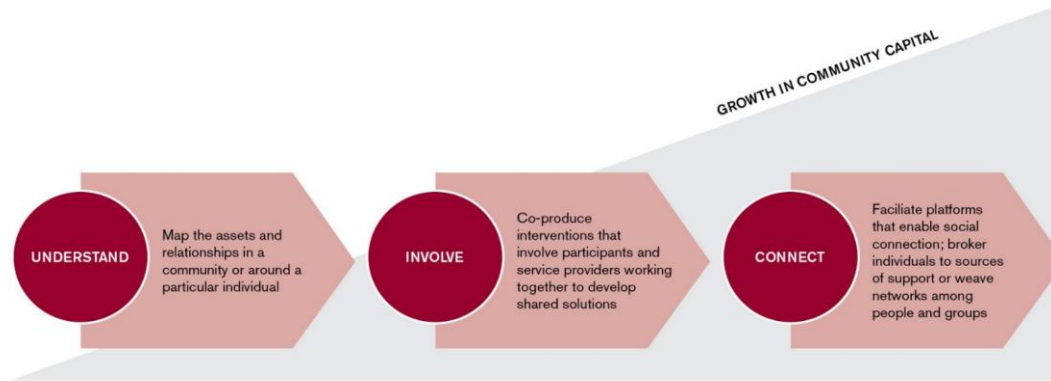
Public service organisations with a ‘literacy of community’, ‘complexity–capable’ co-production: design, development and delivery = innovation

(*SeeTapscott, RSA Journal Spring 2013)

Research portfolio 2015 -17 (since conclusion of Connected Communities programme)

1. ODESSA: 3 year international study on **ageing** in place with China and France (ESRC);
2. 'Supports for Success': Connected Communities input to **Young people** in communities programme through Wellesley Institute (Ontario Govt., funded think tank) and Toronto PH. (State Govt., pending);
3. **Connecting People** study, with University of York, (NIHR, SCC);
4. Housing and Community in Foleshill, Coventry: CC programme with Orbit Housing to **enable housing-led community engagement**.
5. Developing **community capacity** through a Connected Communities approach in Preston, (LA);
6. 'Connected **Street Associations**' SAs; developing evidence base for SA's, Kingstanding, Birmingham (BC?CCG)
7. Community Connectors, with Solent MIND, developing a **MH community connectors** programme Hants(LA);
8. Development partnership, Building Bridges, **Community Cohesion** project Pendle, NW England (BL,pending)
9. Development Support for 'Community Conversations' in **12 -15 People's** Health Trust sites (PHT).
10. Empowering citizenship in young people: **intergenerational citizenship** in West Cumbria.
11. Evaluation of **national MH and Adult Learning pilots** with Ipsos MORI (Central Govt: BIS);
12. Prevention and Community Resilience: evaluating **older people's community** funded services, Kirklees (LA);
13. **Personalisation**: assessment of integrated approach to uptake (MIND);
14. Establishing Connected Communities based care pathway for **people with LTCs**, N. Manchester (CCG)

Theory of change: Understand, Involve, Connect



We suggest that community capital can be grown through a way of working that follows the Connected Communities principles of *Understanding* the local situation, relationships and patterns of isolation, *Involving* people in creating a solution, and aiming to *Connect* people to one another to reduce isolation and create more connected communities.

