

research
in practice
for adults

Final Report:

Outcomes evaluation of
Stay Up Late's Gig Buddies
programme

Contents

Acknowledgements.....	4
Introduction	4
Evaluation method.....	5
Evaluation planning.....	5
Evaluation tools.....	5
Table 1: Logic model for the Gig Buddies program.....	6
Participant interviews	7
Volunteer survey.....	7
Limitations and considerations.....	8
Ethics and data protection.....	8
Training of participant researchers.....	9
Data collection	10
Conducting the first round of interviews.....	10
Subsequent interviewing	11
Participant questionnaire responses	11
Volunteer questionnaires	11
Evidence summaries	12
Participant interviews and questionnaire.....	12
1. Participants' enjoyment of their involvement with Gig Buddies.....	13
2. The types of activities they have done as a result of their involvement.....	15
3. Their access to night culture	16
4. Their wellbeing and loneliness.....	18
5. Their social network and friendships.....	19
Comparing responses for participants who completed the questionnaire and interviews	20
Summary of interview and questionnaire data	21
Volunteer questionnaire.....	23
1. Volunteer demographics.....	23
2. Expectations and satisfaction	23

3. Flexibility of volunteering.....	24
4. Support for the volunteer	25
5. Impact on the person they are buddied with	25
Summary of volunteer questionnaire	26
Conclusions	27
Table 2: Conclusions against logic model components	27
Recommendations	29
Applicability of the findings	29
Table 3: Completed logic model evaluation	30
Appendix 1 – Research tools.....	34
Participant interview questions	34
Volunteer questionnaire	36
Appendix 2	39
Participant questionnaire / interview summary.....	39
Volunteer questionnaire data summary.....	44

Acknowledgements

Research in Practice for Adults would like to thank Stay Up Late, the Gig Buddies team and volunteers for their support in this evaluation, and particularly to the incredibly generous Gig Buddies participants who gave up their free time to help develop the evaluation tools and conduct the highly valuable interviews which form a large portion of the evidence in this evaluation. We hope that this report gives an accurate reflection of your collective experiences of the Gig Buddies programme.

Introduction

Stay Up Late commissioned Research in Practice for Adults (“RiPfa”) to conduct an evaluation of their Gig Buddies service. RiPfa is a charity which works with local authorities and third sector providers of social care and support across the UK, facilitating the use of evidence to improve services and outcomes for people with support needs. This includes running primary research and evaluation projects, helping organisations to collect and interpret objective evidence about the services they provide.

Gig Buddies is a charitable project, set up by Stay Up Late in the Sussex area, which matches adults who have a learning disability and/or autism to a local volunteer who has similar interests so that they may access social events and activities that were previously less accessible to them. This also increases access to volunteering for people in the community, by pairing it with social activities they’d probably be doing already.

Gig Buddies participants and volunteers are put in contact with one another when matched and meet to plan activities and then go to events such as music concerts, films, nights out, or other activities.

The purpose of this evaluation was to investigate the impact of the Gig Buddies programme on the life experiences of those people who receive support to access an increased array of social and evening culture and activities. The outputs of this evaluation are this report as well as the capacity building work that RiPfa have conducted with Stay Up Late and the Gig Buddies team along the way.

We hope that we have conveyed the outputs of this evaluation in a way that is meaningful to Gig Buddies stakeholders, staff, and commissioners.

The key evaluation question that we set out to answer was:

“What impact does having a Gig Buddy have on a person’s happiness, wellbeing and social inclusion?”

Evaluation method

Evaluation planning

The start of this evaluation process involved using current evidence and the input of Gig Buddies stakeholders to develop our evaluation approach. In order to summarise our learning, we developed a **logic model (Table 1)**, which visually sets out how Gig Buddies intends to change the lives of participants.

This logic model provides a single framework for how the evaluation can collect evidence which will demonstrate whether the programme is achieving its intended outcomes. Furthermore, the logic model may have further benefits in communicating the outcomes and impact of Gig Buddies to external stakeholders and commissioners in the future. We will revisit this model in the conclusions of this report.

Based on the parameters of the evaluation, we identified the most appropriate means of collecting evidence; choosing a methodology which involved the lived experience of Gig Buddies participants. Building on a previous data collection tool (a questionnaire for participants), we developed an updated **questionnaire which could be administered by Gig Buddies participants to other people who have a Gig Buddy**.

The rationale behind this approach was to:

1. Use the expertise by experience of participants;
2. Develop skills in evaluation and research within Gig Buddies, and;
3. Enable honest conversations to happen between participants which might improve the quality and objectivity of evidence collected.

Evaluation tools

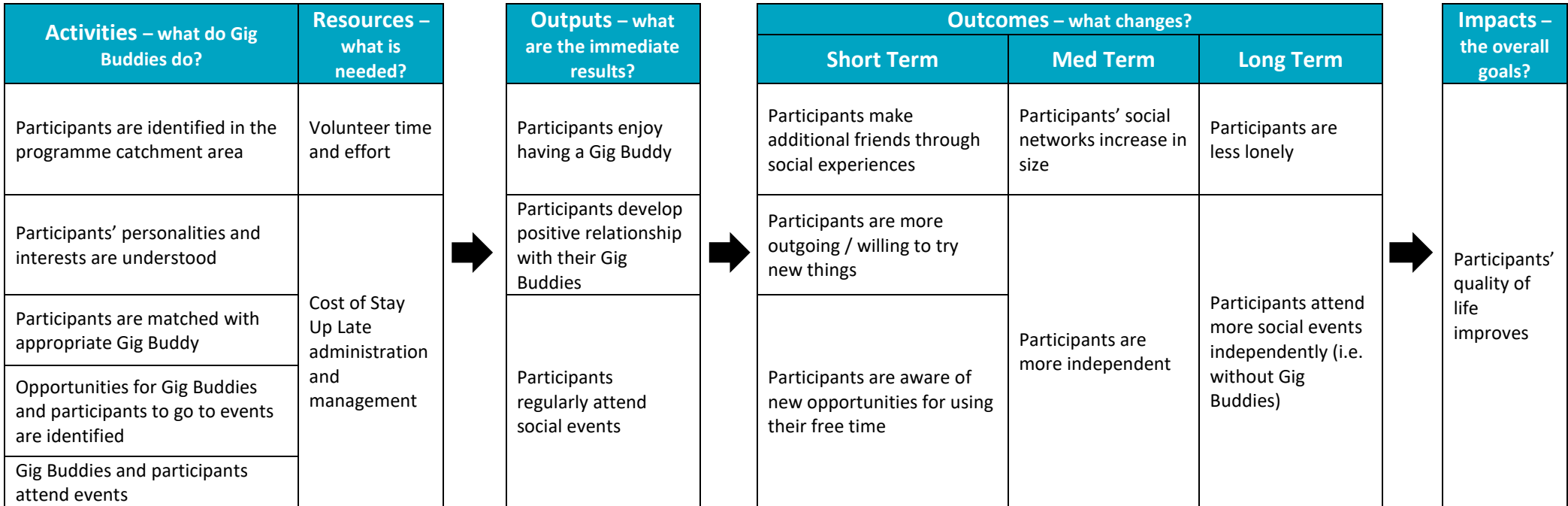
Using the evaluation plan and preliminary information provided by Stay Up Late, we developed an approach to evaluation which aims to incorporate the experiences of those people who participate in Gig Buddies. These were:

- **Participant interviews** – Gig Buddy participants trained in interviewing techniques using a set of bespoke research tools to interview other Gig Buddy participants
- **Volunteer survey** – an online questionnaire sent to all Gig Buddy volunteers

The questions used in these two tools can be found in **Appendix 1** of this report.

