



University of
Central Lancashire
UCLan

Community Research Training – April 2021

Alan Farrier and Ioan Charnley-Parry

Where opportunity creates success

- To develop knowledge and skills to carry out focus groups and interviews using structured interviewing techniques

By the end of the training, you will:

- Understand the purpose of the study and the value of your role
- Be able to co-conduct focus groups and interviews with the research team
- Be familiar with ethical codes of conduct (informed consent, data storage, health and safety).

Aims of the Training

Programme

- **Session #1** – Introductions and about the study [1hr 45mins]
 - Introductions and Ice Breaker (15 mins)
 - PCAN study explained (30 mins)
 - [Break (15 mins)]
 - Looking at the interview schedules (30 mins)
 - Q and A (15 mins)
- **Session #2** – Interviewing techniques and practice
- **Session #3** – Planning and practicalities

Session #1: Introductions

- Who are you?
- Why do you want to be a community researcher?
- What experience do you have of research?

The PCAN Project

Funded by PCAN (Place-based Climate Action Network) which is supported by the Economic and Social Research Council

<https://pcancities.org.uk/about>

Runs from now until the end of March 2022

Aims to:

- explore and understand how the pandemic has affected people in Preston
- hear people's thoughts and perspectives on what it might mean to 'build back better' from the pandemic and reimagine the city's future
- examine the potential to integrate climate/environmental action, wellbeing and social justice within Preston's planning for economic and social recovery from COVID-19.

Why we are recruiting Community Researchers

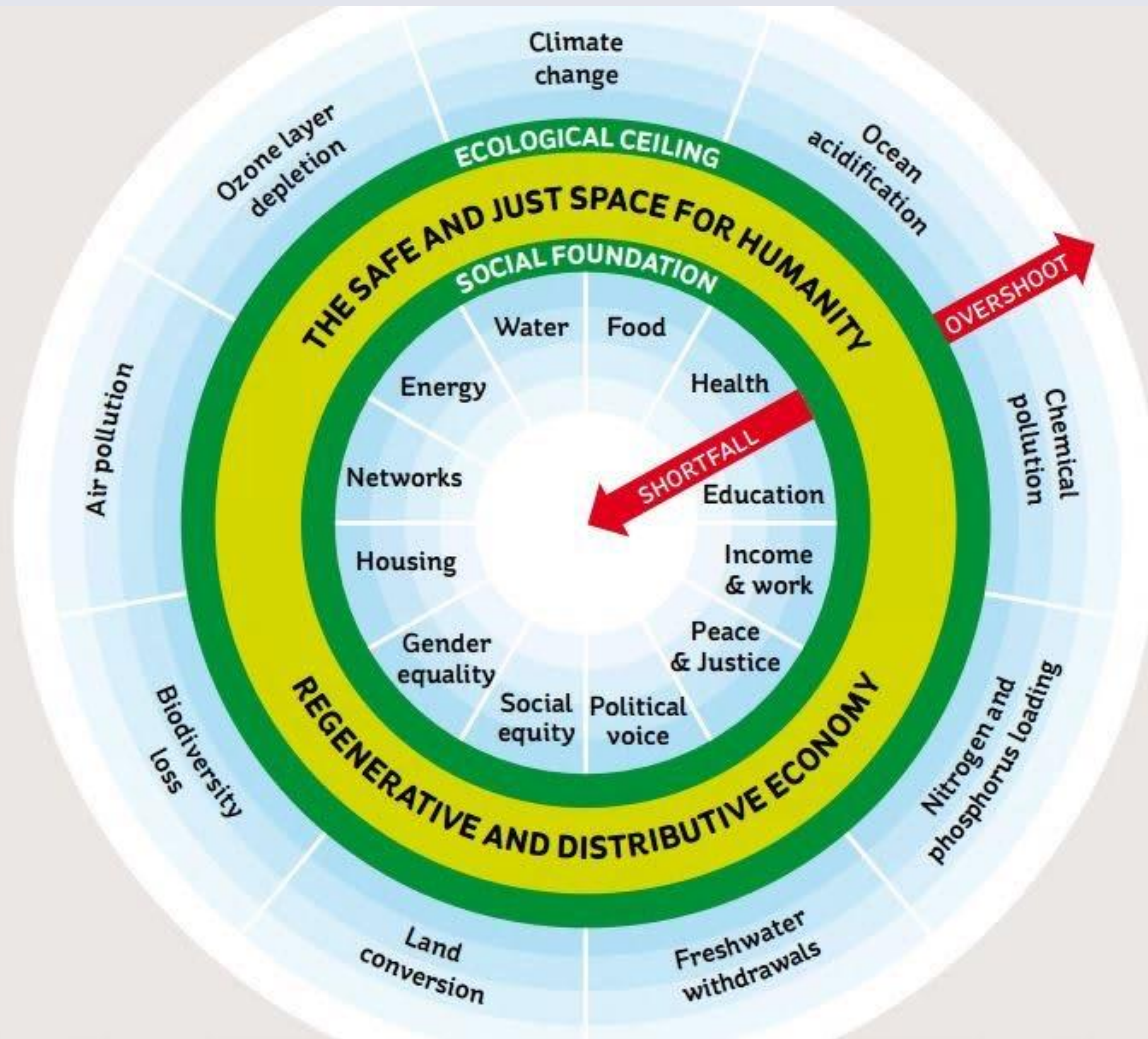
- To encourage local people who have shared understandings and concerns about local issues to participate. Your local links and the new links you will make are very important for the project.
- As Community Researchers you will be able to get to know your community better and gain knowledge of the issues that affect your community, and help to affect positive change.

