

Six Conditions for Community-led Neighbourhood Health

1. Invest in Local Capacity and Infrastructure

- Support residents to organise, lead, and take action.
- Strengthen social infrastructure – spaces to connect and organise.
- Back anchor institutions (e.g. GPs, libraries, community centres) as trusted hubs.

2. Empower Frontline Professionals

- Design roles for deep listening, flexibility, and local leadership.
- Value relational and community knowledge – not just clinical expertise.
- Give autonomy to act on local insight and shape neighbourhood work.

3. Share Power and Participation

- Co-create neighbourhood roles in decisions (e.g. community panels, budget forums).
- Be honest about system constraints to avoid over-promising.

4. Unlock Flexible, Accessible Funding

- Use microgrants and light-touch governance to spark local action.
- Fund people and processes, not just projects and outcomes.

5. Build Embedded Neighbourhood Teams

- Ensure cross-sector teams are rooted in place, not parachuted in.
- Use data + local insight to target areas with the greatest inequalities.
- Support long-term, trusted relationships with communities.

6. Make Space for Cross-Sector Dialogue

- Convene leaders regularly to reflect, align, and learn.
- Create neighbourhood-level infrastructure (e.g. The Net) to connect the local system and community.
- Foster collaborative behaviours – not just structures and forums.