Table 1: Logic model for the Gig Buddies program

Rationale – why does Gig Buddies exist?
 Increasing access to social events for people with learning disabilities and autism may be a viable alternative to traditional models of care, helping increase quality of life for people who access services



Assumptions – what needs to happen to allow the model above to work?
 Appropriate matches between Gig Buddies and participants are made and maintained

External factors – what is outside of the control of the programme?
 Participants have good time when at events (excluding due to their relationship with the Gig Buddy) – i.e. there are no barriers to accessing the events

Participant interviews

The central element of this evaluation was participatory research, which involved training Gig Buddies participants to conduct interviews with other people who have accessed the service (**'participant researchers'**). The benefits to this approach are two-fold:

1. It aims to reduce bias from interviewing that may result from an external interviewer; reducing the formality and encouraging natural conversation between those who have accessed services
2. It provides an additional form of engagement with Gig Buddies for the participant interviewers, upskilling them in new techniques, and increasing their social networks through training and interviewing

In order to structure this process and ensure accuracy in reporting, we developed appropriate resources which reflected the evaluation plan and would help guide the interviews. We also developed a suite of supporting materials:

- An Easy Read question guide for the interviewer
- Accessible consent forms for interviewees
- An answer sheet for assistant researchers transcribing the interviews
- A training guide for interviewers

The questions asked during interviews focused on several key areas:

- Participants' enjoyment of their involvement with Gig Buddies
- The types of activities they have done as a result of their involvement
- Their wellbeing and loneliness
- Their access to night culture
- Their social network and friendships

In order to assist with continued data entry for the new interviewing tools, we build a questionnaire which allows Stay Up Late to enter interview responses and record these in a standard format using secure online survey software (Smart Survey).

Volunteer survey

A questionnaire was sent to all current volunteers for Gig Buddies. Fifteen questions were asked (see **Appendix 1**) reflecting the outputs and outcomes identified in the logic model and aimed to look at:

- The volunteers' experiences of being a Gig Buddy
- The support they had received
- Successes, challenges and enabling factors in volunteering
- The volunteers' views of the impact of Gig Buddies on participants

Questions were programmed into Smart Survey (online secure survey software) and tracked invites sent to all volunteers via email. A reminder email was sent to those who had not responded after two weeks. The survey was open for four weeks in total.

All responses were collected anonymously, meaning that no names or email addresses were linked to answers and no identifiable details about the volunteer and participants they volunteered with were requested. However, given the qualitative nature of some questions there is a chance that identifiable information would be given by respondents. It was made clear that any reporting would remove any identifiable information provided in this way. During data processing, one identifiable item was found and anonymised.

Limitations and considerations

There are some important caveats in using the methods described here:

For interviews with participants, it was important that we planned flexibility into the interviewing to accommodate the various personalities and requirements in our group of participant researchers and interviewees. The approach that was settled on was one which paired each participant researcher with an assistant / scribe (a volunteer, but not the interviewee's Gig Buddy) who was able to record the interviewee's responses and help with any other needs during the interview. This allowed the interviewer to focus on the questions and discussion. Our training materials reflected this interviewer-assistant partnership, encouraging the assistant to take a back-seat role whilst the interviewer led the discussion.

For the volunteer survey, it was made clear that responses were anonymous, collected by RiPFA as an independent researcher, and questions were carefully designed to objectively collect evidence against the logic model; however, as with most self-report questionnaires, there is still the possibility that responses could be biased by response (i.e. non-response bias – those with particularly good or bad things to say being more likely to respond).

Efforts were made to increase the response rates in the survey via reminder emails. Responses were analysed in detail by RiPFA. However we cannot say with confidence that the responses returned are representative of all Gig Buddy volunteers, nor of the wider volunteering community. The responses should instead be viewed as a detailed and qualitative insight into volunteering, as reported by a subset of Gig Buddy volunteers.

Ethics and data protection

Another key area for consideration was ethical consent and safeguarding, particularly given that many of the participants of the research and all participant researchers had learning disabilities.

All interviews were conducted under the supervision of members of staff from Stay Up Late in a local shared space (however the staff did not sit in on interviews to avoid biasing answers) and all participants provided informed consent prior to interviewing. Participant researchers were given

training ahead of interviews in the appropriate collection of consent, and an Easy Read consent form was created and developed in partnership with the researchers to improve accessibility.

Given the potentially sensitive nature of some questions (e.g. those regarding loneliness) interviews also provided appropriate opportunities for the capture and follow-up of any concerns. This involved giving interviewees the opportunity to request follow-up discussion through structured 'yes/no' questions at three points within the interview (after potentially sensitive questions and at the end of the interview), and adapting the questions to provide Stay Up Late with the ability to pursue this.

Following the data collection, a separate list of participants who indicated they would like to further discuss their interview was created and provided to Stay Up Late for follow-up, prior to the anonymisation of data.

All personal data was removed from data sets for analysis, and consent forms kept separately by Stay Up Late. The RiPFA researchers exclusively processed anonymised data for this report, and any additional identifying information (e.g. identifying comments in verbatim quotes) was removed in reporting.

Informed consent was given by volunteers on starting the survey and detailed information was given regarding the use of all data and subsequent reporting.

Training of participant researchers

Our first opportunity to rigorously test the tools and resources was during the two training days with the participant researchers. The interviewers attended a full day training where we worked through the interviewing process, discussing important practicalities and rehearsing the questioning process.

This was also an opportunity to further develop tools, incorporating the feedback from interviewers, who offered insight from being both Gig Buddies participants *and* the ones who would eventually be using the tools. Some interviewers had previous experience in developing questionnaires for those with learning difficulties which offered further valuable insight.

This feedback loop led to various changes:

- **To the consent form** – changing the tense and wording to make it easier for the interviewer to read through
- **To the question guide layout and wording** – such as increasing clarity of the wording and reducing the number of pages to make the form easier to work with
- **Some additional questions being added** – separating some questions which weren't clear and giving clearer points to ask if the interviewee would like a follow-up discussion
- **To how to conduct the interviews** – clarifying the arrangement with the assistant /scribe

On the whole, the interviewers had no difficulty in having discussions using the evaluation questions, and demonstrated high levels of competence in the interviewing techniques covered in the training session.

Data collection

Conducting the first round of interviews

The first round of interviews were conducted in November 2016 in Brighton. In total, eight interviews took place over the day; slightly lower than predicted due to several interviewees dropping out at the last minute, as well as difficulties caused by one of the many Southern Rail train strikes.

Overall, however, these interviews were successful, supported by several key factors:

- **Gathering the interviewers early**, allowing for a review of the interview materials, refreshing the content from the training day, and to help them prepare.
- **Clear communication of interview times and pairings** – greatly assisted by the Stay Up Late team and use of a flipchart which showed the table layout for each interview throughout the day.
- **A separate area for breaks or ‘quiet’ interviews** – particularly for interviewers / interviewees who were not happy to be in the louder main room.
- **Additional activities for ‘down time’ where no interviews were scheduled** – there was some waiting around for interviewers and having other activities (writing Christmas cards) kept interviewers engaged.

There were also some learnings for future interviewing:

- **Due to the variety of different travel arrangements and schedules**, it was difficult to get all interviewees to attend – in the future, reminder phone calls the day before may help with attendance.
- **In the future, a full day may not be necessary** – particularly if interviewee numbers are low. It may be that interviewing can be conducted prior to another Stay Up Late event in order to incentivise interviewees to attend.
- **The extra space** was very useful and future venues should have a variety of spaces for interviewing which are flexible to the individual needs of participants.

