

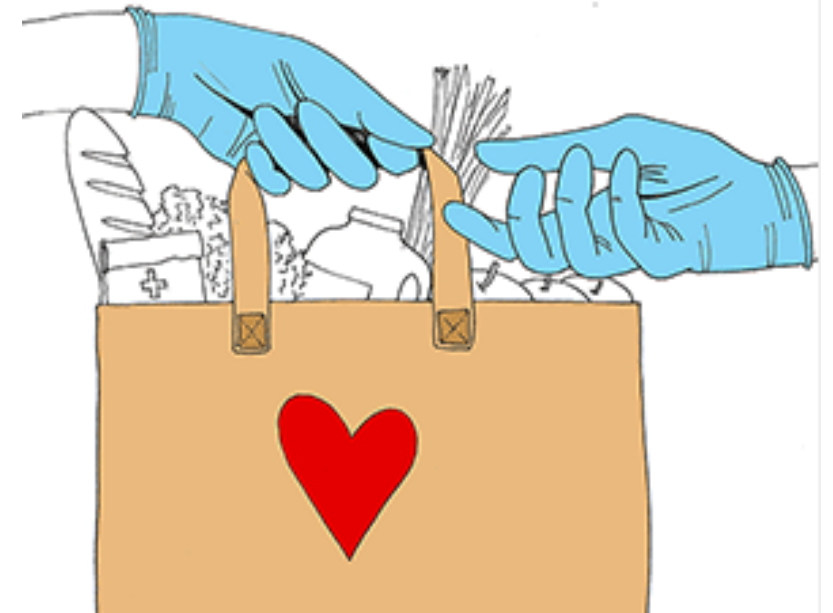
The Community Response to Covid: Mutual Aid

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NLGN
NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT NETWORK

**COMMUNITIES
vs.
CORONAVIRUS**
THE RISE OF MUTUAL AID

Luca Tiratelli and Simon Kaye



KEY FINDINGS

- Groups did far more than simply pick up shopping
- They were able to form partnerships with both public and private sector organisations
- Groups were more agile and responsive than public services
- They were key to the national response



ENABLING FACTORS

- **Technology** – although not everywhere!
- **Social Capital** – Important from an equalities perspective
- **Furlough** – implications for UBI and 4 day week?



RELATIONSHIPS TO POWER

- Some councils ignored groups
- Some smothered them
- Good practice:
 - Facilitation
 - Focus on strengths

“there is a lot of ‘should’ and ‘must’ language coming from the council, which can really put people off”

“The council wants to professionalise everything. They want groups to fit into their corporate plans. It’s really unhelpful.”