

Evaluating the Health of Your Partnerships

Quick Guide to Community Self-Assessment

Purpose of this self-assessment tool:

This tool is aimed at communities at the early stages of developing justice reinvestment, wishing to identify the health of their current partnerships. It is not intended as a rigorous form of evaluation but rather as a tool to guide a community conversation about how to improve their existing collaborations.

Guiding questions:

Going through each partnership one by one, communities may discuss the following questions in relation to their chosen collaboration:

What is your reason for partnering with them?

- Is it about the relationship itself, about seeking a specific outcome, or both?
- How does it align to community priorities?

What is working well about the partnership? (examples of what you might consider below)

- Role of country, culture, customs?
- Benefit of work to community?
- Alignment of work to community priorities?
- Key individuals involved?
- Frequency and/or process for coming together?
- Engagement/willingness of the other party?
- Clarity of roles?
- Clarity of commitments?
- Accountability to commitments?
- Transparency?
- Information flow?
- Decision-making protocols?
- Balance of power?
- Conflict resolution?

What is not working well about the partnership? (same examples as above)

How engaged are they in the collaboration?



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- Is it all representatives or just key people?
- Is there continuity in their representatives?
- What is the typical style and/or process for engagement?
- Is there clarity on their roles and responsibilities?
- Are there other opportunities for engagement eg community events?
- How could this be improved?

How does this partnership support your community's overall vision for change?

- How could this be improved?

How does this partnership add value or benefit to the community?

- How could this be improved?

How is the workload and responsibilities shared amongst partners?

- How could this be improved?

Does the partnership feel sustainable?

- How could this be improved?

What else are you seeking to get out of the partnership?

More information

For access to more resources on how to establish your JR initiative, [visit our resources hub](#) on the Justice Reinvestment Network Australia website, or contact the JR Partner team on justicereinvestment@nintione.com.au.