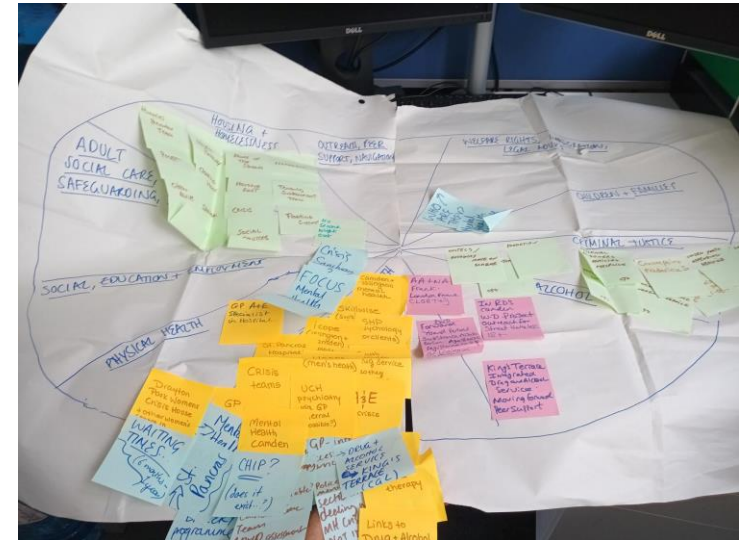
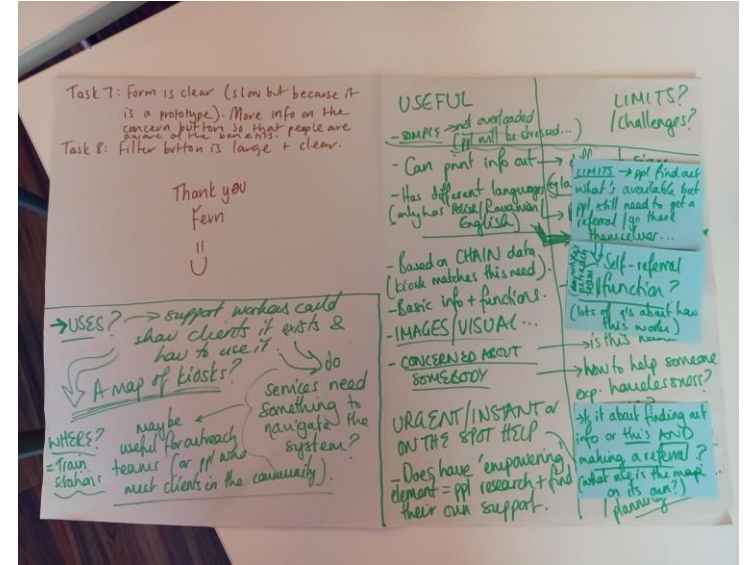
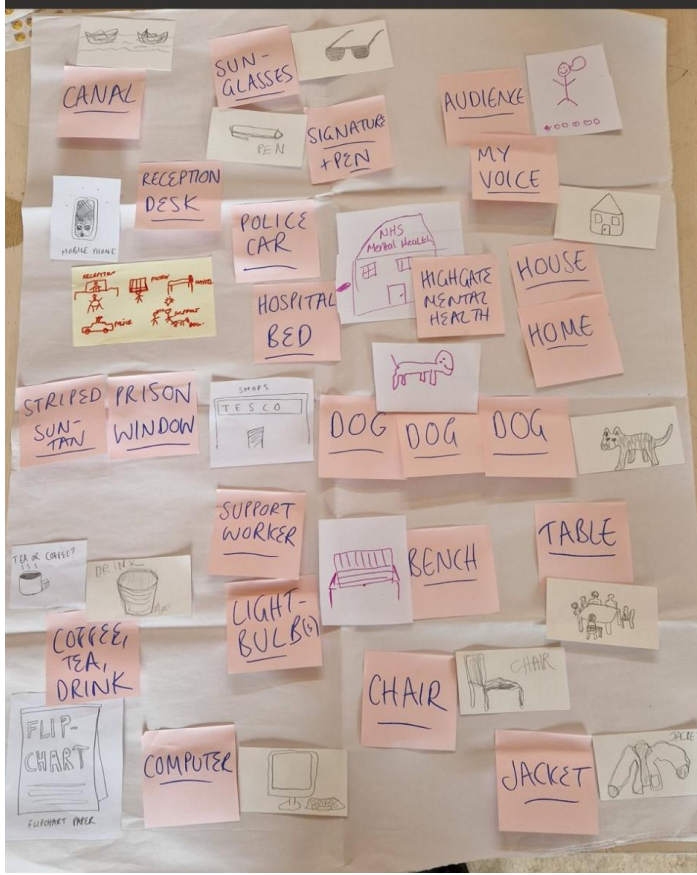
