

Using a place-based approach and community engagement to seek long term solutions

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London Borough of Wandsworth Council





The Commission

Mission

- Listen
- Identify
- Action

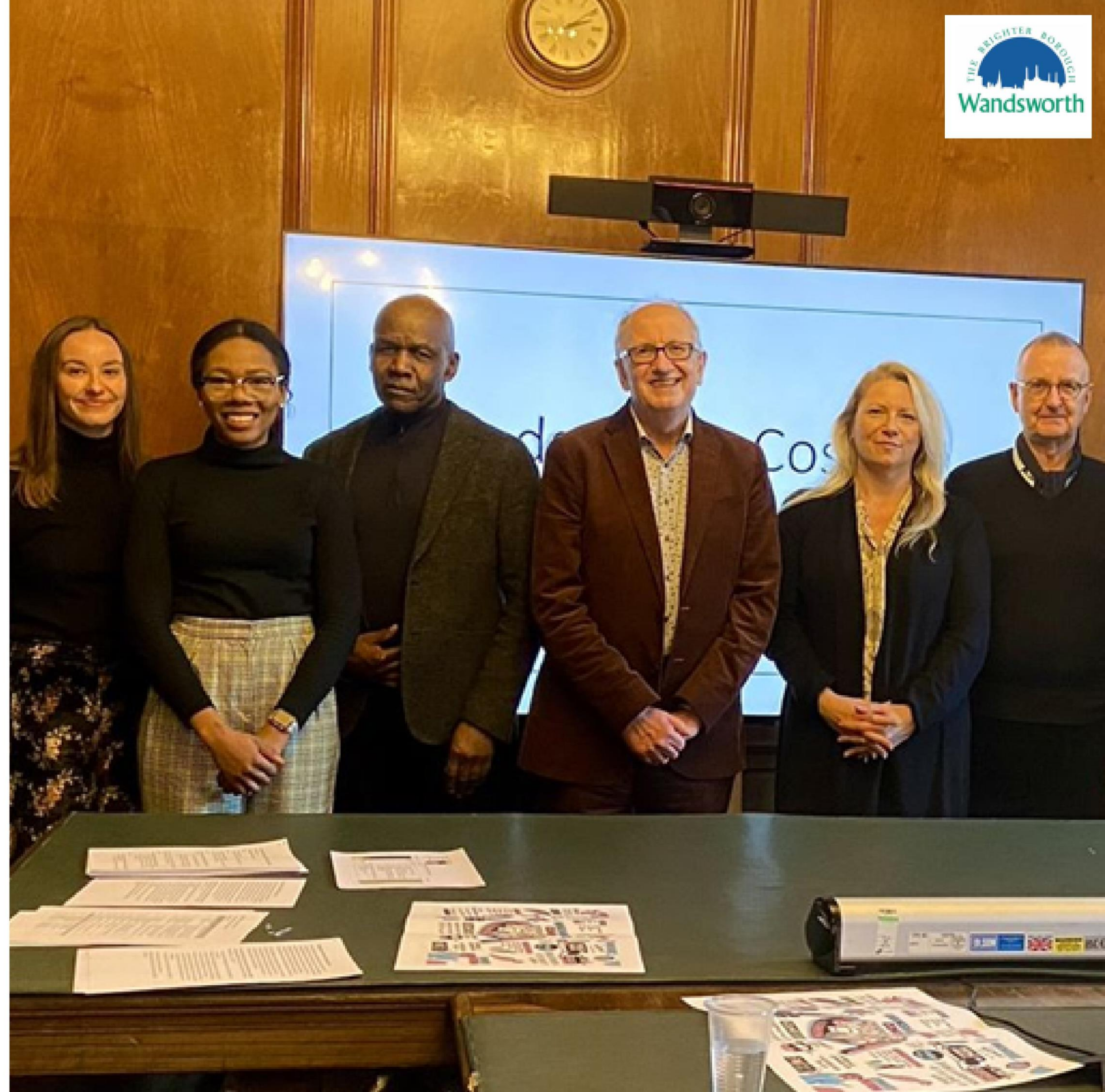


Objectives

- To examine and define the multiple factors
- To review a national and local evidence base
- To engage with local Wandsworth communities using a **place-based** approach
- To consider the whole system drivers and impacts and develop **system-based solutions**
- To develop a series of **long- and medium-term recommendations**
- Where appropriate, to use these recommendations to lobby for change

The Commission

- Independently led
- 15 commissioners
- 2 officers
- 4 themes :
 - Food
 - Housing
 - Fuel
 - Transport