Following the interviews, Stay Up Late entered all responses using the bespoke online data entry form (programmed by RiPFA using an online secure survey software), which allowed for quick transcription of the data. All paper response sheets and consent forms were left with Stay Up Late, with the instruction that these should be separated once safeguarding checks had been made as per their own safeguarding procedures.

The interviewing confirmed the benefit of the participatory approach to evaluation taken with Gig Buddies. The quality of conversations between interviewers and interviewees was extremely rich and, although guided by the question sheets, had the flexibility to encourage deeper conversations surrounding certain topics.

Furthermore, the scribe-interviewer partnership gave interviewers the freedom to explore the questions without having to focus on writing down responses. Feedback on the interviewing process

from the interviewers themselves was also positive, and there was a clear positivity amongst the interviewer group.

Subsequent interviewing

A second round of evidence collection was conducted by Stay Up Late using the RiPFA materials and participant researchers. Responses were entered into an online questionnaire. A total of twenty further interviews were conducted in this data collection and have since been added to the original interview responses.

Participant questionnaire responses

Prior to RiPFA's evaluation involvement, Stay Up Late were already working in an evidence-informed way and had been collecting feedback from participants via a questionnaire which asked questions similar to the updated interview guide. This data collection tool informed subsequent data collection, and the evidence formerly collected will also be incorporated into this evaluation.

Volunteer questionnaires

A list of all current and recent (previous two years) volunteers' contact details were provided to RiPFA. These **68** people were sent an email invite to participate in the questionnaire. One reminder email was sent to those who did not respond to the first invite. In total, 24 volunteers completed the survey (response rate of 35%).

Evidence summaries

This section summarises the evidence collected during this evaluation, which consists of:

1. Interview and questionnaire responses from people who participated in Gig Buddies, and
2. Questionnaire responses from volunteers.

Participant interviews and questionnaire

Evidence was collected between December 2015 and June 2017; with the new format of interviews conducted from November 2016 to June 2017. The response rates for this evidence collection were as follows:

- A total of 28 responses were received using the new interview questions:
 - 8 responses were collected in the first round of interviews, overseen by RiPFA
 - 20 further interviews were conducted by Stay Up Late using same materials
- A further 23 responses are included from the original Gig Buddies questionnaire

Overall, this gave 33 completed responses; however due to changes in methodology and the questions, reporting will be divided between original questionnaire and new interview format for the purposes of reporting. A full summary of the findings can be found in **Appendix 2** of this report.

Furthermore, 9 people completed both old questionnaire and new interview, therefore combining responses would lead to duplication of respondents. This does however give us the opportunity to look at changes over time for these 9 participants.

Feedback has been aggregated across all sources of evidence and grouped by themes identified by the evaluation planning process.

1. Participants' enjoyment of Gig Buddies
2. The types of activities they have done
3. Their access to night culture
4. The effect of Gig Buddies on their wellbeing and loneliness
5. The effect of Gig Buddies on their social network and friendships

Summaries for each of these themes and key quotes from interviews are provided in the following pages.

1. Participants' enjoyment of their involvement with Gig Buddies

The first section reflects the participants' enjoyment of the Gig Buddies programme and the relationships built between participants and volunteers. This initial relationship building was identified as an important output in the logic model, facilitating subsequent improvements in the lives of participants. This positive relationship enable participants to build their ability to enjoy alternative/night culture, as well as the immediate enjoyment of the encounters being a central part of improving participants' quality of life.

Overall, the majority of participants enjoyed being a part of Gig Buddies. This was seen across both the interview data collection and original questionnaires. In fact, only one participant (2%) reported not enjoying having a Gig Buddy. When exploring the reasons behind this through qualitative answers, the cause appears to be due to an incompatibility of interests and difficulties in organising events in this particular case.

Have you enjoyed having a Gig Buddy?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	96%	82%	90%
Not sure	-	18%	8%
No	4%	-	2%

The explanatory comments for this questions (n = 25, new interviews only), highlighted the opportunity to see and do new things as an important part of their enjoyment (n = 13), that they enjoyed the friendships created and opportunities to socialise (n = 10), and that Gig Buddies increased their independence and confidence (n = 3).

"It has given me more independence and confidence when going to gigs"

"It's given me a change in my life, I was isolated before. My Gig Buddy has helped me stay up late."

"If I didn't have a Gig Buddy I wouldn't have anything to do"

Almost all participants (86%) viewed their Gig Buddy as a new friend.

Do you see your Gig Buddy as a friend?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	96%	73%	86%
Not sure	4%	23%	12%
No	0%	5%	2%

Many of the follow-up comments in interviews highlighted ‘fun’ relationships and true friendships which enabled participants to enjoy the events and nights out that they went on, as well as the safety they felt from having a Gig Buddy with them.

“I love having fun. We like going to the same things, like discos.”

“She’s so nice and we like the same things. She doesn’t tell me what to do and she looks out for me.”

“I like seeing him and feel safe out with him”

“We have a laugh, I talk about my day, when it’s time to go home she waits for my taxi to come, we check each other gets home safe.”

Only a few participants had things they didn’t enjoy about Gig Buddies (n = 4). The explanations for these were mainly that they and their Gig Buddy didn’t enjoy the same activities or a difference in opinion over activities (n = 3), or difficulties in arranging events (n = 2). There were, however, no serious events or negative experiences reported to this question.

Is there anything you haven’t enjoyed?	
Answer	Interviews
Yes	17%
No	83%

2. The types of activities they have done as a result of their involvement

Given that some participants have been with Gig Buddies for a long time (several years or more), it was not easy to collect representative data about how many events participants have been to with their Gig Buddy. This data is extracted from a text question and not all respondents provided clear answers or were able to answer the question. Where possible, the data have been cleaned or an estimated number has been provided.

For those who provided an answer (n = 29), the average number of times they had been out was 10 times, suggesting that there had been a good level of established social activity for these participants. The most times someone had reported going out with Gig Buddies was 48 times (once a month for over 4 years), and the least was just once.

Key stats - times gone out with buddy	
Count	29
Mean	10.24
SD	10.84
Min	1
Max	48

The majority of participants reported having a say in what activities they did with their Gig Buddy (82%), reflecting a two-way relationship between participants and volunteers. This was similar between original data collection and the interviews.

Are you able to make decisions about what you do?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	82%	81%	82%
Not sure	11%	10%	10%
No	7%	10%	8%

The comments around decision making highlighted the planning process and that participants and volunteers meet to discuss what events are on, what they'd like to do, and decide together on what events to attend (n = 14).

"We meet up for dinner have a chat to check the internet to see what going on in our area"

“If there was a gig I saw in the paper, I discuss with her and see if she wants to go and vice versa.”

When asked what the **best thing participants have done** was, there was a wide range of diversity in answers, most likely reflecting the variety in interests of the participants and flexibility of the Gig Buddies programme overall. These included gigs, festivals, theatre performances, cinema, swimming, dinner, evenings in the pub, nights out, shopping trips, the Brighton Pride festival, crafting and cooking events, comedy shows, crazy golf, sporting fixtures, and just a chat and coffee.

“Going to crazy golf and my Gig Buddy fell over and we had a fit of giggles!”

“We went to a pub in the old town - we went to the cinema to see Bridget Jones and the baby. We couldn't stop laughing.”

