Community-Based Research Process

Phase 1

Identification of research question, and seek ethics community approval (if necessary)

Voluntary/community group/civil society organisation (CSO) poses research question(s)

→ Disseminate call for projects.

Phase 2

Pre-planning: Clarify research questions/ evaluate feasibility/ map concrete needs

Advisory Committee

Exit: Does not meet criteria

→ See resources section for criteria to assist with decision on acceptance of proposals
→ Ethical issues associated with all projects must be considered at this point.

Identification of student(s) and supervisor(s). Student may be interviewed by CBR coordinator and/or CSO

→ CBR coordinator puts projects on local website database
→ Student should have 60%+ grade avg. and tutor reference
→ CBR projects could be included in research method courses.

Phase 3

Project management

Meeting between CSO, student(s) & co-ordinator and/or college supervisor(s): Plan project, agree and sign research agreement

→ Development of research plan
→ See resource section for CBR research agreement sample and prompts and guidance to structure meetings
→ Use CBR Manual for prompts and guidance to structure meeting
→ Social research ethics committee approval maybe needed.

Additional research considerations: Ethical approval?, consent forms, police vetting?, etc.

Research undertaken by student(s)

→ Student undertakes research with support from college tutor and CSO
→ Supervisor meets student regularly to check progress and ensure research follows original plan
→ CSO's continued participation in research encouraged. Any changes or modifications to research plan to be negotiated with CSO.

Phase 4

Follow-up, dissemination and publications

Submit Thesis

If thesis score < 50%

If thesis score > 50%

Make recommendations and discuss with CSO how to implement findings. Further research required?

Research report presented to CSO after examinations board

Research report placed on website after examinations board

Consider publication options: article in newspaper, journal, website, book chapter, conference paper, presentation, etc.