

## Community research – roles and responsibilities



**community  
food and health**  
(scotland)

The **Community Researcher** role involves:

- taking part in training to develop the research skills needed;
- learning more about ... *(add the topic of your research project here)*;
- designing the questions and choosing research methods;
- collecting information from their identified community;
- participating in the review and analysis of the information collected;
- contributing to the final report.

By the end of the project, community researchers should:

- increase their confidence to engage with individuals and groups;
- feel part of a team;
- increase their knowledge and awareness about ... *(add the topic of your research project)*;
- increase their research knowledge and skills specifically:
  - awareness of their role, boundaries and other safety issues;
  - planning a research project;
  - using different research methods;
  - better listening skills;
  - analysis, reflection and reporting skills;
- be motivated to be more involved with the community organisation/project.

The **research facilitator** role involves:

- providing support and training for the community researchers;
- guiding the development of the research project;
- co-ordinating the practical arrangements such as the resources to support the research;
- maintaining the momentum of the research project to see it to the end.

Key questions that facilitators need to be able to answer as the project progresses:

- Do individuals understand their role as community researchers?
- Have safeguards been established such as a 'code of practice' (ethics)?
- Are individuals more aware of ... *(add the topic of your research project)*?
- Do individuals feel confident in the skills needed to participate as community researchers?
- Are their clear arrangements and resources in place to support and deliver the project?