“Just going out dancing and letting our hair down. Seeing random bands I haven't heard of.”

3. Their access to night culture

The founding aim of Gig Buddies was to increase access to night time culture for people with learning disabilities. The evaluation looked at whether Gig Buddies had achieved this for participants.

Interviews and questionnaires highlighted that Gig Buddies had helped around half of respondents in trying new things (48%), and three quarters in knowing what to do with their spare time (76%); suggesting that the programme had helped with participants' independence and control over their social lives.

The split between those who had and hadn't tried new things is not necessarily negative, and may reflect that not all participants *want* to try new things. We are inclined to believe this is the case given that the majority of participants felt able to make decisions about what they did with their Gig Buddy (see above).

The new things that participants had done included seeing new bands, visiting new venues, going to festivals for the first time and getting involved in the arts such as putting on events or appearing in films.

Has your Gig Buddy helped you try new things?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	54%	41%	48%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%
No	43%	55%	48%

Are you more aware of what to do with your spare time?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	78%	73%	76%
Not sure	7%	14%	10%
No	15%	14%	14%

Those who were interviewed also gave examples of how their understanding of what to do with their free time had increased.

“Discovering things I can do with friends and family, just not my Gig Buddy.”

“It has given me ideas, like bowling. I now go to a regular Thursday group outside.”

“Going to a pub, it's helped build my confidence, I'd lost all my confidence from [a previous bad experience].”

In the updated questions used in interviews, participants were asked whether Gig Buddies had increased the amount that they went out in the evenings. Interview responses showed that around 60% of respondents were going out in the evening once or more per month. Furthermore, approximately four fifths (79%) of interviewees said that Gig Buddies had increased the amount of evenings they spend going out and doing activities.

How often do you go out in the evening?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Once a week or more	26%	9%	18%
About once or twice a month	33%	32%	33%
Occasionally – less than once a month	33%	50%	41%
Never	7%	5%	6%
Not sure	0%	5%	2%

Do you go out more in the evenings since joining Gig Buddies?	
Answer	Interviews
Yes	79%
Not sure	16%
No	5%

4. Their wellbeing and loneliness

As highlighted in the logic model, there is an important focus put on how Gig Buddies and the access to additional social events impacts on wellbeing and loneliness. Participants were asked about this in the original questionnaire and subsequent interviews; however there are differences in wording between the original and new data collection.

The original questionnaire asked if people felt 'lonely before joining Gig Buddies', whereas the new questions asked if people ever feel lonely, in acknowledgement that loneliness is not a static factor, even when people have improvements in their social networks.

The original questionnaire also did not offer the option of 'sometimes' and the follow-up question asked if loneliness had reduced, compared to directly asking whether the buddy had reduced loneliness in the interview. As such the loneliness questions are not directly comparable between the two sources of data and are not totalled.

Overall, the interview and original questionnaire responses both suggest that Gig Buddies had a positive impact on participants' loneliness. Taking the interview responses as a more conservative and representative figure due to updates in the wording, 72% thought that Gig Buddies had reduced the loneliness that they feel.

Do you feel lonely?		
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire
Yes	29%	48%
Sometimes	50%	-
No	21%	52%

Does your Gig Buddy reduce loneliness?		
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire
Yes	72%	90%
Not sure	4%	-
No	24%	10%

When those being interviewed explained their answers around loneliness, their explanations included an increase in opportunities to be busy (n = 8), the extension of their social networks and opportunities to socialise (n = 7), an increase in their confidence (n = 3), and having things to look forward to (n = 2).

“Yes it has made me feel less lonely. I have my parents, but it is nice to have someone else too.”

“I go home on my own but it’s like I’m less lonely than I would have been because I had a great time with my gig buddy”

“It helps me get out. My gig buddy encourages me to go out get things off my chest.”

5. Their social network and friendships

Finally, interviews and the original questionnaire looked at the social networks and friendships made through Gig Buddies. This question focused on friendships other than that with the volunteer, thinking about the sustainability of Gig Buddies, and wider peer networks made from the programme and increased access to night culture.

Approximately 80% of respondents suggested they had made additional friends due to Gig Buddies, who weren’t their volunteer.

Have you made any friends in addition to the Gig Buddies volunteer?			
Answer	Interviews	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	86%	68%	78%
Not sure	7%	9%	8%
No	7%	23%	14%

In addition to this categorical question asked in both interviews and the original questionnaire, the interview also asked some follow-up questions regarding the nature of the friendships made. The majority of friendships reported were with other Gig Buddy participants, volunteers, and Stay UP Late staff (and their friends) (n = 14). Some of these friendships appeared less formal and had evolved into more natural relaxed friendships (n = 6).

"[A new friend] and I have sleepovers and go out with my Gig Buddy. So nice to have a friend who understands."

Comparing responses for participants who completed the questionnaire and interviews

A total of 9 people completed both the old questionnaire and new interview, giving potential to look at changes over time for these people. However, only a few of the questions were directly comparable between the old and new data collection tools due to changes in questions and method. Furthermore, these comparisons should not be seen as representative of any other participants; rather as case studies for a few participants. The areas where longitudinal comparisons could be reliably made were:

- **Enjoyment of having a Gig Buddy**
 - The majority (n = 7) enjoyed having a Gig Buddy consistently
 - One person reported an improvement (from 'not sure' to 'yes')
 - One person reported a decrease in enjoyment
- **Seeing their Gig Buddy as a friend**
 - One person reported an improvement from 'not sure' to 'yes'
 - The remainder had consistently positive friendships with their Gig Buddy
- **Trying new things**
 - The majority had consistency in their responses (n = 6)
 - Two people changed from 'no' to 'yes', possibly pointing to a development of confidence in the buddy pairing
 - One reported a change from 'yes' to 'no', an explanation for which could not be drawn from the available responses.
- **Ability to make decisions**
 - The majority of answers (n = 7) were stable
 - One answer suggested a decline in this ability which the participant suggests is due to a difference in what they and their Buddy like to do.
- **Amount they go out in the evening**
 - Four people reported an increase in the amount they go out in the evening
 - Three reported no change
 - One reported a decrease
 - One was unknown
- **Knowing what to do with their spare time**
 - There was no change over time for all respondents
- **Making friends (who weren't their Gig Buddy)**
 - Two people reported increases in making friends other than their Gig Buddy
 - The remainder (n = 7) reported 'yes' for both time points

Given the limited number of responses for this comparison and a change in tools mid-way through, it is not possible to draw many meaningful conclusions about the change in Gig Buddies over time. However we note that, in the majority of cases, the experience for this small sample was consistently positive and the amount of going out in the evening increased on average. The one case which skews this general finding appears to be due to a recent negative experience related to not agreeing on the type of events that they would like to go to.

Summary of interview and questionnaire data

Overall, the evidence from interviews suggests that Gig Buddies is having an overwhelmingly positive impact on the lives of those participants who provided feedback:

Theme	Summary of evidence
1. Participants' enjoyment of Gig Buddies	Participants enjoyed the time they spent with their Gig Buddy and the events they went to.
2. The types of activities they have done	The number and type of activities they could be involved with increased as a result of the programme and they had more awareness of what to do with their spare time.
3. Their access to night culture	Three quarters of participants had increased awareness of what to do with their free time. Around half had tried new things, but we conclude that this is neither good nor bad since not all participants may want to diversify their activities.
4. The effect of Gig Buddies on their wellbeing and loneliness	The programme helped reduce the loneliness and increased confidence for the majority of participants.
5. The effect of Gig Buddies on their social network and friendships	Participants made friends in addition to their Gig Buddy, increased their social networks, and became involved in the larger 'family' of Stay Up Late.

