

Resilient Health Systems Project

Theory of Change

Although Resilient Health Systems (RHS) is a research project, the approach that underpins the collaboration between WCH and SEL ICS is interventional. Figure 1 sets out the theory of change for the RHS project, highlighting how the project is expected to lead to change in the SEL health system. The project activities are intended to lead, in the long term, to an SEL health system that is more resilient and able and able to anticipate, withstand, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stressors. The activities are colour coded according to the different project phases (Scoping=purple; Co-design=Green. Implementation=Pink). In the short term, these activities lead to outputs such as defining the research parameters and creating a project plan and changes, including the SEL ICS implementing evidence-informed recommendations and establishing a community of practice with a focus on health system resilience building.

Medium-term changes include developing a methodology for prospective “Resilience Impact Analysis”, a proposed approach for systematically mapping and exploring the resilience capacities of any given health or social care system. In the long term, this should lead to stakeholders routinely undertaking such analyses while planning and delivering services. Additionally, in the medium term, the RHS project is expected to lead to the further spread of evidence-based decision-making, with stakeholders across SEL using robust methods to make choices about whether to start, stop or scale-up innovations. Also, in the medium term, it is expected that the community of practice will proliferate, and resilience-focused communities will be operating across several domains and places within SEL.

Like all ToC, several assumptions underpin the steps to change, although it is outside the scope of this project to explore the assumptions and make them explicit. Instead, the diagram is intended to be a visual aid for understanding the aims and objectives of the project.

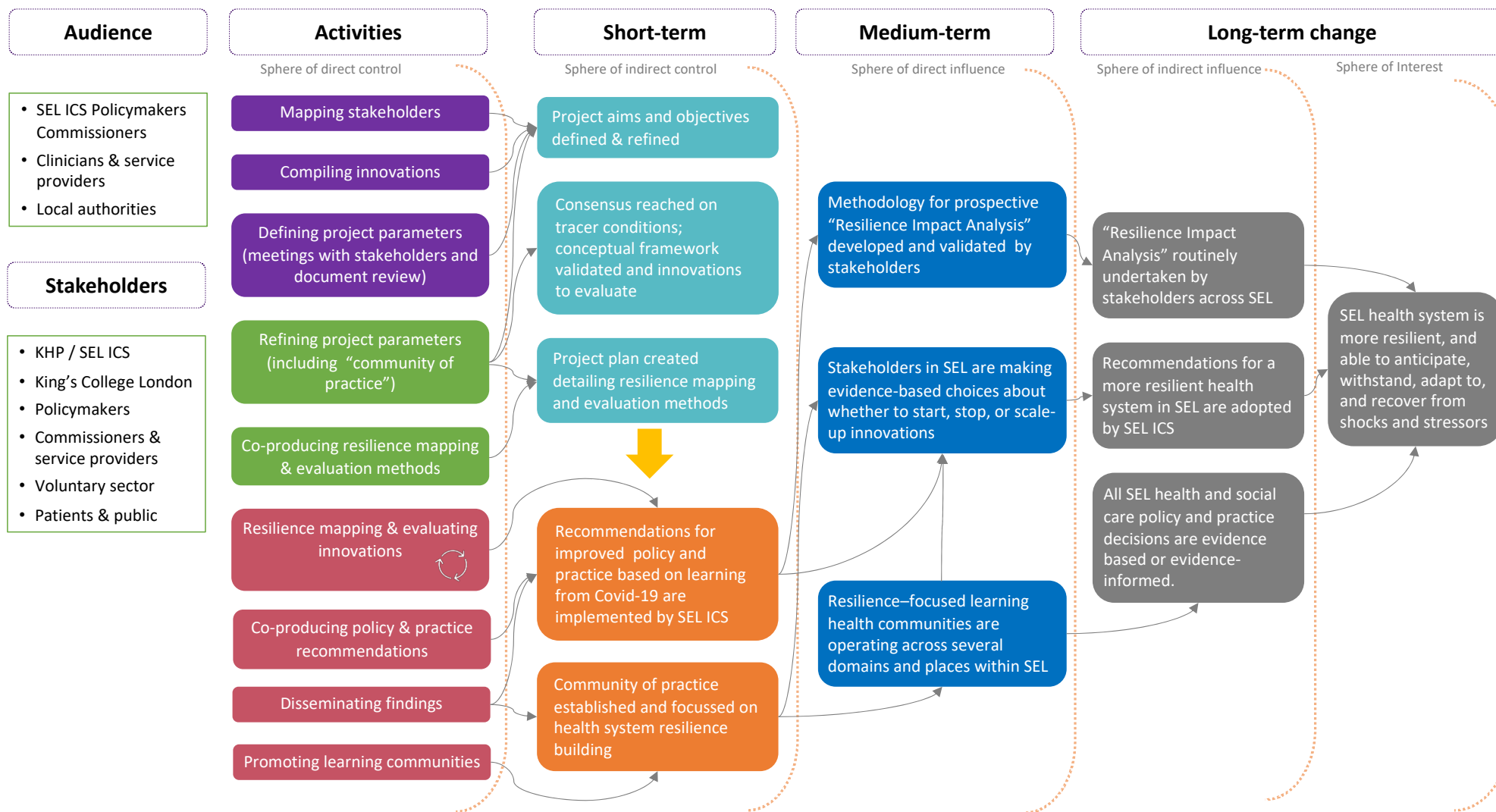


Figure 1: Resilient Health Systems Project “Theory of Change”. This diagram shows ways the project is expected to lead to change in the South East London health system. The activities are colour coded according to the different project phases: Scoping=purple; Co-design=Green. Implementation=Pink. The turquoise boxes are short-term outputs; all other boxes are expected changes. Arrows indicate pathways to change.