



STAFFS CAN

11th July 2023



What we focused on at Staffs CAN on the 11th June 2023

Reflections and plans for Staffs CAN in the next 12 months.

How communities can make a difference through Staffs CAN

The vision for Staffs CAN by 2030



Staffs CAN Review

At Staffs CAN in June 2023, discussions revolved around the future of the group. This included what it should aim to achieve in the next seven years and what actions can be taken to achieve these.

The first part of the event focussed on the things that Staffs CAN will launch and run in the next 12 months leading up until June 2024. These include:



Growing Staffs CAN

Build further networks, more representation from community members, and aim to have at least 30 people attending each CAN.



Establishing Staffs CAN subgroups

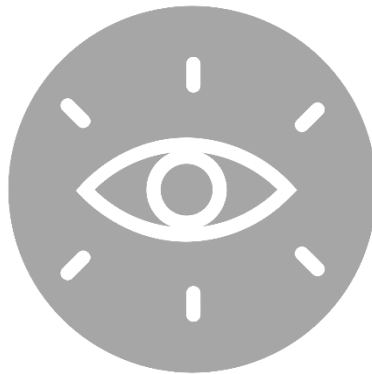
Initially starting with a Cost-of-Living action group and moving towards other areas of community and research interest. The hope is that this can extend into other areas over time e.g., Funding and Fundraising, Health and wellbeing etc.





The Staffordshire University Engagement Programme

We are exploring opportunities to provide local neighbourhoods in Stoke-on-Trent with a range of activities.



Increasing the visibility of Staffs CAN

Make Staffs CAN a place for people to come if they want to be part of something that can work towards beneficial action in the local area. This is for community members, organisations and decision-makers.



Thinking about the future

We wanted to look far before we look closely. In this part of Staffs CAN, people were asked what they thought Staffs CAN should aim to achieve by 2030. They did this by creating a newspaper front page from June 2030 and outlining what Staffs CAN has done in the last seven years.



The information from these Newspapers has been used to outline the desired outcomes by 2030.



By 2030 Staffs CAN have...



Developed its connections and networks.

- A Network of trust for all members and commitment from members to the operations of CAN
- Increase the membership of CAN
- Equal opportunities for all
- Representation from across communities
- Key county 'players' are connected and working with each other.



Supported Community Organisations and Charities to source funding and increase fundraising.

- Networking events to building funding collaborations.
- Conferences/ Celebration events to show what has been achieved with community funding partnerships etc.
- Development of a lobbying group for funding for groups/city/council
- Funding is embedded directly into the CAN.





Increased opportunities for the people of Staffordshire.

- Upskilling opportunities
- Mentoring opportunities
- Increase opportunities for talents related to arts, music, and culture from across different communities
- Raise Aspirations through increased opportunities in Staffordshire
- A focus on equality and equity



Created research that is community beneficial

- Connect Research at the University with the community.
- Learning from research is shared throughout the county.
- Develop more research collaborations.
- Identify community needs/wants and develop sustainable local projects from this.





Established a resource bank for community members and organisations.

- A central bank of community resources that are available for community use.
- Information in an accessible format- easy to read, audio described etc.
- Collection of knowledge, promises, people, funding pots and funding support
- Asset focussed- Work with local assets to develop strength in place (people and buildings).



Actions that need to be taken to get to desired goals in 2030



Increase the presence of CAN

- Creating events for sharing and motivating people
- Staffs CAN social media pages
- Staffs CAN be physically out in the community --> Big Conversations
- Cover all areas of Staffordshire, not just Stoke
- Create a record of the work done by Staffs CAN --> Celebration events
- Increase the visibility of the network

Develop-Sub groups

- Establish and run subgroups
- Subgroups to plan and arrange celebration events

Develop more volunteering opportunities

- Get more businesses to use their corporate volunteering hours
- Uni students involved in communities (volunteering)



Develop CAN Networks

- Establish 'Community Connector' roles.
- Create a snapshot of the good work going on in the community--> Community Spotlight
- Set up a forum to share projects/ fundraising ideas to ask for partners + help where needed.
- Diversify the CAN group to represent each community + identify needs.

New Networks and Streams for Funding

- University forges stronger links with top employers
- More funding to combat lack of funding.
- Set up a forum to share projects/ fundraising ideas to ask for partners + help where needed.

Research Focussed Actions

- Scope existing resources + research
- Get going with the sub-groups.

Actions to develop a Community Resource Bank

- Refurbish/reuse existing spaces.
- Compile a list of resources- people, places, knowledge, kept updated and shared.
- Scope existing resources + research
- Identify communities across the county to help create the resource bank.