The limited sample of people who had responded to both the original questionnaire and the later interviews also points towards a slight improvement of positive outcomes over time for some, or sustained positive outcomes.

In the minority of cases where negative outcomes were reported, this appears to be to do with a difference of personal preferences between the Gig Buddy volunteer and participants, and on a couple of occasions, logistical issues that have resulted in difficulties arranging activities. However,

no significant concerns were highlighted by the respondents. On the whole, small issues like this should be expected given the nature of Gig Buddies and its flexible and personal approach to developing friendships and social access for participants.

Overall, the responses from participants suggest that the programme has had a positive impact on the lives of this sample of people with learning disabilities, particularly in terms of their access to cultural events and the close friendships that these help to build.

Volunteer questionnaire

As well as the interviews conducted with Gig Buddies, RiPfA also conducted an anonymous survey of Gig Buddies volunteers (**Appendix 1**). The survey was sent to a long list of 68 volunteers who had been with Gig Buddies over the past two years. A total of 24 responses were received (response rate = 35%). A complete summary of the questionnaire data can be found in **Appendix 2**.

Given the response rate, we cannot say whether this sample is representative of all Stay Up Late volunteers; however it does provide some valuable insight into the thoughts of this group. In this summary, we provide some key findings under several key themes:

1. Volunteer demographics
2. Expectations and satisfaction
3. Flexibility of volunteering
4. Support for the volunteer
5. Impact on the person they are buddied with

1. Volunteer demographics

Of the respondents, the longest serving volunteer has been with Gig Buddies for over 5 years. The most recent joiner had been volunteering for just under a year.

On average, volunteers had been out with their Gig Buddy 20 times (mean = 19.6, min = 6, max = 45, sd = 9.8).

In total, there were approximately 470 outings for these 24 respondents during their time volunteering. Given that each activity will have lasted approximately 2 or more hours, this equates to close to 1000 hours of direct volunteering time using a conservative estimate.

The majority of volunteers (n = 19) had only been paired with one Gig Buddy. The most pairings anyone had had was three, suggesting that pairings have been mostly stable.

2. Expectations and satisfaction

Volunteers gave a range of reasons for wanting to volunteer with Gig Buddies. Their comments were coded and the emerging themes are shown in the table below:

Theme	n =
To improve someone's life / help people	9
Charity fitted with personal interests	7
Support the cause / have personal experience	5
To make new friends / get to know people	3
To gain experience in support work	3
Publicity about Stay Up Late / Gig Buddies	2

“I read an article in The Guardian magazine about Gig Buddies attending a gig I'd been to. Thought it sounded fantastic so applied to volunteer a week or so later.”

All volunteers (100%) thought that Gig Buddies had met their expectations to some extent. Half (50%) said that their expectations were ‘entirely’ met, and a further 21% said that they were ‘mostly’ met. Where volunteers hadn’t had their expectations completely met, they cited reasons such as a desire for more opportunities or activities (n = 3), or that their pairing may not be quite right (n = 2).

“[Gig Buddies has] given me a huge insight into the life that people living with a disability have.”

Volunteers had mixed opinions on the applicability of the matching between them and their Gig Buddy. One third (33%) felt that it was a perfect match; a further third (33%) thought it was mostly a good match; 13% thought it was, to some extent; and a final 21% thought it wasn’t really the right match for them. Some volunteers mentioned differences in interests (n = 5), although some worked through this positively.

“My Gig Buddy and I have some overlap in our musical taste, but also each suggest things the other has not heard of before.”

Overall, the majority of volunteers have enjoyed volunteering with Gig Buddies (71%). A further 25% have enjoyed it to some extent. Only 1 person (4%) did not really enjoy their time volunteering.

Almost all (83%) volunteers would recommend volunteering with Gig Buddies to a friend or someone similar to them.

3. Flexibility of volunteering

The majority of volunteers (83%) thought that volunteering with Gig Buddies fitted around their work and social life. Some suggested that they needed to make adjustments to their plans, but that this was acceptable (n = 4). One area that presented a difficulty for continuing to volunteer was when the volunteer had a particularly large shift in their lives such as moving house or changing job.

“It does require some planning to make time for one gig a month and then meeting up outside of gigs, but I have mostly been able to make it work.”

Most of the time, volunteers found it easy to make arrangements with their Gig Buddy. Some highlighted difficulties in keeping in touch and problems with keeping arrangements (n = 7), and specific strategies for working with their particular Gig Buddy relevant to their care and support needs.

4. Support for the volunteer

The majority of volunteers felt that Stay Up Late gave them the support they needed all of the time (63%) or most of the time (13%). Only three people did not feel that they had much support. Further comments highlighted that some more training and supervision may be welcomed by some volunteers. Several volunteers highlighted that they knew they could go to Stay Up Late for support if they needed to (n = 6); but some others suggested they hadn't had much contact (n = 5).

"Once I'd been paired I didn't have much in the way of contact with Stay Up Late but I knew I could make contact with them if I needed anything"

"When I email with concerns they are very quick to respond and help. However I think more training would be helpful."

38% of volunteers thought there were areas of Gig Buddies that could be improved, including increased supervision and training, and more group activities and events. Overall, the suggestions for improvements were light-touch and no themes emerged from comments.

5. Impact on the person they are buddied with

The majority of volunteers (92%) felt that Gig Buddies had increased their Buddy's access to evening or alternative culture by at least a small amount; and 38% thought it had made a big difference.

"It has made her world bigger"

The perceived impacts on social networks for their Buddy were slightly lower, with a quarter (25%) of volunteers thinking it has made a big difference, and 42% thinking it made a small difference.

"My Gig Buddy revels in the group activities/social nights that Gig Buddies provides. It took me some time to realise 1:1 time with him could be improved by surrounding ourselves with likeminded friends."

Volunteers also noticed a largely positive impact on confidence of their Buddy, with 42% thinking it has made a big difference, and a further 33% thinking it has made some difference.

"My Gig Buddy has become more confident in where we meet and what we go to."

Overall, volunteers judged the programme to have had a mostly positive impact on the lives of their Buddies. 63% thought it had been entirely positive; 21% thought it was mostly positive; and 17% thought it has had a mixed impact. Volunteers noted the increased confidence and improved social lives of their Buddies in their comments.

"I cannot see how this can be anything but wholly positive"

Summary of volunteer questionnaire

Overall, the responses of volunteers supports the participant interview evidence in highlighting the positive impact that Gig Buddies is having on the individual lives of participants:

Theme	Summary of evidence
1. Volunteer demographics	An estimated 1000 hours of direct volunteering time with Buddies has been contributed by these 24 respondents alone during their time with Gig Buddies. The pairings between volunteers and Buddies have been largely stable and sustainable.
2. Expectations and satisfaction	Almost all volunteers have had their expectations met, at least to some extent, as a result of volunteering; and the majority have enjoyed their time volunteering and would recommend it to a friend or someone similar to them.
3. Flexibility of volunteering	Most volunteers found it easy to fit volunteering around their lives and to make arrangements with their Gig Buddy so that they could meet up and go to events.
4. Support for the volunteer	Some people would like additional contact and support from Stay Up Late; but the majority felt they had the support they needed or could get it if they needed it.
5. Impact on the person they are buddied with	Volunteers felt overwhelmingly that the Gig Buddies programme was meeting its aim of increasing access to evening / alternative culture for people with learning disabilities. The majority felt that the programme was having positive effects on their Buddies confidence, social networks, and lives in general.

