

# Martha Cox

## Stakeholder engagement and communities expert

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### Profile

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A skilled stakeholder engagement expert with a wealth of experience from working in the public, private and third sectors using a wide variety of engagement techniques. An effective and skilled manager and trainer. Proven organisational and analytical ability with excellent communication, training and motivational skills. Experienced in strategic project planning and coordination, evaluation of outputs and outcomes, report writing, monitoring and compliance. Skilled in staff and volunteer management and in working with a wide variety of user groups. Six years experience of training to be a Psychotherapist.

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### Experience

#### **Stakeholder Engagement and Communities Consultant**

May 2019 - present

Running my own engagement consultancy. Recent contracts with Clean Slate and Astriid.

#### **Engagement Lead - Virgin Care / Sirona Care and Health / Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) Primary Care Trust**

April 2009 - March 2019

Transferred over from Sirona Care and Health and before that from BANES Primary Care Trust.

Managed all aspects of patient and user engagement and feedback for the health and social care contract in BANES, including setting up of the Citizens' Panel, the Friends and Family Test, engagement for the Virgin Care transformation programme, strategic planning, monitoring and reporting on compliance with the engagement sections of the contract and representing the organisation at engagement events. Management of complaints, communications, engagement and administration staff. Joint collaborative working with local groups and stakeholders.

#### **Community Link Co-ordinator - Bath and North East Somerset Council**

March 2004 - April 2009

Managed a number of community development projects across Bath. Gave support on governance and other issues to third sector groups. Chair of a number of partnership groups, eg, South Bath Community Development Group. Worked as part of Bath Communities Partnership supporting groups to access funding from the programme. Also managed the Rural, Social and Community Programme assessing funding applications and supporting applicants

#### **Maternity Leave**

November 2002 - March 2004

### **Freelance Trainer and Consultant**

May 2002 - November 2002

Worked with a number of community groups in Bath.

### **Support Worker - Richmond Fellowship**

January 2002 - May 2002, Bristol

Placement as part of psychotherapy training. Managed a caseload of tenants with mental health issues.

### **Development Officer - London Road Partnership**

October 1998 - November 2001, Bath

Managed all aspects of the running of the community organisation. Serviced the Management Board. Set up and managed the community office. Liaised with partners to lever resources and funding into the area. Responsible for strategy, business planning, budgets, funding applications and publicity. Managed volunteers and project staff. Lead management role on the Healthy Living Centre project, London Road Carnival 2000 and other community regeneration projects.

### **Private Psychotherapy Practice**

September 1997 - September 2002 Bath

### **Training Officer - BIZ Training**

1996-1998, Bath

Helped set up, develop and run the new young person's drop-in advice and training centre. Ran life-skills training programmes and managed individual casework. Wrote and ran life-skills training course at the Drugs and Homeless Initiative. Co-ordinated the Employment Service's New Deal training element at BIZ.

### **Employment and Training Worker - Bath Foyer**

October 1994-1996

Helped set up the new training and accommodation project for young homeless people. In charge of personal development planning for young people. Individual casework and initial assessments. Ran training sessions. Liaison with other agencies. Publicity.

### **Relief Worker - Royal National Institute for the Deaf / Bath Women's Refuge / Bristol Churches Housing Association**

February - October 1994, Bath

Caring for residents with deafness and disabilities and the children of women who had experienced domestic violence.

### **Project Co-ordinator - Society for Voluntary Associates (SOVA)**

February 1993 - January 1994

Trained and supported volunteers to work with offenders, ex-offenders and their families through Kent Probation Service. Trained Probation Officers to use volunteers. Responsible for compliance with policies and procedures. Managed administrative staff.

**Self-Employed** - living in Spain and improving my language skills, teaching English, interpreting and writing articles for a local magazine

July 1992 - January 1993

**Vice-President Welfare** - University of Sussex Students Union

Developed and ran the Welfare Department. Managed a caseload on benefits and housing issues. Liaison between students and University administration. Campaigned on social issues. Managed budget and staff. Organised children's playschemes and student volunteer projects.

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## Education

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### Professional Development

1990 - Present

Professional development training in: MindCoach; personal development planning; addiction counselling; aids awareness; housing issues; staff supervision; managing volunteers; management skills; fundraising; budgets and financial planning; training issues; time management; assertiveness; mental health policy, legislation and benefits; advocacy skills for young people; equalities; appraisal for funding applications; writing press releases; designing posters; writing newsletters; managing small groups.

**Training towards Psychotherapy qualification** - Bath Centre for Psychotherapy and Counselling

September 1996 - September 2002,

**BA (Hons) Social Psychology** - University of Sussex

1988 - 1992, Brighton

**Birkenhead High School for Girls, Birkenhead, Merseyside**

1987 A levels in English, History, Geography and General Studies

1985 9 O levels

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## Interests

Photography, music, literature, politics, walking and playing cricket.

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## Volunteering

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**Trustee of Relate, Avon**

July 2019 - present

**South West Maternity Clinical Network - lay member**

2015 - 2016

References available on request