

community development

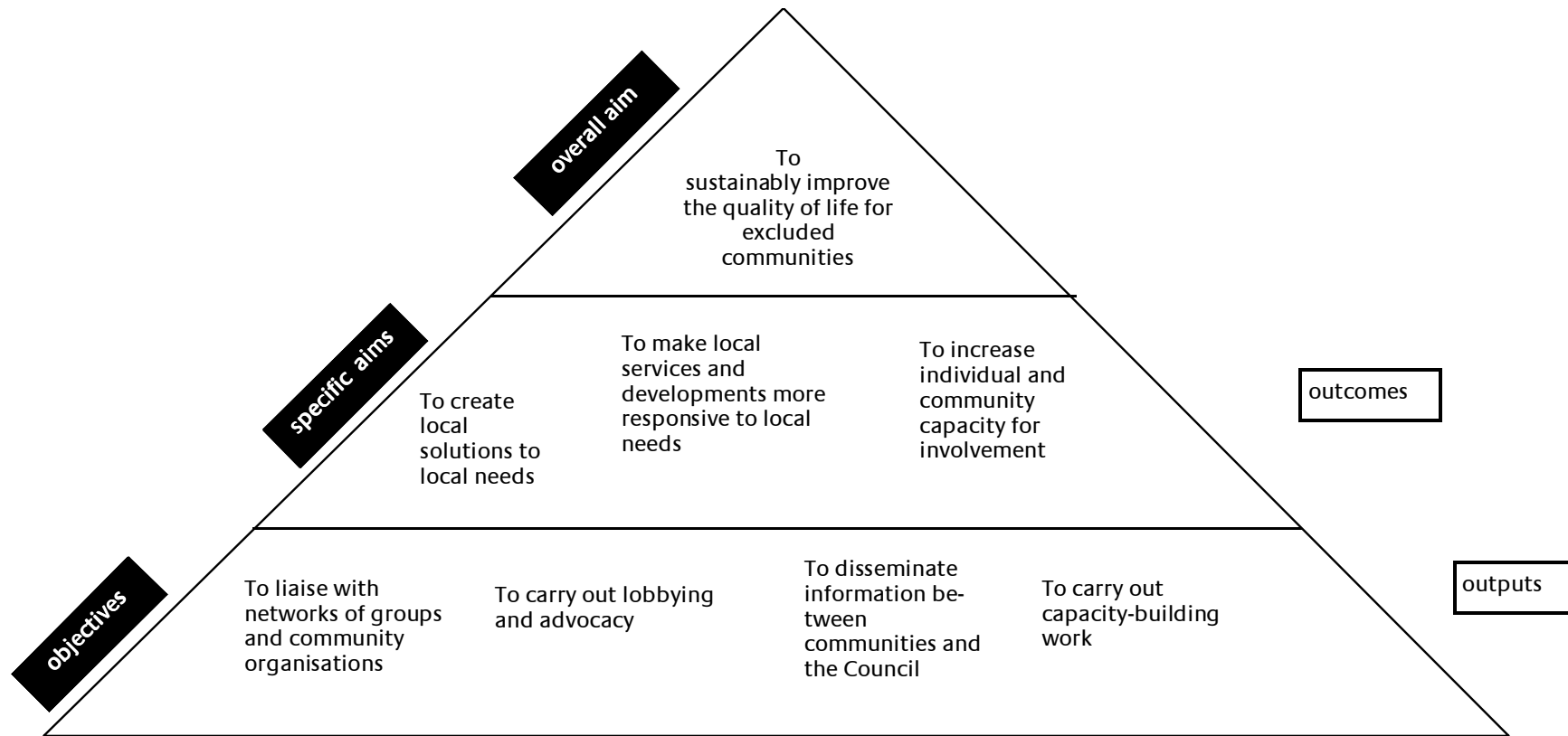
Working across a number of Neighbourhood Renewal priority areas, a dedicated team of community development workers are involved in a wide range of actions and activities to create, nurture and support community involvement and development. A monitoring and evaluation framework has been helpful in making their aims and outcomes explicit.

The community development workers' clear target group is excluded communities – whether excluded by race, gender, age, geography or poverty. The overall aim is very broad – to improve quality of life and to do so sustainably. One of the issues in identifying specific aims and desired outcomes was to identify those changes within their remit and possibilities and to seek relevant indicators. Also, they wanted a good range of outcomes.

The community development workers identified the need to increase the capacity of both individuals and existing community groups to take action on behalf of the community. They also identified the need to ensure meaningful involvement in local partnerships and forums. This meant making those partnerships accessible and providing community members with training as needed. They also worked with local service providers to make them more receptive to local needs.

The work itself was rich, varied and responsive to opportunities locally. It included liaison, organising meetings, lobbying the Council, supporting individuals, building the capacity of local groups and networks, disseminating information and working on partnership panels.

community development using the CES Planning triangle



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Outcomes

Specific aims	Outcomes
To create local solutions to local needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Needs of the community identified by community members• New projects emerging from community meetings
To make local services and developments more responsive to local needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service providers adapt services to meet needs identified• Existing (statutory) service providers more aware of and responsive to the needs of the community
To increase individual and community capacity for involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased knowledge of decision-making structures and processes• Individuals more able to act on behalf of the community• Stronger community groups• Meaningful involvement of communities in local forums and partnerships

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Outcomes and indicators

Outcomes	Indicators
New projects emerging from community meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of new projects suggested• Number of new projects taken up• Types of new projects taken up
Individuals more able to act on behalf of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extent of individual involvement in local issues• Levels of individual confidence in advocacy role
Meaningful involvement of communities in local forums and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of community representatives on local forums and partnerships• Extent to which community representatives feel part of decision making

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Objectives, outputs and output indicators

Objectives	Outputs	Indicators
To liaise with networks of groups and community organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Networking events and meetings Joint actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of joint actions Number of meetings attended with other organisations Profile of organisations attending
To carry out lobbying and advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobbying activities Advocacy activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and type of lobbying activities Number and type of advocacy activities Types of issues lobbied or advocated about
To disseminate information between communities and the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information leaflets Briefings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type and amount of leaflets and briefings distributed Number and profile of recipient organizations or Council departments Issues covered
To carry out capacity-building work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training How-to guides One-to-one support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and types of courses run Number and profile of attendees Number and types of guides distributed Amount of one-to-one support offered Who received one-to-one support