Conclusions

Research in Practice for Adults have gathered evidence from both volunteers and Gig Buddies participants, using objective evaluation tools, to better understand the impact that the Gig Buddies programme is having on the lives of those with learning disabilities.

The picture of Gig Buddies that the evidence paints is one of an innovative programme which increases the opportunities available to people with learning disabilities via a form of volunteering which fits naturally into people's lives.

Using the evidence collected, we can now evaluate the logic model outlined earlier in this report to better understand whether and how Gig Buddies is achieving its intended impact. The revisited logic model below (**Table 3**) has been colour coded to reflect the conclusions. We will also outline the summary of evidence for each cell in the following table (**Table 2**).

The table and logic model have been colour coded in the following way:

- **Green** – strong evidence that this has occurred
- **Light green** – some evidence that this has occurred
- **Amber** – some evidence that this has not occurred
- **Red** – strong evidence that this has not occurred
- **Grey** – insufficient evidence to make a conclusion

Table 2: Conclusions against logic model components

Section	Cell	Conclusion
Activities	Participants are identified in the programme catchment area	In a two year period we are aware of 68 volunteers, 24 confirmed through the questionnaire, and 33 confirmed participants via interviews. There is also strong evidence of publicity and local awareness of the programme. Further delivery figures are necessary to strongly conclude this.
	Participants' personalities and interests are understood	We are not able to say whether this occurs without closer study of the referral and matching process. However, there was some evidence from interviewing that the volunteers and participants worked well together to find events to attend.
	Participants are matched with appropriate Gig Buddy	Some incompatible matches were mentioned; however the majority of respondents spoke warmly about their pairing and the relationships they built, even when their interests weren't exactly similar.
	Opportunities for Gig Buddies and participants to go to events are identified	Some requested further support for identifying opportunities and more group activities; however most were able to plan activities together with success.

	Gig Buddies and participants attend events	Almost 500 outings of some form were reported by the 24 volunteers, suggesting a huge number of event attendances across the wider programme.
Resources	Volunteer time and effort	A conservative estimate of 1000 hours volunteering time for the 24 volunteer respondents suggests that Gig Buddies contributes a large and valuable resource to the local community and economy. If other volunteers are similar (unknown) this would equate to almost 3000 hours volunteering time.
	Cost of Stay Up Late administration and management	RIPfA did not have access to sufficient data to make conclusions on this.
Outputs	Participants enjoy having a Gig Buddy	Participants spoke very positively about their Gig Buddy and the relationships they had built.
	Participants develop positive relationship with their Gig Buddies	
	Participants regularly attend social events	A high number of events were reported and participants spoke positively about all of the events they had attended including a diverse range of personal highlights.
Short term outcomes	Participants make additional friends through social experiences	Many participants reported making new friends and involvement in the larger 'Stay Up Late family' and the evaluation process itself revealed a social network amongst those involved.
	Participants are more outgoing / willing to try new things	Some participants expressed that they have tried new things, whilst others were less likely to have; however we have concluded that this is a personal preference and not all participants may wish to change the type of activities they engage with.
	Participants are aware of new opportunities for using their free time	Three quarters of participants had increased awareness of what to do with their free time.
Med term outcomes	Participants social networks increase in size	Some volunteers were less sure about the impact on participants' social relationships. A more detailed network analysis for participants may provide additional evidence about this.
	Participants are more independent	Many participants reported an increase in activities outside of Gig Buddies, for example with other friends and family, or joining groups.
Long term outcomes	Participants are less lonely	The programme helped reduce the loneliness and increased confidence for the majority of participants.
	Participants attend more social events independently (i.e. without Gig Buddies)	We are not able to say conclusively whether this is the case; however there were some examples given of participants living more independent lives due to Gig Buddies.

Impact	Participants' quality of life improves	The overwhelming image of Gig Buddies via both interviews and the volunteer questionnaire was that the programme was having a very positive impact on the social lives of those involved.
Assumptions	Appropriate matches between Gig Buddies and participants are made and maintained	Most matches were viewed positively; and even when there were differences in tastes / opinions, these were generally worked out.
External factors	Participants have good time when at events (excluding due to their relationship with the Gig Buddy) – i.e. there are no barriers to accessing the events	Very few negative experiences were reported across all the evidence collected.

No amber or red cells have been identified, suggesting that the original logic model is a good theory of how Gig Buddies aims to impact the lives of people with learning disabilities and may continue to be used for identifying priorities in service provision.

Recommendations

Given the overwhelmingly positive responses from participants and volunteers, we have very few significant recommendations for changes to the Gig Buddies programme. There were, however, a few themes which may be worth further consideration for Stay Up Late:

- Provide further clarity to volunteers regarding the support available to them and how best to request this.
- Establish a schedule of supervision for volunteers.
- Offer a regular programme of training activities and publicise this to all volunteers; including sessions specifically focused on individual learning disabilities.
- Look at offering additional group meet ups and events for volunteers and Gig Buddies.
- Continue to publicise Gig Buddies at events and in mainstream media to support additional volunteer recruitment.

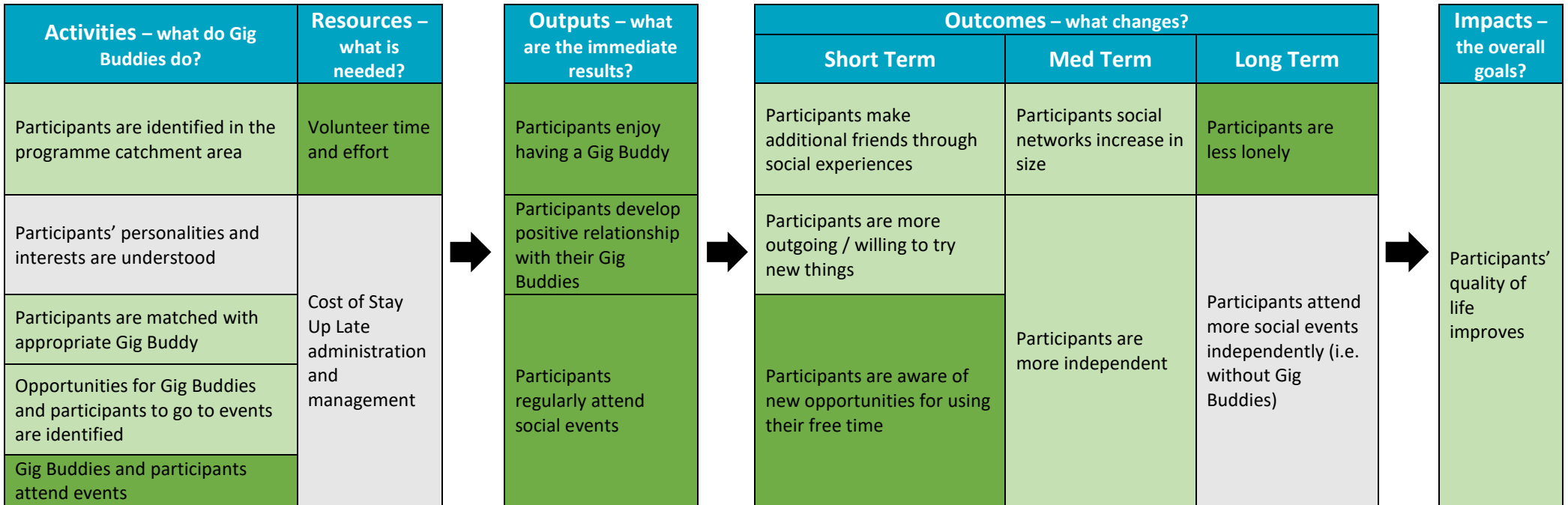
Applicability of the findings

This was an evaluation using a limited sample of stakeholders from Gig Buddies; therefore we cannot empirically say whether the same conclusions would have been made with a different set of participants, volunteers; or if we were conducting the same evaluation in a different organisation or region.

