

Planning Community Projects toolkit

Craft in the community can be hugely powerful. This toolkit provides some useful resources to help set up successful projects that can make a difference. The approach used is that of co-creation, listening to everyone and working collaboratively together to develop new ideas and activities.

Tool #2 **Controlometer**

Co-creation always involves sharing control; this simple exercise helps to you explore your, and your organisations' willingness to give up control across all or part of a co-creation process. Learning to share is hard and being self aware in this regard will help you be a better co-creation partner.

This tool is used to generate understanding about your, and your organisations' attitudes to sharing control. It should be completed as a group.

Controlometer

1. The task is simply to position yourself/your project/your organisation along the spectrum. Depending on your context, individual, organisational or project points of view are all of interest. If time allows, all 3 can be covered in sequential rounds using different colour markers or sticky notes.
 - The first individual round, starts from a general feeling, an idea of personal values, culture or working style. Each individual should mark themselves at a point along the line. Is the team aligned in terms of relationship to control?
 - A second round, considering your organisation (if relevant) might bring up questions of processes or decision making, skills or appetite for risk.

- The third and final round should consider the project itself. Perhaps there are specific requirements or needs presented by the context, your funding, the nature of the challenge or your community.
2. This exercise will reveal affinities and tensions, whether it's a firm commitment to radical co-creation, or an organisation whose systems and processes prevent it. The insights gained should help you plan for success.

Pro: Your complete control secures the benefits of this project.

Pro: Everyone involved is given a voice and represented in the process.



Complete control

Radical co-creation

Con: The benefits are limited as you've failed to engage and involve people.

Con: You've abdicated your responsibility and exploited people to do the work for you.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Worksheets developed by From Now On in collaboration with the Crafts Council following the Co-creation in Makerspaces event series, 2018-20.



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The Crafts Council is the country's foremost authority on contemporary craft in all its forms. Founded in 1971, its role as guardian and champion of national craft practice has evolved to include exploring and enabling new possibilities, making methods and technologies. Its work is made possible by the support of trusts and foundations, individual patrons, and corporate sponsors, and through public funding by Arts Council England.

www.craftscouncil.org.uk

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