
**ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CLD)
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP – DRAFT CLD PLAN 2018 -2021**

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 requires local authorities and their partners to “secure adequate and efficient provision” of CLD services in their area. In particular provision should ensure access to CLD support for the most disadvantaged members of our communities.
- 1.2 In 2013, the Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations were introduced. They place a duty on local authorities, in partnership with Community Planning Partnerships and other CLD providers and communities, to secure the delivery of CLD through the implementation of a three year CLD plan. In response to these regulations the Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership was established to develop and implement the first Argyll and Bute CLD Plan in September 2015.
- 1.3 The same Partnership has now produced a refreshed Argyll and Bute CLD Plan for 2018 - 2021. The main purpose of this report is to update and seek endorsement from Community Services Committee members on the development and contents of the new plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.4 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:
 - Note the legal requirement to produce an Argyll and Bute CLD Plan for 2018 - 2021.
 - Review the contents of the draft Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018 - 2021, produced by the Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership.
 - Agree the approach and contents of the draft Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018-2021 and agree to a programme of annual progress updates for the lifespan of the Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018 - 2021.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Local Authorities have a statutory requirement placed on them by the Community Learning & Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013 to publish a plan every 3 years describing how it will co-ordinate and secure “adequate and efficient” Community Learning & Development (CLD) provision with other sector partners.
- 2.2 Whilst Argyll and Bute Council are required by legislation to lead on meeting the requirements of the CLD Regulations, it is important to note that partners must also be meaningfully involved in producing and implementing the CLD Plan.
- 2.3 The Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership has produced a draft plan that will maximise the impact of CLD provision by focusing activities on agreed actions. Collectively this will ensure best use of resources, targeted provision and improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged members of our communities.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:
 - Note the legal requirement to produce an Argyll and Bute CLD Plan for 2018 - 2021.
 - Review the contents of the draft Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018 - 2021, produced by the Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership.
 - Agree the approach and contents of the draft Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018-2021 and agree to a programme of annual progress updates for the lifespan of the Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018 - 2021.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 CLD has been defined as ‘a coherent and distinctive set of practices,

defined by clearly identified competences; delivered in diverse settings and sectors by practitioners with a wide variety of job titles, working with people of all ages.' CLD is 'a distinctive process of engagement and support, with a learning content that is negotiated with learners.' CLD plays a central part in ensuring individuals, families and communities across Scotland reach their potential through lifelong learning, mutual self-help and community organisation - and that the available support and opportunities are community-led, built around people's aspirations.'

- 4.2 An important function of CLD is to support 'disadvantaged or vulnerable groups and individuals of all ages to engage in learning, with a focus on bringing about change in their lives and communities.'
- 4.3 There are a wide range of statutory and third sector organisations delivering CLD to families, adults, young people and communities across Argyll and Bute.
- 4.4 Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership includes key CLD partners and stakeholders and has been the main driver behind the production of the draft 2018 – 2021 CLD plan.
- 4.5 Individuals and groups have been consulted on their CLD needs, the extent to which they are being met, barriers to their involvement and their views on priorities for the plan.
- 4.6 Three main methods were deployed to ensure that feedback on needs and local circumstances were used to inform content, priorities and action within the plan
 - CLD Plan Consultation (focus groups, questionnaires etc.)
 - Recent Community Engagement Exercises (place standard tool, community profile tool etc.)
 - Statistical Information, Assessments and Reports (SIMD, Inspection Reports, Evaluations etc.)
- 4.7 Feedback from local communities was analysed and four key strategic themes were identified -
 - Skills for Learning, Life and Work.
 - Health, Wellbeing and Personal Development.
 - My Voice/Empowering Communities.
 - Workforce Development.
- 4.8 To address these strategic themes a number of priority actions have been identified and agreed by partners –
 - PA1 Develop a range of CLD activities aimed at supporting vulnerable people into work.
 - PA2 Increase employability skills and assist young people to achieve and sustain positive destinations.

- PA3 Provide a range of accredited and wider achievement opportunities in our learning communities.
- PA4 Develop a range of CLD activities aimed at reducing the poverty related attainment gap.
- PA5 Support the development of CLD interventions that address Mental Health and Well Being issues.
- PA6 Ensure that our communities have appropriate information, advice, guidance and referral routes in place to support vulnerable people.
- PA7 Develop services that promote safe and effective digital inclusion and literacies.
- PA8 Promote an ethos and culture of inclusion, participation and positive relationships across the whole community of learners.
- PA9 Work together to engage with parents and develop family learning provision.
- PA10 Support local communities to effectively express their voice, co-design learning opportunities and influence decisions that impact on them.
- PA11 Share and utilise performance data and information to plan and deliver services.
- PA12 Work in partnership to conduct an authority wide CLD practitioner skills audit, produce a joint training plan and explore feasibility of coordinated recruitment procedures.
- PA13 Identify poverty related needs and develop CLD learning activities such as financial literacies to address them.
- PA14 Develop CLD activities that encourage physical activity and outdoor learning.
- PA15 Promote lifelong learning and celebrate achievement.

- 4.9 The plan is intended to be a living document and as such will develop organically and change over time. When the Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership meets quarterly, it will review progress and make changes as required. It is also recommended that annual progress reports are presented to the Community Services Committee.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership CLD Plan 2018 – 2021 has identified key themes for partners to focus on and a clear set of actions to deliver in the lifetime of the plan.
- 5.2 The plan does not detail all CLD activity across the authority, which is wide ranging and is already contributing to and reported in other plans and strategies. Instead it will focus on the key areas of activity identified by service users and partners, which will add value to CLD delivery, by identifying where the partnership can bring fresh thinking and collaborative effort to make a difference and improve outcomes

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy	CLD provision can make a significant contribution to Outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Argyll and Bute SOA - 3. Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all. 4. Children and young people have the best possible start. 5. People live active, healthier and independent lives. 6. People live in safer and stronger communities.
6.2 Financial	None. The majority of actions will be carried out within existing resources or may require a realignment of resources. There may be potential for the Partnership to identify sources of external funding.
6.3 Legal	The 2013 Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations place a statutory responsibility on the Local Authority to produce a 3 year CLD Strategic Plan.
6.4 HR	None
6.5 Equalities	A key focus for CLD is reducing poverty and inequality
6.6 Risk	The successful implementation of the plan will be heavily dependent on community engagement, partner involvement and availability of resources.
6.7 Customer Service	An important feature of the CLD Plan will be ongoing engagement and consultation with local communities and service users.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Draft CLD Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021