Developing community skills
- what is it I can do...

...if I am planning and making policy for services?
If I am able to plan and make policy for services I can:

- analyse all relevant information about local issues
- have an open dialogue with people who have community knowledge, to shape services
- recognise the role and contribution of community informal support and develop policy that recognises community assets
- calculate the cost/benefit analysis of mutual support systems, particularly for reaching out to those who are not involved or whose voices are not heard
- influence public spending priorities and decisions
- have a holistic and integrated view of workforce issues and planning for future requirements
- acknowledge and incorporate the importance of community skills development and using a community assets based approach
- ensure national and local policy and planning are linked.
I can make most of informal community support by:

- knowing where the expertise and relationships are and who to go to and how to access them
- promoting, publishing and enabling opportunities for individuals and groups to be connected, encouraging co-production of policy and planning
- maximising the use of local accounts
- reading and researching – making sure I have up-to-date information and a knowledge of the whole marketplace agenda
- analysing information and evidence relevant to the health and wellbeing of the local community
- sharing the analysis of data for policy and planning purposes
- measuring and evaluating the impact of local community support against national benchmarks
- providing evidence-based need for change with decision makers.

Potential outcome

My planning and policy making is based on clear evidence of what is effective in supporting people to live independently.
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