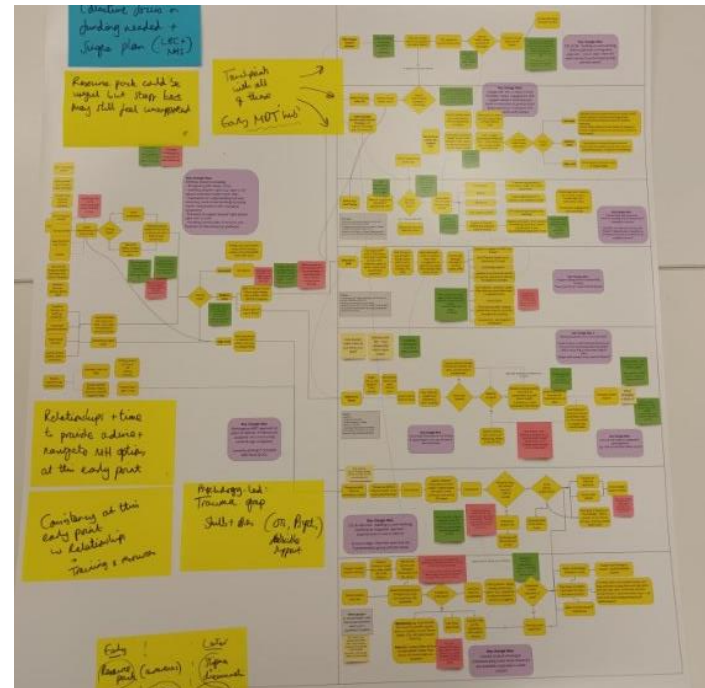
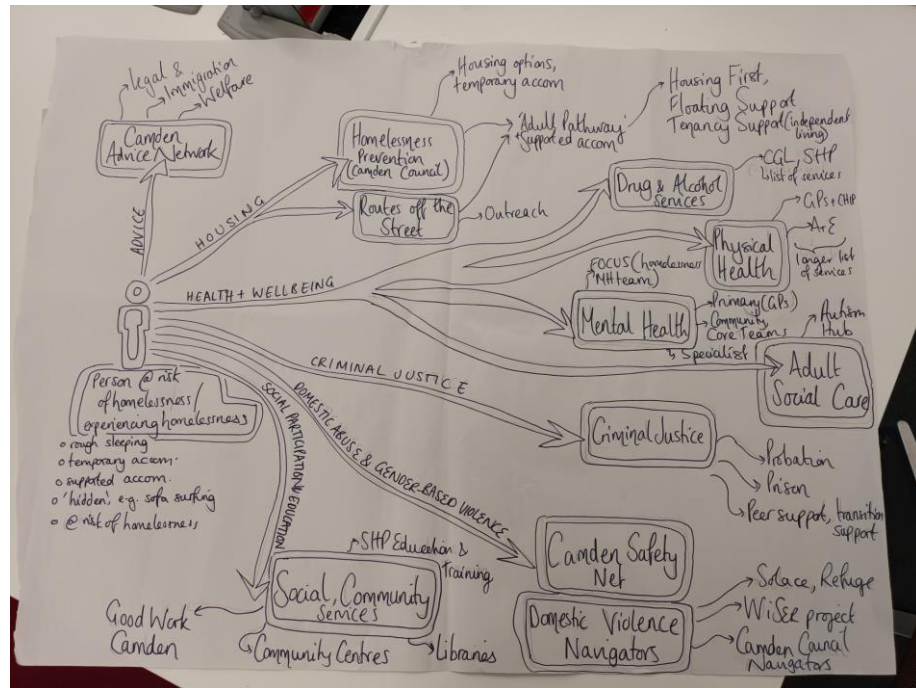


