**UNIT 10**

**COMMUNITY RESEARCH**

**UNIT 10: LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

* To introduce participants to the issues surrounding carrying out community based research
* To establish a methodology of approach to community based research
* To introduce a range of research methods appropriate to community based research.

**UNIT 10: SUMMARY OUTLINE**

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| **Exercise number** | **Exercise** | **Handouts** |
| **10.1** | Introductory exercise |  |
| **10.2** | Review of Part 1 group project |  |
| **10.3** | Definitions of community | H10.3A: Definitions of community |
| **10.4** | A framework for approaching research | H10.4A: The research cycle  H10.4B: A practical example of using the cycle |
| **10.5** | Different research methods | H10.5A: Experiences of the Scottish Community Action Research Fund |
| **10.6** | Developing a research plan | H10.6A: Developing a research plan |
| **10.7** | Recap and summary | Learning Log Unit 10 |

**UNIT 10: ADDITIONAL TUTOR SUMMARY NOTES**

It is important to make sure that people are not over ambitious in the scale of the research they are going to undertake. Remind them to check that they have the time, resources and opportunity to complete within the requirements of the course.

Tutors should note that on completion of this unit group members should start to work on their research and have it completed for presentation, Unit 15. We would suggest that people should have around six weeks to carry out their research

and present their findings. Depending on the frequency and pace of course

delivery you can either pace course delivery around that timeframe or complete

up to the end of Unit 14 and use the time after that to concentrate exclusively on the research.

**EXERCISE 10.1: INTRODUCTORY EXERCISE**

The exercise is to demonstrate how some research approaches can be disengaging and meaningless to those participating. It is a basis for discussing good and bad approaches to research.

**EXERCISE 10.2: REVIEW OF THE GROUP PROJECT IN PART 1**

This aims to review the group project in Part 1 and set the scene for the

research to be carried out during Part 2.

**EXERCISE 10.3: DEFINITIONS OF COMMUNITY**

To get group members to think about the definition of the word community and

the problems it presents i.e. Communities of interest, geography and identity. Give out H10.3A.

**EXERCISE 10.4: A FRAMEWORK FOR APPROACHING RESEARCH**

This provides the framework of the research approach “action reflection cycle” and demonstrates that this is something that we are not only familiar with but something we do everyday. Give out H10.4A and H10.4B.

**EXERCISE 10.5: DIFFERENT RESEARCH METHODS**

Here people should get an introduction to different research methods and where and how these might be used to best effect. You may wish to concentrate on

only two or three of these and deal with them in some depth. Give out H10.5A.

**EXERCISE 10.6: DEVELOPING A RESEARCH PLAN**

This is about individuals taking some time to think about what their research question is going to be and have initial thoughts of how they are going to go about actually doing it. Subsequently people should break in to the smaller groups that are going to undertake the research. Here they should have time to work through the development of their research plan. Tutors may need to help either during the process or at the end to ensure the plan is workable and identify any pitfalls that are evident at this stage. Give out H10.6A.

**EXERCISE 10.7: RECAP AND SUMMARY**

This gives you a chance to recap on the main points and give out this unit’s

Learning Log.