

VALUING WELLBEING

Social value assessment

Our Liverpool wellbeing course



Overview

Whilst working on the Our Liverpool project in 2020 the HACT and Simetrica Wellbeing Valuation approach* was applied to assess the social value generated by the LCC '[5 Ways to Wellbeing' Course](#), run by Adult Learning Services (ALS), targeting the Our Liverpool cohort of asylum seekers and refugees.

What we did

Wellbeing Valuation works by putting a quantifiable figure on an individual's self-reported wellbeing. By measuring this before and after an individual uses a service, it was possible to quantify the wellbeing uplift created by that service. Using this approach (which features in the HM Treasury Green Book) resulted in a figure for the social value created by the service.

WEMWBS is an approach to monitoring mental wellbeing, and a short version (SWEMWBS) uses seven statements, which have been mapped on to the UK Social Value Bank to create a value. Service users are asked seven questions about their wellbeing at the start and end of the Course. Responses to these questions were used to quantify the social value created.

To ensure the figures are robust, the calculation also includes a deadweight to allow for the possibility that any improvement in wellbeing may not be due to the service or intervention i.e. 'what would have happened anyway'. To account for

this, a percentage reduction is applied – deadweight for health outcomes is -27%.

To quantify the impact generated by the ALS Wellbeing Course overall, social impact figures for all service users were added together to create a net social impact. ALS were asked to estimate all costs in the year the Course ran (not just the Our Liverpool grant) to enable a total budget figure to be deducted from the overall social impact, creating a social impact ratio.

Findings & outcome

The social value calculation on wellbeing revealed that £1 spent on this part of the Our Liverpool service created almost £3 (£2.79) of social impact.

The net social impact was £90,213 for the first year of the Wellbeing Course.

These findings were an essential ingredient (alongside outcome monitoring, case studies and progress reports) in revealing the impact of the Wellbeing Course - a critical part of reporting back to the Our Liverpool funder Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in autumn 2020.

£1:£3

£1 spend created £2.79 of social impact

£90,213

Net social impact of Course in Year 1

*Source note: Values from HACT and Simetrica (www.hact.org.uk / www.simetrica.co.uk). Source: www.socialvaluebank.org License: Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/deed.en_GB)

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