

# Katy Donnelly

Programme Director – Public Services

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## Profile

Katy Donnelly has a wide range of public sector experience and has expertise in facilitation, research and consultancy. She has a track record of strategic leadership and policy development and a strong understanding of the interface between elected politicians and public services.

Katy's main areas of work are with local government, supporting the development of LSPs, the delivery of Local Area Agreements and the development of local partnership working with a focus on delivering better outcomes for local communities.

Katy is a Local Improvement Advisor for CLG.

## Qualifications

BA (Hons) Politics, QMW, University of London

## Key skills

- Policy development
- Partnership working and development
- Facilitation and development support
- Public policy research
- Democratic governance and reform

## Current and recent experience

### Route Map for Localism (2009 -)

CLIENT: 2020 Public Service Trust

Research exploring the case for localism as part of the 2020 Public Services Trust work on the future of public services. This involved 40+ interviews with senior officers, civil servants and politicians in local and central government. The report sets out the principles on which a new localised model of public services should be based and describes models of how localism could work in practice. It illustrates how putting localism into practice could drive cost savings in local public services, as part of the wider 'more for less' agenda across Government, sets out the barriers to this and provides a checklist of the reforms needed to make localism a reality in the short, medium and long-term.

### Tobacco Alliance Support (2009-)

CLIENT: Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA)

Working with local tobacco control strategy leads to support the development of their local Tobacco Alliance and production of their Tobacco Control Strategies. Providing facilitation for strategic discussions and supporting the development of partnership working across the drugs and alcohol team, trading standards, adult and children's services, public health, smoking cessation, voluntary and community sector and fire service.

### South East Partnership Improvement Programme (2008-)

CLIENT: Medway Council (as the Accountable Body)

Design and delivery of Progress through Partnership, a learning network and support programme for the 69 Local Strategic Partnerships within the SE Region. The network includes a central learning hub which provides regular contact and tailored support to partnerships, a pool of Practitioner Associates, and programme of learning events and activities.

### **LIA support to Waveney LSP (2009-10)**

CLIENT: Waveney LSP (via Improvement East)

Support for the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the LSP and LSP Steering Group and the LSP Manager. We will help them strengthen partnership relationships internally and with the Suffolk Strategic Partnership, refresh the SCS, and convert the strategy into new actions and outcomes. This will involve providing examples of best practice, running reflective sessions at LSP and Steering Group meetings, regular catch-ups with the LSP Manager and acting as a critical friend.

### **LIA support to Newham LSP (2010-)**

CLIENT: LB Newham (on behalf of Newham LSP)

Support to each of the four themed Partnership Action Boards (CDRP, Children's Trust, Health, Employment & Enterprise) around identifying how each individual Board can improve its effectiveness through: a shared understanding of respective roles and responsibilities; encouraging partners to take a more active role; agreeing a plan to improve the Board's activity; forward planning of the Board's agenda for the coming year to ensure there is shared ownership of the agenda and its activity is focused on delivering LAA outcomes. Sessions with Third Sector representatives to focus on building mutual confidence and trust and a shared understanding of how they can improve the effectiveness of joint working between the Council, other statutory partners and the third sector.

### **Accelerated Development Programme (2008-2009)**

Client: NHS London

Facilitation and research support to a series of learning sets focussed on accelerating change in joint working between London PCTs and London Boroughs.

### **Review of Newham local partnership structures**

CLIENT: LB Newham (on behalf of Newham LSP)

Review of Newham's seven Local Action Partnership Boards (LAPBs) – thematic Boards which sit beneath the LSP. The outcome of the review will be a report which sets out a clear and practical set of recommendations and preferred options on improving the LAPBs, in order to improve the focus, efficiency and consistency of LAPB performance, further equipping partners in Newham to deliver on their ambitions for the borough. The review includes desk research and close and facilitative but challenging engagement with key officers and partners, including interviews, focus groups and roundtable discussions.

### **Scoping exercise for joining up DPH, DASS and DCS working (2009)**

CLIENT: Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) and Association for Directors of Public Health

Katy was the project director for this exercise which explored the rational and appetite for joint working between Directors of Public Health, Children's Services and Adult Social Services. The study involved interviews with DsPH, DsASS and DsCS from 15 different local authority areas. Within five of the areas, interviews were also undertaken with the local authority and PCT Chief Executives, and Lead Members for Health, Social Care and Children's Services.

### **Strengthening Health Commissioning in London (2009)**

CLIENT: London Councils/NHS London

Research how to strengthen health commissioning between London local government and the NHS; with the research emphasis on borough-based commissioning. This included a review of the context in which joint commissioning arrangements are being developed; an overview of the current position in London; the identification of what helps and what hinders in developing strong joint commissioning arrangements at borough level; and what needs to be done to accelerate progress.

### **Review of 4ps (2008)**

CLIENT: 4ps

A study is to assess the perceptions of local authority stakeholders on a proposed joint venture between 4ps and Partnerships UK (PUK). Undertaken in the context of the LGA's wider Group Development Strategy.

