

# Benefits of Co-shadowing

The people who are developing the Co-Shadowing guide have described the benefits they see. Many of these come from other experiences where people in different roles have got to know each other better.

**“I do believe that relationships and connections are the way forward in terms of understanding and supporting each of the different roles we all carry out.”**

**“When there is a personal connection through shadowing within a community setting, people remember and recognise the wealth of community assets out there and how they can be harnessed, and this is carried through into their working, volunteering and citizenship lives.”**

# Benefits directly from Co-Shadowing



- A greater understanding of the role of each organisation or person in a holistic way
- More understanding of how community resources fit together and what different type of organisation contribute
- Understanding the contribution of services and activities that were not traditionally part of care and support services
- Better understanding of the resources and supports in an area
- Seeing people who use support in a different way and seeing the contribution they make and how they are part of the solution
- Increased confidence in each other
- More opportunities for professional development and people gaining skills and confidence
- Wider benefits as people use the learning
- People have more trust in each other and in their organisations with benefits for longer-term working
- More choice for people using or looking for support
- Collaborative and co-produced working
- More support for people when staff are more confident about making referrals or pointing people to activities in their area
- More ideas and partnerships as people are more confident working together
- Making better use of the overall resources in an area to benefit more people
- More people getting involved in volunteering, and community groups understanding how they can welcome and support a wider range of volunteers
- Encourages / develops capacity building in community itself