**Action Research**

The following sets out ‘how to do’ the Action Research proposal previously considered by the Community & Belonging Forum and attached here (Appendix 1) as a reminder!

**Part 1: Observations**

People working on the front line will be asked to collect information about the people they meet and engage with.

Completed after a visit – from your observations and interactions how would you describe X’s:

* Gender (M/F)
* Ethnicity (White/Non-White)
* Age (16-24, 25-44, 45-64, over 65)
* Marital Status (Married, Single, in a Partnership)
* Employment Status (Employed, Unemployed, Retired)
* Owner, Renter?

Describe the circumstances of the person/people that you met:

* Where do they live?
* How long have they lived there?
* What are their concerns?
* How are they managing?
* What are their priorities?
* What might help?
* Are they aware of other support on offer?

**Part 2: Personal Statement**

BLSW11 and its many Partners are keen to hear from local people about their concerns and hopes for the future, so that we can respond, either by funding local initiatives, or by influencing policy makers to do more.

Your Personal Statement will be treated in total confidence and the information provided will always be treated as anonymous.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Address: |  |
| Post Code: |  |
| Telephone: |  |
| Email: |  |

 **About You**

* 1. What is your age?
	2. Gender (Male/Female/Other)
	3. Married/Single/Partnership
	4. Children (How many and ages)?
	5. Ethnicity (White British, White Other, Black, Asian)
	6. Employment Status (Working, Unemployed, Retired)
	7. Education (GCSE, Degree, Post-graduate)
	8. Religion (Christian, Islam, Judaism, Buddhist, Hindi, None)
1. **About your circumstances**
	1. Do you feel part of your community? Y/N
	2. Do you ever feel anxious (Never, Sometimes, Regularly, A Lot)
	3. Do you ever feel depressed (Never, Sometimes, Regularly, A Lot)
	4. Do you ever feel lonely (Never, Sometimes, Regularly, A Lot)
	5. How many close friends do you have? (None, A Few, Many)
2. **What can be done?**
	1. Would you like to talk with someone about your circumstances?
	2. Do you need specific support? (If so, say what for)
	3. Would you like to get involved in your community?

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Collected by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3: Survey of Organisations on Loneliness, Isolation, Anxiety and Depression**

An online survey of organisations (including those that were involved in our Intergenerational Scoping work) to collect and collate information about their approach to, work with, or concerns about loneliness, isolation, anxiety and depression.

Through this to identify common themes and issues and potential Partners in developing a more strategic approach.

**Recommendation**

That the CBF commissions the Action Research project for £5,000 and seeks to match fund this from the Alliance.

**Appendix 1 Action Research Proposal**

**Proposal for participatory research- isolation, loneliness, anxiety and depression**

1. **Context**

1.1 Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic a range of local organisations, some supported through the BLSW11 Alliance Covid-19 Community Support Fund, have been developing extensive community outreach programmes. These have ranged from delivering food supplies; setting up support service via telephone, internet and other mediums of connection– to support some of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

* 1. Examples include (but are not limited to) Kambala Care, Waste-Not-Want-Not, JCT Management ltd, Age UK, Falcon Estate Residents Association; Battersea Covid-19 Mutual Aid; Coronavirus Angels, the Muslim Cultural and Education Centre; Sentalk; Ethelburga Community Residents Association – and many more.
	2. Notable local community organisations and churches have also mobilised volunteers in response to Covid-19 (KLS, St Peter’s, St Mary’s; Providence House, Carney’s Community, Caius House; Share).
	3. At the same time new networks have been established (Digital Exclusion, Community & Belonging) and established ones (Wandsworth Care Alliance; Wandsworth Older People’s Forum) have developed new ways of working (online).
	4. This extraordinary positive community response to Covid-19 has mobilised hundreds of new volunteers and created many examples of partnership working without systematic coordination and the sharing of locally collected data/intelligence.
	5. Through research and a series of Battersea Together events from 2016 to2019, Isolation, Loneliness and Poor Mental Health and Wellbeing (Anxiety & Depression) were identified as the three most pressing concerns of communities in Battersea. As such, tackling these issues is the main aim of the Community and Belonging Forum
	6. We already have an idea about the extent of these challenges but we currently lack details about specific factors driving these challenges and therefore solutions to overcome them.
	7. In 2019 BLSW11 Commissioned research into intergenerational activities in our area, which also explored the challenges of isolation and loneliness in broad terms.
	8. The CBF would like to work with various organisations to collect and analyse data and insights about these challenges, some of the specific factors driving them, and some solutions to overcome them.
	9. The results of this research would be used to inform and guide the development of future projects/programmes to address these issues.
1. **Approach**

2.1. The CBF will take a participatory approach to the research and will invite organisations working with Battersea communities to submit their interest in participating in the research.

The methodology of the research will be agreed in consultation with all organisations participating in the research.

The organisations participating will be supported to ensure that the research is underpinned by standard ethical principles and fully compliant with GDPR and safeguarding provisions.

All tools for data collection and analysis will be developed by CBF in consultation with the participating organisations and other relevant stakeholders.

1. **Funding**

3.1 It is proposed that the CBF and BLSW11 Alliance jointly fund the preparation, distribution, collection and analysis of Personal Statements.

* 1. Working with front line organisations CBF will pay £5 per qualifying Statement (qualifying means that the Statement is completed to an appropriate standard and is fully compliant with data protection).
	2. For the initial stages of the research a budget of £5,000 is suggested; this will allow for the collection and collation of 1000 PS’s.
1. **Management**

4.1 The ‘project’ will be managed by members of the CBF in partnership with the BLSW11 Alliance.

* 1. The PS database will be hosted by BLSW11
	2. Personal details will not be made public and only anonomised or aggregated information will be put into the public domain.