Building partnerships

Why?

Shared learning and shared working is more effective, more productive and ensures a person-centred focus.

What is the whole system?

Think beyond the health and care statutory organisations. How can the voluntary and community sector, local communities, education, housing, transport, and job centres etc add value to your work and help you achieve your goals?

View from 'those in the know'

" Don't allow others to impose top-down approaches when your collective ideas are more valuable than what you are being told to do. Stand up for your ideas! "

Top tips

⭐ Don't be scared to try something new

⭐ Mistakes are allowed and will happen – learn from them

⭐ Have open conversations

⭐ Share the knowledge and power – this leads to empowerment

We Wellbeing Erewash

Your Life Your Way

www.wellbeingerewash.org.uk

The Erewash experience

In Erewash we have looked to make the voluntary sector more robust. Our work has included the following initiatives:

- **Quality for Health**
- **Voluntary Sector Forum**
- **Development Workers Network**

"*Wellbeing Erewash has been amazing. We've been able to raise the profile of the voluntary and community sector so it's not just seen as a worthy cause but as something 'professional' tackling key issues.*"

Stella Scott, chief executive of Erewash Voluntary Action

Quality for Health is a quality assurance system for the voluntary and community sector. Voluntary groups are able to measure the impact they are making on outcomes and through training have the opportunity to network and share ideas across the community. Among those organisations reaching the standard are Creative Carers and Erewash Voluntary Action.

The **Voluntary Sector Forum** brings together leaders of voluntary sector groups within Erewash as a means of connecting the local community. The forum, based at Erewash Voluntary Action in Long Eaton, provides an opportunity to discuss issues of common concern, gain mutual support and take collective action. It campaigns and raises the profile of the voluntary and community sector's work and helps facilitate cross-sector partnership working.

The **Development Workers Network** provides a space for development workers (those working on the frontline of services) to meet and exchange information, and to learn about services on offer. The network, based at Erewash Voluntary Action, brings together individuals who support clients in the Erewash area to share skills, information, experiences, good practice and resources.