Study design

- A scoping review to harness learning from innovative local action
- Survey for local community members and stakeholders
- ***Interviews and focus groups with decision-makers and community stakeholders with community researchers***
- Development of key concepts and commitments into place-based actions and impacts.

Intended outputs

- Proposal of integrated model
- Development of Place-based Climate Emergency Road-Map
- Developing Community Resource[s]
- Final Report/Briefing
- Journal Papers



A 'settings' approach to evaluation

- Salutogenic approach: what makes people thrive and a focus on holistic wellbeing and systemic change (Dooris *et al.*, 2014)
- Rationale for Community Researchers
 - Engagement of local organisations and people
 - Recruitment of local community researchers
 - Co-production of knowledge
 - Co-design of community level initiatives/interventions

Process of Engagement

- UCLan researchers have linked with Preston City Council and other local community organisations
- Recruitment of local volunteers as **Community Researchers**
- Interview schedules designed collaboratively
- Focus groups and interviews conducted collaboratively
- ‘Member checking’ of initial analysis with Community Researchers
- Community dissemination event (Covid-19 restrictions permitting!)

Indicative Interview Schedules

Follows on from surveys.

Focus group with Community Researchers: two types of interview/focus group

- local community members
- key organisational stakeholders
- Look at indicative interview schedules (sent by email).
Is there anything you would like to change?

Q&A

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Aims of the Training (recap)

Programme

- **Session #1** – Introductions and about the study

- **Session #2** – Interviewing techniques and practice [1hr 45mins]
 - Interviews and focus groups (15 mins)
 - Practice focus group facilitating and co-interviewing techniques (pt. 1) (30 mins)
 - [Break (15 mins)]
 - Health and Safety when conducting research (5 mins)
 - Q and A (15 mins)

- **Session #3** – Planning and practicalities

Session #2: Interviewing Skills

- Basic skills in interviewing
 - Good communication skills
 - A non-judgmental attitude
 - Ability to observe verbal and non-verbal cues
 - Ability to guide the respondent through the interview process
 - Interviews are best conducted where the respondent is likely to feel most comfortable.
- Focus Group interviewing
 - One of the most common techniques used in research
- Online interviews and Focus Groups
 - Challenges of interviewing online

Focus Group Practice

- Practice focus groups: Each community researcher to ask questions in turn, rest of the group act as focus group.
- Turn taking in asking questions, split into themes.

Feedback and reflections

- How did it go?
- What worked well?
- Do you have any concerns?

Health and Safety

- Interviewers must *at all times* take appropriate action and due care to protect themselves and others from harm or injury during the course of their work;
- If you sustain any injury while conducting interviews this must be reported to the lead Community Researcher at the first opportunity;
- If you are concerned about the safety of an interviewee, you should report this immediately to the Project Lead:
 - Mark Dooris MTDooris@uclan.ac.uk
 - If unavailable, contact UCLan researchers Alan Farrier Afarrier@uclan.ac.uk or Ioan Charnley-Parry iparry@uclan.ac.uk

Q&A

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Aims of the Training (recap)

Programme

- **Session #1** – Introductions and about the study
- **Session #2** – Interviewing techniques and practice
- **Session #3** – Planning and practicalities [1hr 30 mins]
 - Practice feedback and reflections, revisiting the interview schedules (10 mins)
 - Ethics (consent, anonymity and confidentiality) (5 mins)
 - What happens after the interviews – analysis and write up (5 mins)
 - Consent to be a co-interviewer (10 mins)
 - Practicalities (e.g. availability, pairing, data storage) (15 mins)
 - [Break (15 mins)]
 - Q and A and final preparations (30 mins)

Ethics - Informed Consent

- Before obtaining consent from any participant in the research, potential respondents need to be informed about:
 - What the study is about
 - What participation will mean for them
 - Any possible benefits and risks
 - How the information will be used
 - How confidentiality of the information will be maintained
- See Participant Information Sheets and Consent Forms
- Ethical practice means not involving anyone as a participant who either does not know they are involved, or does not wish to take part.

Ethics - Confidentiality and Data Storage

It is the Interviewers' responsibility to ensure confidentiality

UCLan researchers will:

- Ensure protection, safe storage and transportation of data.

As Community Researchers, you must:

- Ensure you do not breach confidentiality
- Never discuss an interview in public or with anyone other than the named people on the project team
- Contact Project Lead (Mark Dooris) if you believe there is a need for confidentiality to be broken.

What happens after the focus groups?

- Thematic analysis by research team (NVivo)
- Member checking of initial analysis by community researchers [?]
- Final report / articles and credit

Session #3: Your Consent

- If you are willing to take part as a Community Researcher, please complete the consent form and return
- We are offering Community Researchers a £50 *Love2Shop* voucher after data collection is finished
- We will award you a University Certificate of Participation

Potential Participants

Organisation	Focus Group	Inter-view	Date	Community Researchers
UCLan	3-4	2-3		
Preston City Council	4	4		
Community Gateway Association	2			
Lancashire Enterprise Partnership	1			
Community Gateway Housing Tenants	1			
Lancashire BME Network - Preston Hub	1			
Preston Vocational Centre	2			
Climate Action Preston	2			

Q&A

Contact Details

Project Lead

Prof Mark Dooris

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UCLan Researchers

Dr Alan Farrier Afarrier@uclan.ac.uk

Dr Ioan Charnley-Parry iparry@uclan.ac.uk

Thank You, we look forward to working with you!

Dr Alan Farrier
(Healthy and Sustainable Settings Unit)
and
Dr Ioan Charnley-Parry
(Centre for Sustainable Transitions)
University of Central Lancashire,
Preston, UK