

## SUII Workshop

*From competition to collaboration: The interface between informal and formal carers*

Glasgow, 2-3 October 2023

### Preparatory briefing

Dear colleagues,

Thanks a million for confirming your participation in our knowledge exchange project, we very much look forward to welcoming you all at Strathclyde!

This project is organised in close collaboration with Eurocarers, the University of Strathclyde and the University of Dundee. It is funded by the Scottish Universities Insight Institute and Scotland Europa. The project is focused on the factors that could help promote collaboration rather than competition between informal and formal carers.

### The Approach

As **collaboration** is a central theme of our work, we want to ensure a participatory and democratic approach. We will therefore use the *Community of Enquiry* framework to guide our conversation. At its heart is the creation and exploration of **conceptual questions** in response to a stimulus.

We will hear from colleagues from Europe about research/experience from their country around the interface between formal and informal carers. After having heard each country's presentations, small table groups will be asked to discuss and explore some of the concepts that have been shared, focus on which concepts seem most significant to them and then collectively create a **conceptual question** that they think will be worthy of exploration with the wider group of workshop participants.

There are four criteria to guide the development of a good question for a Community of Enquiry:

- **Common** – a question that is relevant to everyone who is attending the workshop;
- **Central** – a question that is important and worthy of discussion;
- **Connected** – a question that participants can relate to their experiences;
- **Contestable** – a question that enables people to express differences of opinion.

Once each small table group has devised their question, they will be invited to share their question with the wider group and explain how they came up with it and why they think it merits discussion. After all of the questions have been shared, we will hold a democratic vote on which question to focus on for a wider group discussion.

## Meeting venue

Our meeting will take place at the Scottish Universities Insight Institute (Collins Building 22 Richmond Street Glasgow G1 1XQ), which is located on the University of Strathclyde campus.

## Our website

Our website contains just a basic outline so far. We will add to this after the October workshop.

<https://www.scottishinsight.ac.uk/Programmes/ScotlandinEurope/CollaborationinCare.aspx>

## Twitter

We will tweet from our Twitter Account @StrathSWSPKE in the lead up, during and after the event. We will use the hashtag #collab4carers

We would very much appreciate it if you would consider engaging with social media during the event and would ask the following:

Firstly, why not give us a follow! You might also want to follow some of our partners:

Emma Miller: @personaloutcom1

Kalia Kaparounaki @kkalia19

Jackie Gulland @JackieGulland

Gillian MacIntyre @GMacIntyre293

Coalition for Carers in Scotland (COCIS) @CarersCoalition

On the way to the event, you might want to post and let us know how your journey is going.

Why not post and tell us how you feel about the event – what are your expectations? What do you want to achieve? What do you hope to get out of it?

We also encourage you to post throughout the event when something catches your attention that you think is worth sharing.

After the event don't forget to post your reflections – what did you enjoy and what was your main takeaway message?

Remember to use our hashtag #collab4carers in all your posts!

Thank you!

### Sharing delegate information at the workshop

We are planning to share basic registration information i.e. names, roles and email addresses amongst delegates on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> October for networking purposes. If you do not wish your details to be included please let us know in advance.

### Future dates

December 4<sup>th</sup> 1pm to 3.30pm online workshop with a focus on unpaid carers

February 15<sup>th</sup> 1pm to 3.30pm online workshop with a focus on paid carers

April 25<sup>th</sup> all day and 26<sup>th</sup> am face to face workshop (with hybrid component) with a focus on policy

**If you have any questions or need more information please contact Emma Miller ([e.miller@strath.ac.uk](mailto:e.miller@strath.ac.uk)) or Kalia Kaparounaki ([KKaparounaki002@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:KKaparounaki002@dundee.ac.uk)).**

