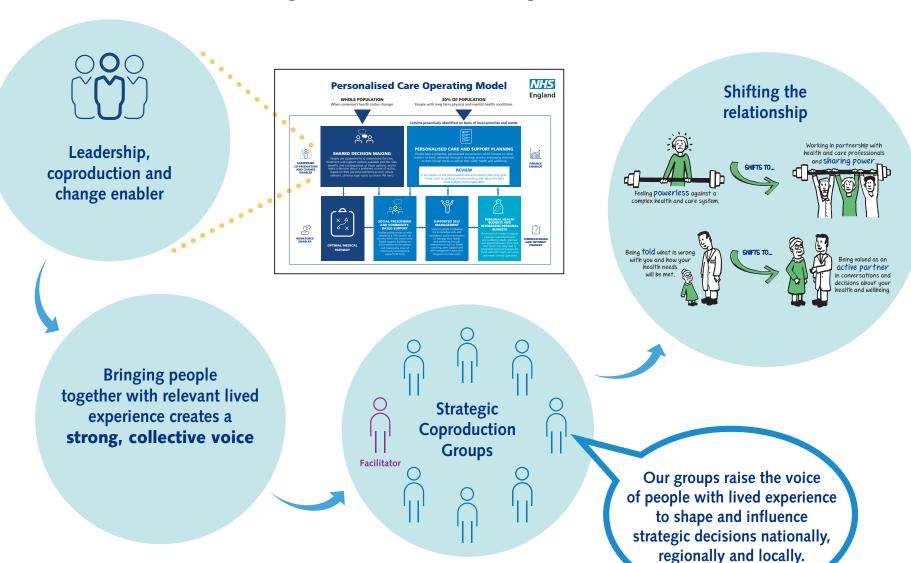
Strategic coproduction enables the shift in relationship at the heart of personalised care



What investment is needed to empower people









Why this approach? It pays attention to:









The role of coproduction groups

When facilitated well, the group:

- Creates a safe space for people with lived experience to find their voice.
- Brings people with relevant lived experience together, to focus on a common purpose.
- Develops a culture of collaborative participation.
- Links effectively to key points of contact in the health and care system.
- Enables individuals to grow and develop their knowledge, skills and confidence to coproduce policy, strategy and good practice.
- Gives a solid foundation for coproduction roles outside the group.



The importance of good facilitation

The facilitator role is not the same as a 'Chair'.

A good facilitator:

- Provides structure for discussion and manages participation to ensure all voices are respectfully heard.
- Enables group members to develop a positive culture and their own solutions and actions.
- Ensures that everyone is engaged, feels safe to contribute and time is well used.
- Maintains a strong sense of purpose that is evolving and responsive.
- Believes in the potential of people with lived experience to become effective 'change agents.'



The impact of power

There is an imbalance of power when people with lived experience are working with a system on which they are reliant.

- The organisation holds the decision making power.
- It can be very scary to challenge the system.
- People can be fearful of negative consequences of speaking up.
- Not everyone has the same information e.g. commissioning budgets.
- Willingness to share power takes time because it relies on building, trusting and reciprocal relationships.



Creating a level playing field

We're all equal as people but we're not equally able to contribute without the necessary knowledge, skills and confidence.

To redress the balance of power, and contribute meaningfully, people need:

- Investment in their development.
- To understand their personal experience within the bigger picture.
- To know the relevant policy.
- To know what is possible, open to change, and what isn't.
- Skills and confidence to engage constructively and collaboratively with decision-makers.



How good decisions are made and how change happens

Good Decisions would:

- Reflect the shift in relationship at the heart of personalised care.
- Be transparent so people understand who has the 'final say.'
- Balance system level priorities with what matters to people.

Change – People with lived experience in a strategic coproduction group have a role that is similar to the role of a 'change agent' in organisational change:

- Like a change agent, people with lived experience rely on 'personal power' which comes from their unique and valuable perspective.
- Personal power flows from people being credible and forming highly effective working relationships.



How to develop a strategic coproduction group











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