Homelessness System Partnership: Co-Production

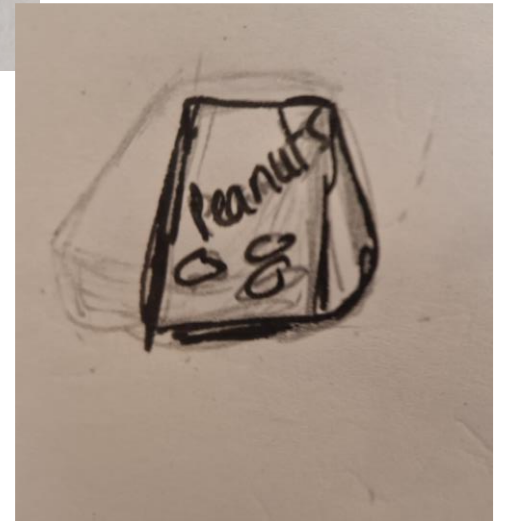
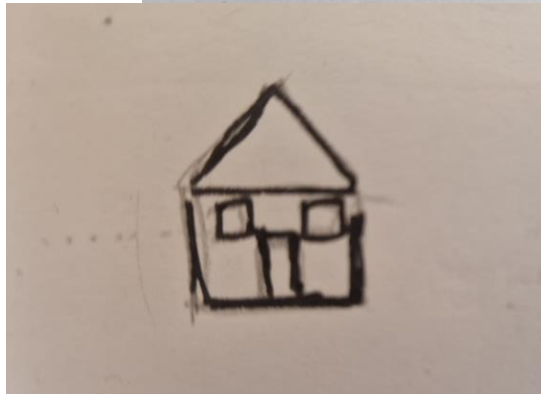
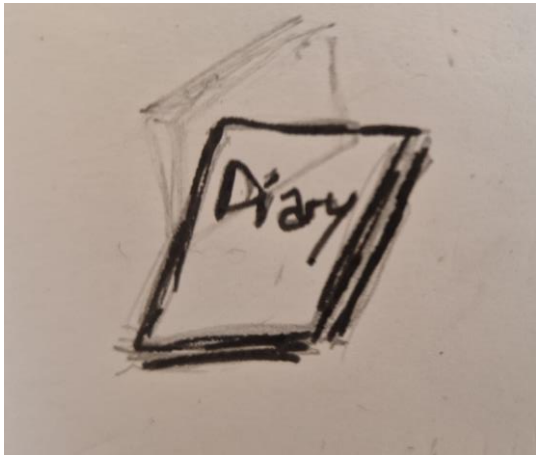
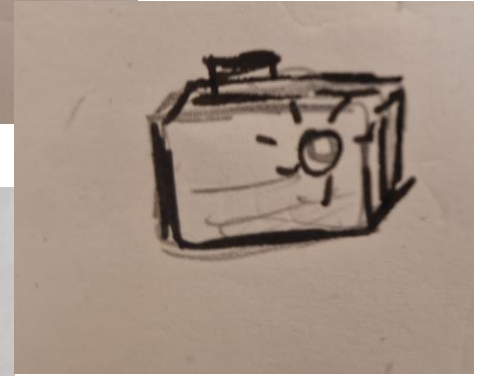
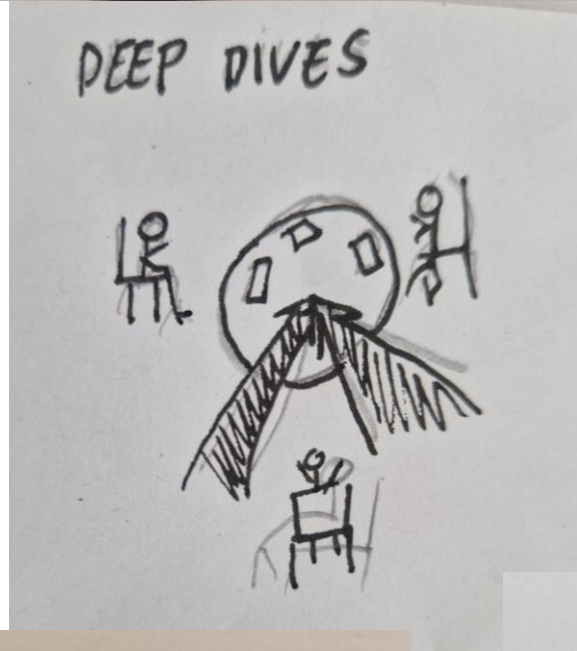
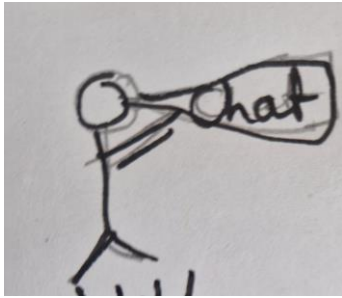
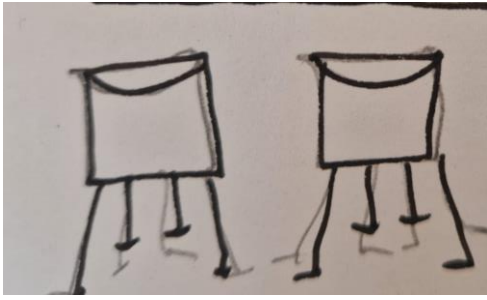
**Health and Wellbeing Board
December 2025**