**Scottish Universities Insight Institute**  
**Collins Building 22 Richmond Street Glasgow G1 1XQ**

**Agenda**

**DAY 1 – Monday 2 October 2023**

- 9.30 Arrival and refreshments
- 10.00 Welcome and framing of the project
- 10.15 Setting scene - short 3-minute presentations from each country
- 11.00 Discussion
- 11.30 Refreshment break
- 11.45 Introduction to DEEP method – Community of Enquiry
- 12.00 Stimulus for table discussions
- 12.15 Table discussions – each table to come up with a conceptual question
- 12.45 Lunch and networking
- 13.30 Question airing from each table (5 mins each)
- 14.15 Question selection using Mentimeter
- 14.30 Full group exploratory talk around chosen question
- 15.15 Last words
- 15.45 Summing up
- 16.15 Close

**DAY 2 – Tuesday 3 October 2023**

- 9.30 Arrival and refreshments
- 10.00 Welcome, recap of day one and intro to day two
- 10.15 Groupwork
- 11.15 Refreshment break
- 11.30 Groupwork
- 12.15 Plenary and conclusion
- 13.00 Lunch

### DEEP 'In a nutshell' series - The Community of Enquiry by Dr Sue Lyle

A Community of Enquiry (COE) is a powerful tool for generating collective thinking and ideas among groups of between 10-24 people as they enquire into a question they have chosen themselves. A group of people who may or may not know each other come together for the purpose of engaging in enquiry into a question that the community formulates and agrees on. The facilitator chooses a stimulus designed to provoke thinking on an issue of key importance to the group.

A safe space is created for the enquiry and trust established among participants by an experienced facilitator. Participants and facilitators sit in a circle without tables for the enquiry. The way participants speak and listen to each other during the enquiry is agreed by participants before the enquiry begins. The focus is on respectful and equitable procedures to ensure all voices are able to speak and be listened to. Difference is to be valued and alternative interpretations welcomed. The aim is not to seek consensus; plurality of meanings is expected. Participants are assured there are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers to the question they select for enquiry.

COE are designed to generate the 4Cs of thinking: Critical; Creative; Collaborative Caring. Critical thinking requires the use of reason and argument, creative thinking promotes the generation of new ideas; collaborative thinking exemplifies thinking together whilst caring thinking encapsulates both respectful ways of behaving and caring about the quality of the thinking that goes on (Golding 2015). Participants are encouraged to build collaboratively on what each other say by using, "I agree" or "I disagree with ... when s/he says ... because..." Disagreement is the engine of dialogue, but the focus is on disagreeing with each other's ideas and thinking, not the person themselves.

Agreeing or disagreeing indicates caring listening and "because" indicates caring about the quality of your own thinking as you are prepared to give reasons for your views.

A successful COE depends on appropriate facilitation. The facilitator's role is to facilitate and ensure participants define concepts clearly and engage in reasoning to examine their ideas. Each participant is encouraged to formulate and defend their own points of view, aided by the facilitator who is concerned to help them. Facilitators encourage participants to build criteria to support their views that are consistent. The knowledge created by the community in dialogic enquiry of this kind is greater than that of any one individual in the group.

#### **The process of the Community of Enquiry**

The 10-step process is a powerful, tried and tested procedure and, depending on number of participants and previous experience of the COE, will take an hour and a half to complete as follows:

- 1) Presentation of stimulus chosen by facilitator – this can be a story, a quotation, a short film, a critical incident, a mission statement, a dilemma, a research finding etc.
- 2) Thinking Time (private reflection without talking by participants with an opportunity to make notes)
- 3) Conversation (sharing ideas, creating an agenda for enquiry in pairs)
- 4) Question-Making (groups of 3-4 people generate one question)
- 5) Question-Airing – each group presents their question to the community
- 6) Question-Choosing – a democratic vote on which question will be the chosen for enquiry
- 7) First thoughts – those whose question is chosen start the enquiry
- 8) Building: enquiring into and testing suggestions – dialogue facilitated by facilitator.
- 9) Last thoughts (summary; content or process review)
- 10) Review of outcomes of the enquiry and further action.

The process is powerful – it prioritises respect for each other and focuses on positive human relationships to create an ethical space to ensure all voices are accessed and legitimated.

**Further information:** <https://www.iriss.org.uk/resources/tools/community-enquiry>