However, the qualitative nature of our findings does reveal many generalizable findings which are relevant to other, similar programmes. Furthermore, the evaluation offers clear evidence that Gig Buddies' alternative model of support has positive effects; and it is logical to assume these effects would apply in similar contexts, elsewhere, with similar populations.

Table 3: Completed logic model evaluation

Rationale – why does Gig Buddies exist?
 Increasing access to social events for people with learning disabilities and autism may be a viable alternative to traditional models of care, helping increase quality of life for people who access services



Assumptions – what needs to happen to allow the model above to work?
 Appropriate matches between Gig Buddies and participants are made and maintained

External factors – what is outside of the control of the programme?
 Participants have good time when at events (excluding due to their relationship with the Gig Buddy) – i.e. there are no barriers to accessing the events

research
in practice
for adults

research in practice *for adults*

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Research Tools

Appendix 2 – Evidence summaries

Appendix 1 – Research tools

Participant interview questions

QUESTION	ANSWER		
Have you enjoyed having a Gig Buddy?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
Why?			
Do you see your Gig Buddy as a new friend?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
Why?			
Do you ever feel lonely?	Yes	Sometimes	No I'm not sure
Does your Gig Buddy make you feel less lonely?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
Please explain			
Would you like to talk to someone about loneliness after this interview?	Yes		No
What are the best things you have done with your Gig Buddy?			
Have you done anything new with your Gig Buddy that you hadn't tried before you had a Gig Buddy?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
If yes, what?			
Do you feel like you can make decisions and plan things to do with your Gig Buddy?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
If yes , in what ways?			
If no , why not?			
Is there anything that you have not enjoyed about spending time with your Gig Buddy?	Yes		No
If so, please say what you didn't enjoy.			
Would you like to talk to someone about this after the interview?	Yes		No
How many times have you been out with your gig buddy?			

How often do you go out in the evening past 9pm?	<input type="radio"/> Once a week or more <input type="radio"/> About once or twice a month <input type="radio"/> Occasionally – less than once a month <input type="radio"/> Never		
Since meeting your gig buddy, do you go out past 9pm more often?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
Has being a part of Gig Buddies made you more aware of things you can do with your free time?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
If yes, can you give some examples?			
Has having a Gig Buddy helped you meet more people and make new friends, apart from your Gig Buddy?	Yes	No	I'm not sure
Which new people have you met because of your Gig Buddy?			
Tell us about your friendship with them? (Where did you meet, how often do you see them, and what do you do together?)			
Would you like to talk to someone from Stay Up Late about this interview after it has finished?	Yes	No	

Volunteer questionnaire

QUESTION	ANSWER
When did you start volunteering with Gig Buddies?	Year:
	Month:
Since you started volunteering, approximately how many times have you been out with a Gig Buddies participant?	Number:
How many Gig Buddy participants have you been paired with since you started volunteering?	Number:
Briefly, why did you start volunteering with Gig Buddies?	
To what extent has it met your expectations?	<input type="radio"/> Entirely <input type="radio"/> Mostly <input type="radio"/> To some extent <input type="radio"/> Not really <input type="radio"/> Not at all
Please explain:	
Do you think the participants you were paired with were the right match for you based on your interests?	<input type="radio"/> Yes, completely <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly <input type="radio"/> To some extent <input type="radio"/> No, not really <input type="radio"/> No, not at all
Please explain:	
Does volunteering with Gig Buddies fit around your work / social life?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> I'm not sure
Please explain:	

<p>Have you found it easy to make arrangements with your Gig Buddy?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Always <input type="radio"/> Mostly <input type="radio"/> To some extent <input type="radio"/> Not really <input type="radio"/> Not at all </p>
<p>Please explain:</p>	
<p>Do you feel like you have received the support you have needed from Stay Up Late during your time as a volunteer?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Always <input type="radio"/> Mostly <input type="radio"/> To some extent <input type="radio"/> Not really <input type="radio"/> Not at all </p>
<p>Please explain:</p>	
<p>Is there anything Stay Up Late could do to improve Gig Buddies?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> I'm not sure </p>
<p>If yes, please explain:</p>	
<p>Has Gig Buddies increased their access to evening/alternative culture?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> A lot <input type="radio"/> A little <input type="radio"/> Not at all <input type="radio"/> I'm not sure </p>
<p>Has it increased their social network?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> A lot <input type="radio"/> A little <input type="radio"/> Not at all <input type="radio"/> I'm not sure </p>
<p>Have you seen increases in their confidence?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> A lot <input type="radio"/> A little <input type="radio"/> Not at all </p>

	<input type="radio"/> I'm not sure
Overall, what kind of impact do you think that Gig Buddies has had on the person/people you have volunteered with?	<input type="radio"/> Entirely positive <input type="radio"/> Mostly positive <input type="radio"/> Mixed impact <input type="radio"/> Mostly negative <input type="radio"/> Entirely negative
Please explain:	
Overall, have you enjoyed volunteering with Gig Buddies?	
Please explain:	
Would you recommend volunteering with Gig Buddies to a friend or someone similar to you?	<input type="radio"/> Yes, definitely <input type="radio"/> Probably <input type="radio"/> I'm not sure <input type="radio"/> Probably not <input type="radio"/> Definitely not

Appendix 2

Participant questionnaire / interview summary

<i>Survey details</i>	
Completed qnaire and interview	9
Total responses	33
Original qnaire responses	23
Interviews overseen by RiPFA	8
New interviews conducted by Stay Up Late only	20
Data collection start	Dec-15
Data collection end	Jun-17

NB: Due to changes in methodology, reporting will be divided between original questionnaire and new interview format

Enjoyed having a gig buddy

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	27	18	45
Not sure	-	4	4
No	1	-	1
Grand Total	28	22	50

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	96%	82%	90%
Not sure	-	18%	8%
No	4%	-	2%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Do you see your Gig Buddy as a friend?

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	27	16	43
not sure	1	5	6
No		1	1
Grand Total	28	22	50

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	96%	73%	86%
not sure	4%	23%	12%
No	0%	5%	2%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Do you feel lonely?

NB: There are differences in wording between the original and new data collection. The original asked if people felt 'lonely before joining Gig Buddies', whereas the new questions asked if people ever feel lonely, in acknowledgement that loneliness is not a static factor, even when people have improvements in their social networks. The original questionnaire also did not offer the option of 'sometimes' and the follow-up question asked if loneliness had reduced, compared to directly asking whether the buddy had reduced loneliness in the interview. As such the loneliness questions are not directly comparable between the two sources of data and are not totalled.

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire
Yes	8	11
Sometimes	14	-
No	6	12
Grand Total	28	23

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire
Yes	29%	48%
Sometimes	50%	-
No	21%	52%
Grand Total	100%	100%

Does your buddy reduce loneliness?

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire
Yes	18	9
Not sure	1	-
No	6	1
Grand Total	25	10

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire
Yes	72%	90%
Not sure	4%	-
No	24%	10%
Grand Total	100%	100%

Has Gig Buddies helped you try something new?