### **Manchester City Region Leadership Development Support (2008-)**

CLIENT: AGMA

Part of Si's team which is designing and delivering a leadership development programme to support the implementation of AGMA's ambitions for the Manchester City Region. This is taking an action learning approach to strengthening partnership working across the City Region.

### **Merger of Four East Kent LSPs (2007-2008)**

CLIENT: Dover BC, Shepway DC, Thanet, DC, Canterbury CC

Designed and carried out leadership-level focus groups and interviews with members of the four LSPs as part of their preparation to create a single local strategic partnership for East Kent.

### **Delivering Dissemination Events and Action Learning Programme on Road Safety**

CLIENT: Department for Transport (2007 – 2010)

Management and delivery of a three year programme of thematic events and action learning sets to enable practitioners in local authorities and partner organisations to better access and use research in local road safety policy and delivery.

### **Review of Two-Tier Youth Provision (2007)**

CLIENT: Kent Improvement Partnership

A review of the delivery of youth services within a two tier system. This review mapped existing youth provision at County and District level, identified the potential for increased collaboration and co-operation and considered access to services from a young person's view point.

### **Lambeth Early Years Play Centre Review (2006)**

CLIENT: London Borough of Lambeth

Design and delivery of a review of 15 early years play centres in the context of Every Child Matters and the development of Children's Centres. Resulted in recommendations on how to fully integrate the centres within the early years service and how to ensure that they contribute to achieving ECM outcomes.

### **Lyons Inquiry**

CLIENT: Lyons Inquiry

A two month secondment to support the Inquiry in the final stages of drafting its final Report. Main focus was on the role and functions of local government and on the mechanisms to reduce tensions about funding allocations.

### **Review of Haringey's Local Strategic Partnership (2006)**

CLIENT: London Borough of Haringey

A review of the progress and achievements of Haringey's Local Strategic Partnership and an assessment of the capacity of the LSP to meet new challenges and opportunities. The review focused in particular on the Partnership's ability to develop and deliver the Community Strategy and LAA. The review resulted in proposal as to how the LSP can best

meet new challenges and opportunities, including through improvements to its governance structures, partnership relationships, and planning processes.

### **Action Learning Sets on Community Cohesion**

CLIENT: LGA and IDeA

Delivery and facilitation of an action learning set for lead officers involved in the community cohesion content of their LAA.

### **Action Learning Sets for LAA Children and Young People Lead Officers**

CLIENT: LGA and IDeA

Delivery and facilitation of an action learning set for lead officers involved in the Children and Young People's content of their LAA.

### **Evaluation of Children and Lifelong Learning Theme**

CLIENT: North Fulham NDC Partnership

This evaluation looked in detail at five projects funded by North Fulham New Deal for Communities Partnership, which aimed to address gaps in learning provision and access to learning for children and young people in the area. The project also considered the effectiveness of the Theme Board and ways in which it could work better.

### **National Neighbourhood Management Network**

CLIENT: Neighbourhood Renewal Unit

Led in establishing the original network in 2002 on behalf of the NRU. Its role is to facilitate learning and knowledge exchange between practitioners involved in neighbourhood management – from Government-funded pathfinders to independently created neighbourhood initiatives run by councils, registered social landlords, and development trusts. The network is now in the process of changing from a Government-funded activity, to an independent membership-based national association and currently has 1200 individual members from over two hundred local partnerships.

### **London Renewal Network**

CLIENT: Government Office for London

Led the setting up and management of the network programme and network delivery team in its first two years. The network programme was for partnership lead officers in London's local strategic partnerships, NDC and neighbourhood management areas, and community empowerment networks. Government investment has now ended and Si are now continuing to operate the network as an independent support structure for London partnership

## **Previous experience**

### **London Borough of Lewisham (1998-2006)**

Councillor and Cabinet Member

First hand experience of local government from eight years as a Councillor in the London Borough of Lewisham. From 1999, a member of the Council's Executive in the posts of Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Education and Children and Young People. Strong experience of community engagement and working with public sector partners. A member of Lewisham's LSP for 7 years and served as a governor of Lewisham College and a member of Goldsmiths College Council. Continues to act as a trustee for a local charity.

### **Public Policy Ltd. (2000-2006)**

Director/Consultant

Managing a portfolio of public policy consultancy and research, working with a range of public and private sector clients. Key projects include support to LSPs and local

regeneration partnerships; a feasibility study and business case for the Centre for Public Scrutiny; literature review of education, training, recruitment and retention in the engineering and technology sectors; mapping of health advocacy provision to inform DoH implementation strategy.

### **MCA Regeneration Ltd. (1997-2000)**

Project Consultant

Project consultant in a specialist urban regeneration consultancy with a wide range of public and private sector clients. Areas of expertise include business planning, funding bids, community capacity building, business development and project management.

### **The Constitution Unit, University College London (1995-1997)**

Research Officer

Key research position in cross party think tank established to provide practical solutions to the problems of implementing constitutional reform. The author of a range of publications in the run up to the 1997 general election.

Part time editorial assistant for the quarterly journal, 'Public Law'.

### **University of Sheffield (1994-1995)**

Researcher

Member of a Faculty of Law / Political Economy Research Centre research team for the project "The Changing Constitutional Role of Public Sector Audit".