Examples of our work and what we do in sessions





Images that represent co-production...



**What is it like to be part of the
Homelessness System Partnership?**



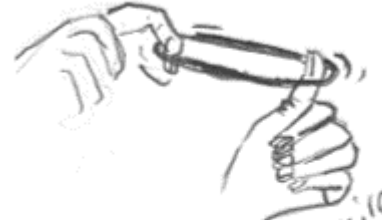
Gaps in the system



Unravelling issues together...



Transformation making sense...



"Change requires growth & discomfort!"



Putting the pieces back together



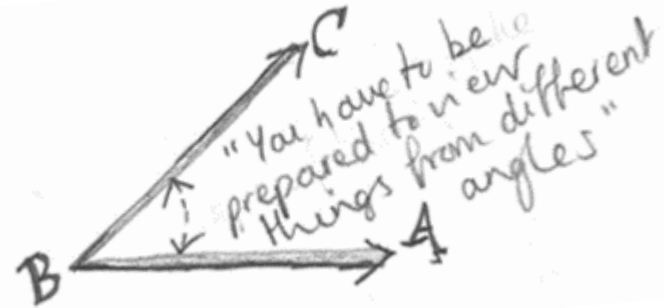
TAM'S



Personal Passport



"Exploring, challenging & finding shared narratives!"



"You have to be prepared to view things from different angles"

**Why did we get involved
and
What has it been like?**

Rob

I got involved because I wanted to find out what it was about and to get me out the house and have a purpose. At the time I was living in a hostel and felt very isolated. I remember at the beginning I felt lost and wondered if I would get it. I was very out of my depth at the time and confused, but I kept going as it gave me a purpose and a chance to be around like-minded people. Gradually over each week and each month it started to make sense to me. It helped me to grow as a person and also helped to make a difference for others, and to have healthy discussions in a group setting.

It has opened up many avenues for me like speaking at events and working with Camden Council.

My advice to you as a new co-producer would be stick at it and you will feel the benefits. Try to enjoy what you're doing. You will be surprised what you do know.