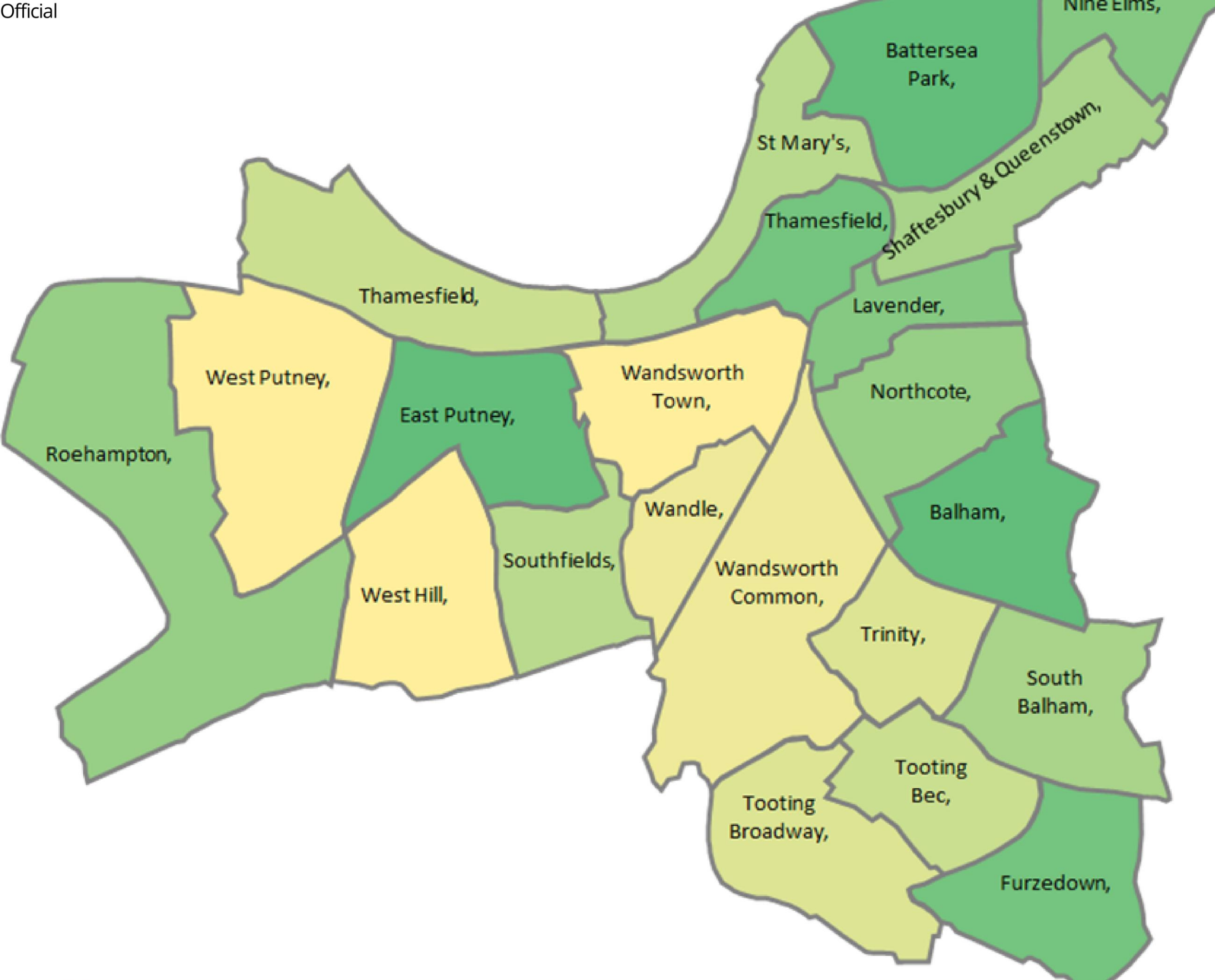
Timeline

- Launched in November 2022
- First Evidence Gathering session December 2022
- Call for Evidence and Community survey March – April 2023
- Focus groups with vulnerable communities : May - June 2023
- Interim report : July 2023
- Final Evidence gathering session September 2023
- Final report and recommendations : November 2023



Using a Place Based approach

The approach



- 1. Community based Evidence Gathering sessions
- 1. Commission meetings
- 1. Call for evidence and community survey
- 1. Focus groups with vulnerable communities
- 1. Attending and participating in community events

Evidence gathering Sessions

- Six main “towns” in the borough
- Invited witness and evidence submissions
- Themed
- Local community representatives and subject matter experts invited
- At halfway stage received evidence from over 40 organisation's (3 evidence gathering sessions)



Call for Evidence

- Key questions :
 - Q1: What are the top three priority actions that would make a difference in the long term?
 - Q2: What solutions to the problem have tried already? How successful have any been? And what explains why things have not worked?
 - Q3: What are the main barriers you see?
 - Q4: Are you aware of any other country /place doing things better?
 - Q5: Looking ahead, how should we measure improvements?
 - Q6: Looking ahead, what system shocks might make matters worse?

Longer term solutions and interventions



Longer term solutions and interventions

- Looking at the issues through a systems lens
- Mapping the Wandsworth system from a community perspective
- Identifying the big system problems and barriers
- Determining common challenges and solutions
- Developing approaches to designing out hardship and poverty
- Grounded in community ideas
- Seeking innovative and ambitious cooperative solutions



Emerging systemic issues

1. Benefit take-up/complexity
2. VCS capacity, burn out & availability of community spaces
3. Joining up services/sharing information
4. Increasing evidence of need
5. The compound impact of cost of living
6. Health (Physical and Mental health issues)
7. Digital exclusion from access to support

Contact

- Webpage : <https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub/cost-of-living-commission/>
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