

# WHY PROJECTS FAIL

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## Learning From Projects That Don't Do Well To Drive Future Success in the Forensic Service

### Aim

To **understand** factors causing projects to fail to develop.  
To **learn** from these how to drive success in the future.

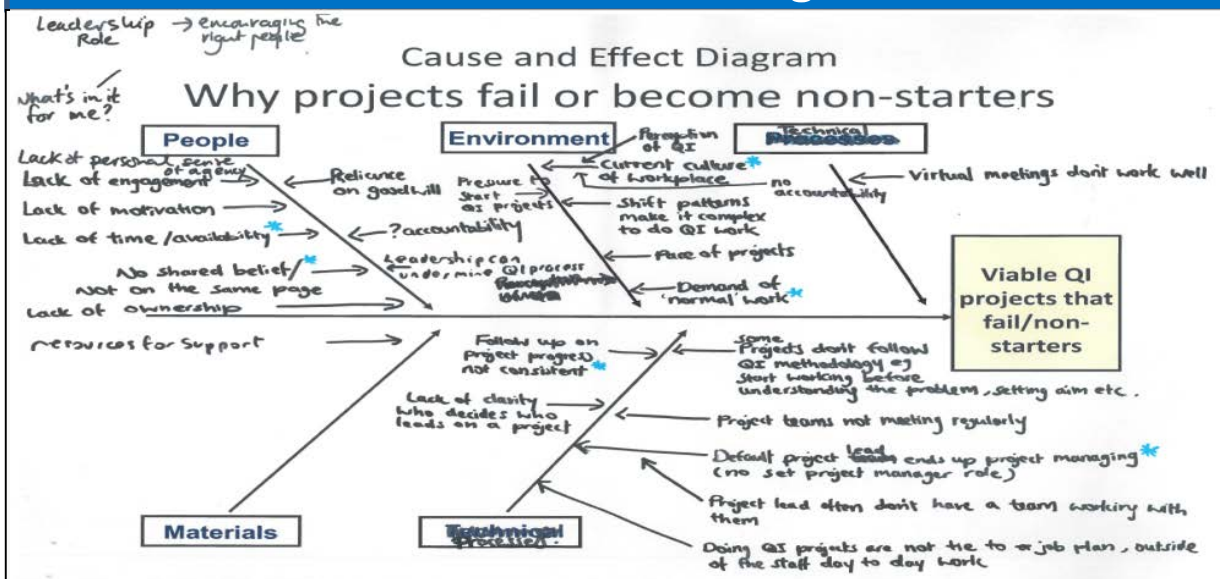
### Why is this important to service users and carers?

We have started a range of projects in Forensic Services that could improve recovery and health. If these don't progress, their positive impact will be limited.

### Method

We formed a **focus group** to **brainstorm** and **organise** thinking about **reasons** projects have failed. We used an **IHI session** to think about this further.

### Cause and Effect Diagram



### Key Points

1. Where we succeed we **celebrate**.
2. Where it doesn't work we **learn**.
3. **Failure is frustrating**. Effort should be **rewarded** and contributors understand it was **not in vain**.
4. The project **set-up phase** is crucial to prevent fizzling out later on.
5. Getting senior staff on board is challenging but key.

### Learning and what next?

*Within our QI Team we have a **greater understanding** of what has caused projects to struggle.*

*Successful QI projects need **extensive team buy-in, strong coaching and support**.*

*As a directorate we are **focusing in resources** on a **smaller number of projects** to **drive these forward** with notable success*