Co-Production Works – Making Meetings Work – Video Transcript

Voice over by Pete Fleischmann – Lead Consultant

Co-production can take many different forms. It could be about a piece of research, it could be about changing a particular service, or it could be an overall organisation strategy for change, it depends. But fundamentally, co-production is about group work. Meetings are really an important part of co-production and getting those meetings right is really, really important so that everybody can have a say. Getting your meetings working well, working co-productively, is a real art. That is something that many organisations get wrong and need help with. That is one of the things that we can really help with is making sure that the meetings are really a space where people can share views freely and feel that it's an equal and safe space.

Another thing about co-production is that it should be fun, it should be enjoyable, it's really creative …

[group of people shout: "co-production rocks!"]

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Once everyone's around the table and people are working well together it can be really exhilarating and you just think "Why didn't we do this before?" you know "this is so much fun, it's so rewarding, it's going to really help a lot of people ".

Once you've got a good group working, then things might be surprising. It might be that something you've always thought worked well and that you've been doing for a long time perhaps it can be done completely differently and work even better. Co-production should be spontaneous and a little bit unpredictable, and a little bit uncomfortable but ultimately a really positive experience.

Co-production is really about being inclusive and challenging inequality and supporting people's voices to be heard and valuing everybody's expertise equally. It's incredibly rewarding when co-production's really working well, you can really see a change, and it can be quite dramatic, something really powerful.