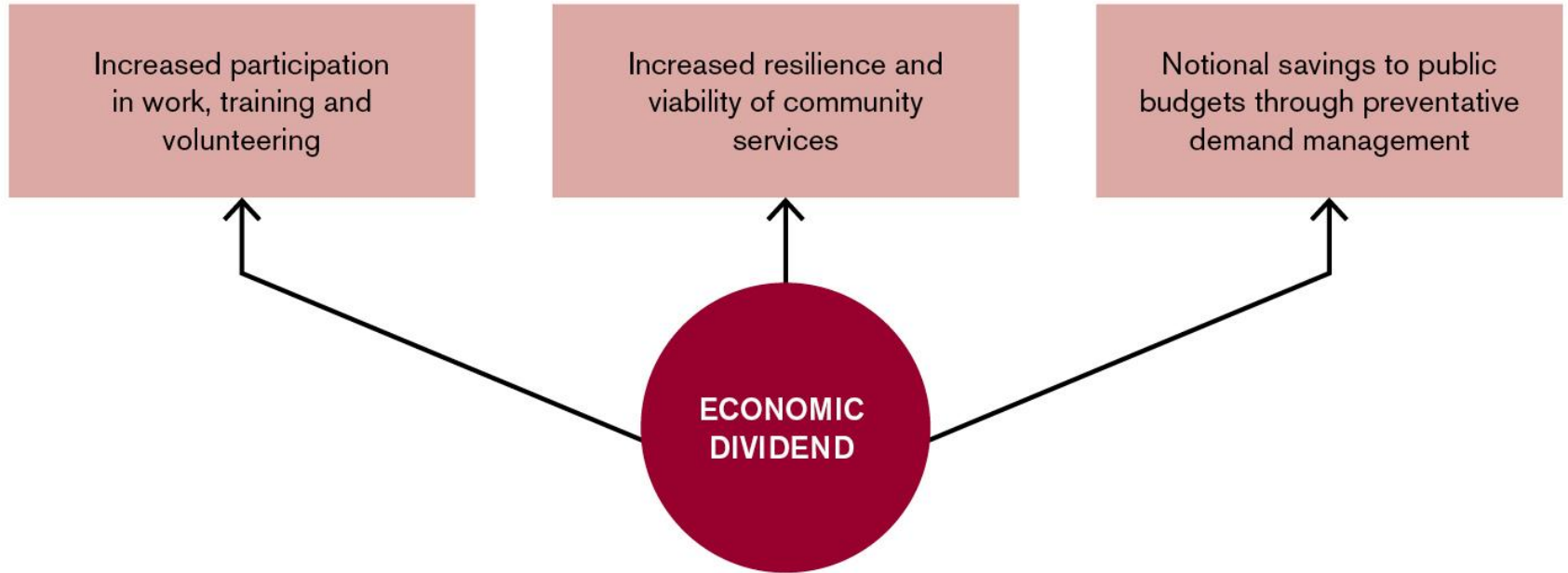
Connected Communities Methodology



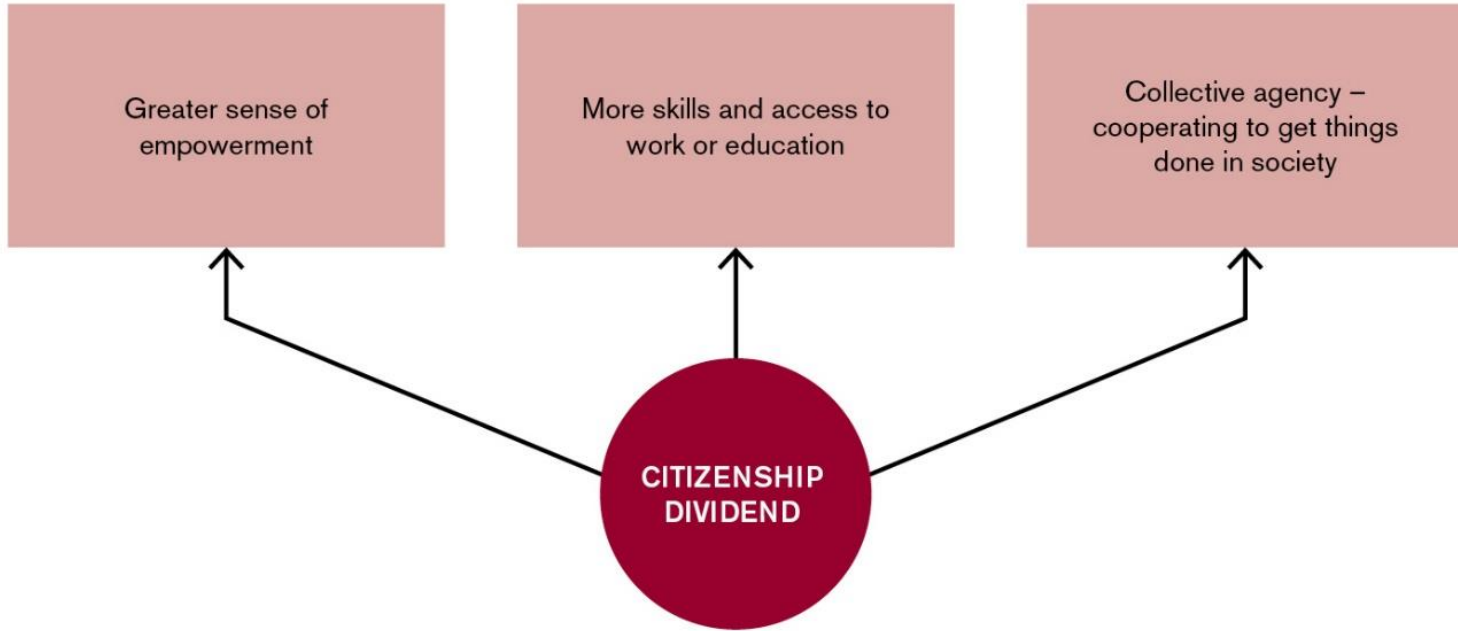
A wellbeing dividend



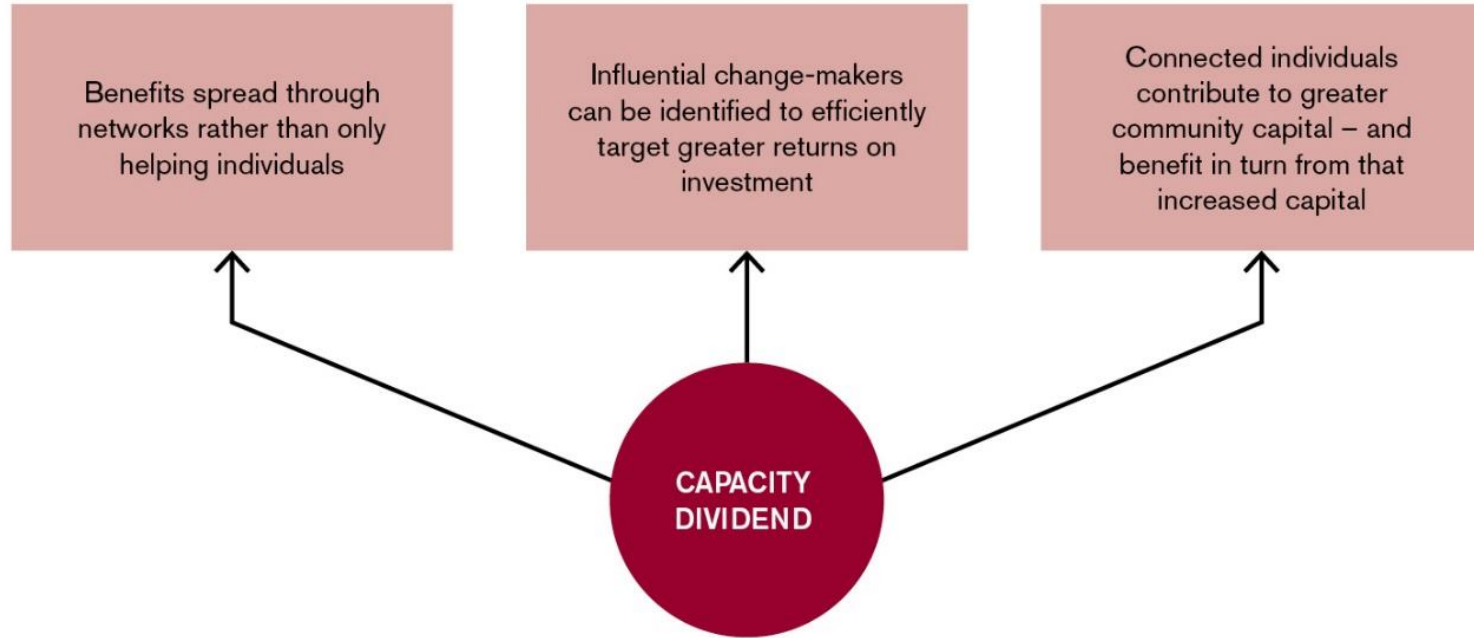
An economic dividend



A citizenship dividend



A capacity dividend



Connected Communities West Cumbria



An overview of West Cumbria

Geographically isolated

Post industrial area with Sellafield being a major employer

Polarised social demography

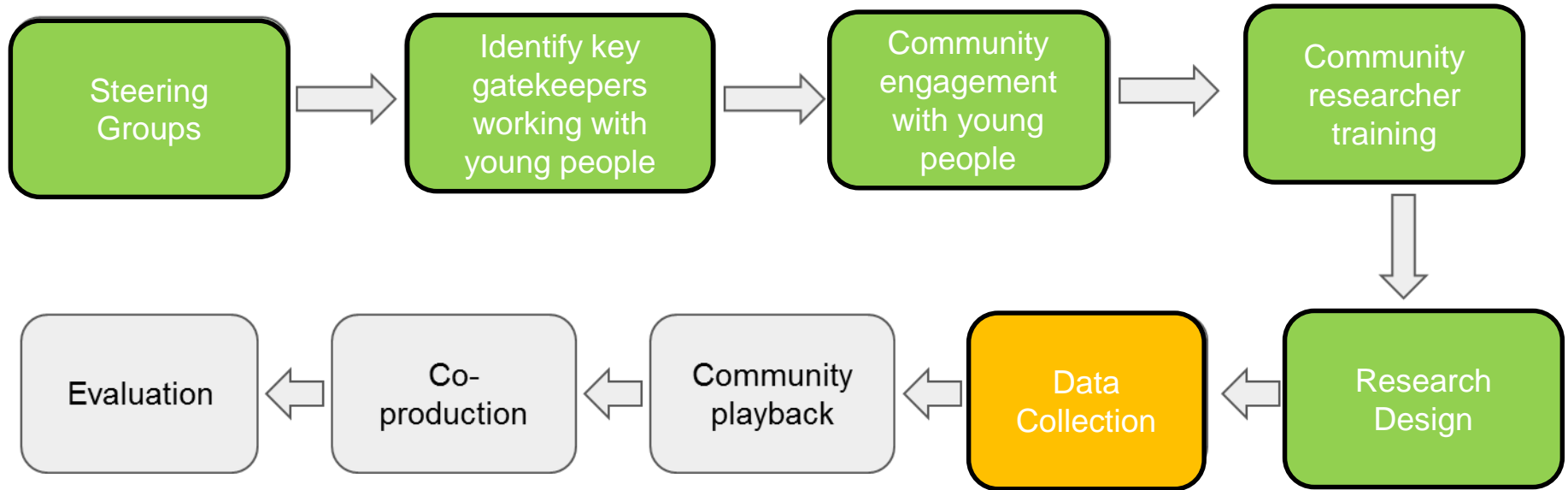
Pockets of very high deprivation

Limited services

Below regional and national averages of educational and employment



Connected Communities Methodology: Application in West Cumbria



INDIVIDUAL IMPACT

Improved well-being: Outcomes star
(Quantitative)

Improved educational performance:
Attainment data and Attendance data
(Quantitative)

Enhanced Community Capital
(Individual Level): Teacher survey
(Mixed), Parent survey (Mixed) Young
person's interviews (Qualitative)

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Enhanced Community Capital (Community Level):

