



Win-Win Alliance Disabled people leading change (Disability Rights UK, Shaping Our Lives, NSUN and CHANGE)

Definitions of co-production

There is not one definition of co-production that everyone agrees on because the approach is still developing and changing.

For example, [the Care Act \(opens new window\)](#) defines co-production in the following way:

'Co-production is when you as an individual influence the support and services you receive, or when groups of people get together to influence the way that services are designed, commissioned and delivered'.

The [TLAP National Co-production Advisory Group](#) says the following about co-production:

'Co-production is not just a word, it is not just a concept, it is a meeting of minds coming together to find shared solutions. In practice, co-production involves people who use services being consulted, included and working together from the start to the end of any project that affects them. When co-production works best, people who use services and carers are valued by organisations as equal partners, can share power and have influence over decisions made'.

The Co-production Network explains co-production in this way:

'Co-production is an approach where people, family members, carers, organisations and commissioners work together in an equal way, sharing influence, skills and experience to design, deliver and monitor services and projects.

Co-production acknowledges that people who use social care and health services (and their families) have knowledge and experience that can be used to help make services better, not only for themselves but for other people who need them, which could be any one of us at some time in our lives.

Real co-production means that people are truly involved in planning and designing services from the very beginning.