Lawrence

I got involved because it relates to my own recovery. At the beginning I was nervous, unsure and intrigued.

I thought, who am I to be training new staff? What do I know?

What helped was...an acceptance of me and my opinions, and the connections I made and relationships built.

There is an educational part of it. I have learned about commissioning (in the Council), and about the system.

My advice...make sure you enjoy yourself. If it gets stressful take breaks, don't overthink, listen carefully.

Valentina

I got involved because I wanted to use my experience for something good, something that would help others when they get in the same situation.

I remember at the beginning I felt shy, not confident, even not sure if I can do it.

The first meeting was exciting. It was good to meet other people who have a similar idea, goals, vision...

What surprised me about being a co-producer is that I slowly became more open, engaged, and overcame the fear that I am not skilled enough for this. I thought, how am I going to be in a group of people I don't know?

But I really wanted to do it, because otherwise I would regret not getting involved in something that I think is so important.

My advice would be to be yourself, do it with love and compassion, accept differences, understand that we are all learning, growing, and do your best.

Mandy

I got involved when I was being supported by St Mungos and I was offered the opportunity to get involved in a client voice group. I found out I was good at facilitating and had a gift for public speaking which I didn't know was there. Then I became a client at SHP, and I did the peer mentor training and then through that I was told about this co-production opportunity to change the Homelessness System.

The first meeting was I was nervous, and I thought I am out of my depth, because doing this was different to the stuff I'd done previously.

I thought this would be the same, but this is different...it's co-production on steroids. It's more focused. We're focusing on three different projects. I kept going because I didn't want to give up, because I've given up so many times.

If you want to change the system you have to do it from within, but you can only do it one bite of the cherry at a time. I learned this through working with and listening to 'professionals' and hearing them say they don't know why things are the way they are. But it was encouraging to learn that they also felt it needed to change.

A challenge has been testing out new tools and ideas, and speaking to people who are going through homelessness to get their feedback. Hearing their stories was very hard because I really wanted to hug them there and then, but we were there to listen to their feedback and improve our ideas. You do have to protect yourself in this work.

I believe change can happen, and if we aren't involved in trying then things won't change.

There are professionals working who haven't been through what we've been through making decisions, so we need to be there to make sure we put people going through the system at the forefront, to make sure change is done right.

My advice would be feel your way through it, always protect your mental health and wellbeing. Getting out of your comfort zone is a good thing, but you do need to know your limits...and don't take on too much!

Michael

I got involved because my time as a client at SHP was coming to an end. I was in a good and stable place, and an opportunity came up through some of the staff members who told me there was a project where you'll be able to use your lived experience to help other people. I had an initial meeting and from there I decided to join a couple of sessions to see if I wanted to get involved. I was curious but also slightly apprehensive. I wondered what the other people would be like and if I would relate to them. I wondered if I'd be understood and would I be able to have my say. You do wonder these things when you've been through the system.

Being involved has made me look at public services differently and how difficult it is to try and implement change, and the hoops you have to jump through. It can be hard when you think the system should change for the benefit of people needing help, but the system is resistant or there are requirements and legislation that are hard to change. This can make the system seem rigid. I was frustrated by this, but it was refreshing in some ways to understand things more clearly, rather than blurry and in my own little world.

I do think that change happens by making the system question itself and take a very honest look at itself.

Practicing patience and tolerance has been a learning curve. Learning that things do take time, things do stall. I've also learned how much I value patience and tolerance. I've learned how it doesn't help to get agitated by things that don't go to plan, or things get cancelled.

I've surprised myself just how much my life experience, my journey with my mental health, my family, has been relatable in bringing about change in the homelessness system. I've realised how my experiences can bring a humanity, kindness and softness to what we're trying to do.

My advice would be to engage with this at a steady pace. Allow yourself to get comfortable. Don't feel like you have to commit. Dip your toe in and see if you enjoy it. Look after yourself first! Don't feel like just because you've said you'd like to be involved that you have to commit to it. Definitely don't dismiss your life experiences because you'll be surprised just how valuable they can be!