Improved capacity: Outcomes star/ Focus groups/
Interviews (Mixed)

Improved citizenship: Outcomes star/ Focus
groups/ Interviews (Mixed)

Improved well-being: Outcomes star/ Focus groups/
Interviews (Mixed)

POLICY IMPACT

Evidence from councillors: Statements, examples of policies impacted upon by
work (Mixed)

Evidence from presentations at meetings: Photos, statements, frequency of
presentations (Mixed)

Identify key gatekeepers working with young people

Photo of Emma and Mark

Strong partnership working

- Shared values
- Clear roles
- Clear expectations
- Honesty
- Planning and debrief
- Agreed Communications

Community engagement with young people

I'm.....

And this is **my** community









Research Design

- Social network analysis
- Survey administration practice
- Survey content feedback
- Revised survey practice

Data Collection

- Based in community centres
- Took place during Easter holidays, 4 days per community
- Supported by police officers and PCSOs
- Participation rate:
- Response rate:











Mirehouse Community Centre









Next Steps

- Complete data collection
- Data analysis
- Community playback
- Co-production
- Roll out
- Evaluation



Implications

Combined, these strands of research aim to compare and contrast ways of partnership working in projects aiming to promote **youth citizenship**, informing future research, policy and practice.

Results will complement existing research on the role of different **gatekeepers** in engaging and researching with less traditional sample populations.

Findings can add to the current literature on **participant led research** with young people, providing case studies publishable in peer reviewed journals.

Best practice can be developed and incorporated on a local and national level though **overcoming social challenges** and promoting **citizenship and engagement**.



Thank you for your time. Any questions?

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