Author's response to reviews

Title: 'People pull the rug from under your feet': barriers to successful public health programmes

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir/Madam

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People pull the rug from under your feet’: barriers to successful public health programmes

We were delighted to have the opportunity to address the comments of the reviewers. We found the reviewers’ comments most useful when redrafting our submission.

In responding to the reviewers we have addressed all the points as follows:

1. We have described the duration or timeframe of the project
2. The phases and activities of the programme have been explained
3. Issues of funding have been clarified
4. Partners and their responsibilities have been described in the text (and an explanatory figure has been inserted)
5. Issues relating to changes in the partnership organisations have been elaborated
6. More detail is provided about the intervention area
7. The duration of the interviews (and that they were face to face) is indicated
8. A limitations paragraph has been inserted at the beginning of the discussion
9. Concrete recommendations have been added
10. Reference to the literature on partnerships has been made where relevant.
11. Because of the space restraints we have not included a description of the quasi-experimental design – however the reader is directed to reference where a full description can be found.
12. The way in which data was used from different qualitative methods (to inform the overall data analysis and the contents of the paper) is elaborated
13. Figures relating to attrition have been inserted
14. Process evaluation is defined.
15. All sources of data are identified
16. Information is provided to illustrate the community-based intention of the programme.

We hope that you will find the revised paper suitable for publication, and look forward to hearing from you in due course

Yours faithfully,

Deborah Ritchie