

Is there a better way?

Steve Wyler
Better Way network

A BETTER WAY

A network of people working
together to improve services, build
strong communities and bring about
a fairer society

“Working together to ensure our communities thrive”

- What could this mean in practice?
- What might need to change?

A BETTER WAY

A set of guiding principles

- Prevention is better than cure.
- Building on strengths is better than focusing on weaknesses.
- Relationships are better than transactions.
- Collaboration is better than competition.
- Mass participation is better than centralised power.
- Local is better than national.
- Principles are better than targets.
- Changing ourselves is better than demanding change from others.

A BETTER WAY

Prevention is better than cure

We all need help throughout our lives, and benefit from 'right first time' support, sometimes at early stages, sometimes at moments of crisis or difficulty.

We also need strong communities that build readiness, resilience and resourcefulness, and national systems and policies which help people to thrive, not undermine them.

Behaviours for a Better Way

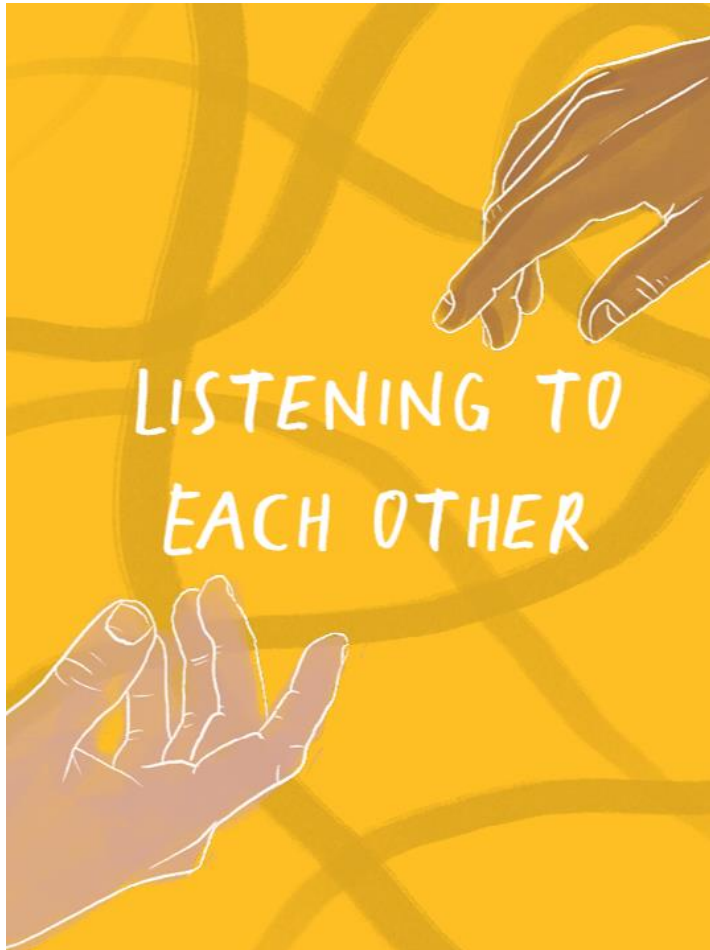




Because most problems are too complex to solve alone

For example:

... alliance commissioning, cross sector teams ... discovering what is really going on, liberating the method to do the right thing ...



Particularly to those least heard, because that the only way to find out what's not working and discover what will

For example:

... radical listening, public dialogue, world cafe, forum theatre ...



Because power is held in too few hands and we can have more power than we think to change things for the better

For example:

... citizens assemblies, poverty truth commissions, participatory budgeting, community organisers ...



Because people cannot thrive without good relationships

For example:

... community connectors, local area co-ordinators ... community anchor organisations, community shops, community pubs ...

CHANGING OURSELVES

IS BETTER THAN
DEMANDING CHANGE
FROM OTHERS

“The best starting point is what we ourselves can do, putting the common good first and our vested interests last. The more we achieve, the more others will follow.”

A BETTER WAY

You can find out more – and join us – here:

www.betterway.network

Twitter: @betterwaynetwrk

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