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	15	9	24
Not sure	1	1	2
No	12	12	24
Grand Total	28	22	50

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	54%	41%	48%

Not sure	4%	5%	4%
No	43%	55%	48%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Are you able to make decisions about what you do?

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	23	17	40
Not sure	3	2	5
No	2	2	4
Grand Total	28	21	49

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	82%	81%	82%
Not sure	11%	10%	10%
No	7%	10%	8%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Is there anything you haven't enjoyed?

Answer	Interview
Yes	4
No	20
Grand Total	24

Answer	Interview
Yes	17%
No	83%

How many times have you gone out with your Gig Buddy?

NB: This data is extracted from a text question and not all respondents provided clear answers or were able to answer the question. Where possible, the data have been cleaned or an estimated number has been provided.

Key stats - times gone out with buddy

Count	29
Mean	10.24
SD	10.84
Min	1
Max	48

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
--------	-----------	------------------------	-------

Once a week or more	7	2	9
About once or twice a month	9	7	16
Occasionally – less than once a month	9	11	20
Never	2	1	3
Not sure		1	1
Grand Total	27	22	49

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Once a week or more	26%	9%	18%
About once or twice a month	33%	32%	33%
Occasionally – less than once a month	33%	50%	41%
Never	7%	5%	6%
Not sure	0%	5%	2%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Go out more in the evening since gig buddies

Answer	Interview
Yes	15
Not sure	3
No	1
Grand Total	19

Answer	Interview
Yes	79%
Not sure	16%
No	5%
Grand Total	100%

More aware what to do with your free time

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	21	16	37
Not sure	2	3	5
No	4	3	7
Grand Total	27	22	49

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
Yes	78%	73%	76%
Not sure	7%	14%	10%
No	15%	14%	14%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Made friends due to Gig Buddies (not the gig buddy)

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
--------	-----------	------------------------	-------

yes	24	15	39
not sure	2	2	4
no	2	5	7
Grand Total	28	22	50

Answer	Interview	Original questionnaire	TOTAL
yes	86%	68%	78%
not sure	7%	9%	8%
no	7%	23%	14%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%

Volunteer questionnaire data summary

Survey details

Number of respondents	24
Start date	03/10/2017
Close date	24/10/2017
Number of reminders	1
Response rate	35%

Q1. When did you start volunteering with Gig Buddies?

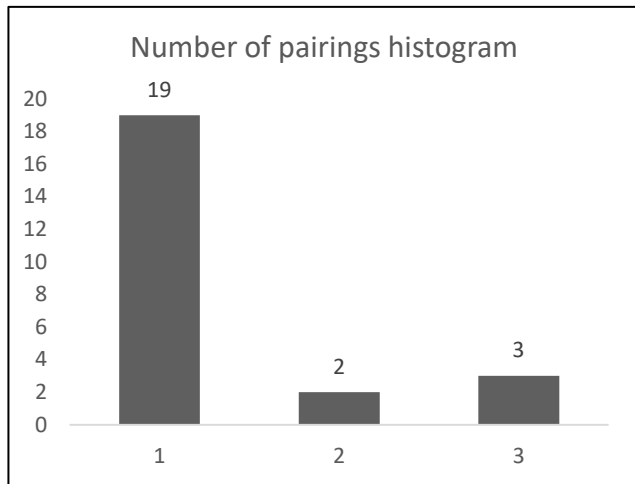
Earliest	Oct-12
Latest	Nov-16

Q2. Since you started volunteering, approximately how many times have you been out with a Gig Buddies participant?

Mean	19.583
Median	18.500
Mode	20
Standard Deviation	9.824
Range	39
Minimum	6
Maximum	45
Sum	470
Count	24

Q3. How many Gig Buddy participants have you been paired with since you started volunteering?

Number of pairings	Frequency
1	19
2	2
3	3



Q4. Briefly, why did you start volunteering with Gig Buddies?

Charity fitted with interests	7
Publicity about the charity	2
Support the cause / personal experience	5
To improve someone's life / help people	9
Make new friends	3
Gain experience in support work	3
Recommendation	1
Other	1

Q5. To what extent has it met your expectations?

Entirely	12	50%
Mostly	5	21%
To some extent	7	29%
Not really	0	0%
Not at all	0	0%

Please explain:

Would like to do more / more activities and opportunities	3
All going well / positive results for them and GB	11
Challenging to work with IDs	1
Difficulty meeting up	1
Not appropriate pairing	2
Other	1

Q6. Do you think the participants you were paired with were the right match for you based on your interests?

Yes, completely	8	33%
Yes, mostly	8	33%
To some extent	3	13%
No, not really	5	21%
No, not at all	0	0%

Please explain:

Different interests	5
Similar interests	9
Good friendship / acceptable differences in interests	5
Buddy difficult to engage with	1

Q7. Does volunteering with Gig Buddies fit around your work / social life?

Yes	20	83%
No	1	4%
I'm not sure	3	13%

Please explain:

Makes some acceptable adjustments to enable volunteering	4
Can be quite difficult	2
Difficulty when changing job / moving	2
Other	2
No problems	3

Q8. Have you found it easy to make arrangements with your Gig Buddy?

Always	5	21%
Mostly	14	58%
To some extent	4	17%
Not really	1	4%
Not at all	0	0%

Please explain:

Buddy cancels / changes plans	2
Easy to stay in touch	3
Stay Up Late have been helpful	1

Can be difficult to stay in touch	7
Use specific strategies appropriate for the person	2
Other	1

Q9. Do you feel like you have received the support you have needed from Stay Up Late during your time as a volunteer?

Always	15	63%
Mostly	3	13%
To some extent	3	13%
Not really	3	13%
Not at all	0	0%

Please explain:

Not much contact	5
Available when needed	6
Would like more	2
More training wanted	1

Q10. Is there anything Stay Up Late could do to improve Gig Buddies?

Yes	9	38%
No	7	29%
I'm not sure	8	33%

Please explain:

More group events	1
More training / ID training	2
More supervision / support	2
Other	4
All good	1
Better capturing of outings / events / outcomes	1
More outside of Brighton	1

Q11. Has Gig Buddies increased their access to evening/alternative culture?

A lot	9	38%
A little	13	54%
Not at all	0	0%
I'm not sure	2	8%

Q12. Has Gig Buddies increased their social network?

A lot	6	25%
A little	10	42%
Not at all	4	17%
I'm not sure	4	17%

Q13. Have you seen increases in their confidence due to Gig Buddies?

A lot	10	42%
A little	8	33%
Not at all	2	8%
I'm not sure	4	17%

Q14. Overall, what kind of impact do you think that Gig Buddies has had on the person/people you have volunteered with?

Entirely positive	15	63%
Mostly positive	5	21%
Mixed impact	4	17%
Mostly negative	0	0%
Entirely negative	0	0%

Please explain:

Not sure	1
More confidence	3
More social experiences	3
Hasn't increased social networks	1
Other	1

Q15. Overall, have you enjoyed volunteering with Gig Buddies?

To a great extent	17	71%
To some extent	6	25%
Not really	1	4%
Not at all	0	0%

Please explain:

Unsure whether it is having an impact	1
Doesn't enjoy the events / gigs	1

Positive overall	6
Some difficulties	1

Q16. Would you recommend volunteering with Gig Buddies to a friend or someone similar to you?

Yes, definitely	20	83%
Probably	2	8%
I'm not sure	2	8%
Probably not	0	0%
Definitely not	0	0%