

DRAFT COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The second draft of the Community Learning and Development Strategy is attached as appendix 2.
- 1.2 The Executive Summary is attached as appendix 1.
- 1.3 Partners are asked to comment on the following issues contained in the Executive Summary. If partners also wish to comment more widely on the points in the full strategy, not highlighted in the Summary, these comments will be welcome.

2. Issues

- 2.1 The Executive Summary highlights the three national priorities of:

- * Achievement Through Learning for Adults
- * Achievement Through Learning for Young People
- * Achievement Through Building Community Capacity

The Summary also indicates broadly what will be included under each heading. Any comments on these priorities will be welcomed. If partners feel there are any omissions it will be important to identify these at an early stage.

- 2.2 The Executive Summary highlights the proposed geographical targeting of the strategy and the reasons for this targeting. Any comments on this would be welcome.
- 2.3 Comments on the proposed thematic targeting would also help in shaping further drafts.
- 2.4 An evaluation of the operation of the four local geographical community learning plans has provided valuable lesson for the development of the revised strategy. These issues are identified in the Executive Summary and further comment would be helpful.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 Consultation is currently taking place locally on the draft strategy. The results of this consultation will be reflected in a further draft of the strategy.
- 3.2 It is hoped to conduct a last round of consultation on this near to final version in late July/August. Partners will be asked to endorse a final version in August for submission to the Executive at the beginning of September.
- 3.3 It would assist in this process to bring a near to final version of the strategy back to the Community Planning Partnership and/or Management Committee, depending on meeting dates, for endorsement or amendment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Scottish Executive issued guidance in January 2004 asking Community Learning and Development Partnerships to produce Community Learning and Development Strategies. These strategies are to be published and submitted to the Executive by 1 September 2004.

The strategies must be agreed by all community planning partners. They should influence and reflect the community plan and related strategies and should demonstrate substantial community involvement.

The guidance identified three national priorities for community learning and development:

- Achievement through learning for adults
- Achievement through learning for young people
- Achievement through building community capacity

Within the draft strategy the following broad priorities are identified under each of those headings.

Achievement Through Learning For Adults

The key priorities under this heading will be:

- Implementation of the agreed priorities in the Argyll and Bute Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.
- Establishing appropriate links to the Argyll and Bute Gaelic Development Plan.
- Implementation of adult learning priorities identified through the geographical Community Learning and Development Plans.
- Implementation of adult learning priorities identified through the Regeneration Outcome Agreement.
- Implementation of adult learning priorities identified through the Social Inclusion Business Plans.
- Implementation of the adult learning priorities identified through the Strategic Development Plan for the Community Learning and Regeneration Service.
- Priorities of all three theme groups
- Health Priorities

Achievement Through Learning for Young People

The key priorities under this heading will be:

- Development of a Youth Strategy for Argyll and Bute in parallel with the development of the National Youth Strategy.
- Implementation of literacy and numeracy priorities relating to young people.
- Identifying links to the Gaelic Development Plan that relate to learning for young people.
- Implementation of learning for young people priorities identified through the geographical Learning and Development Plans.
- Implementation of learning for young people priorities identified through the Regeneration Outcome Agreement.
- Implementation of learning for young people priorities identified through the Social Inclusion Business Plans.
- Implementation of the learning for young people priorities identified through the Strategic Development Plan for the Community Learning and Regeneration Service.
- Priorities of all three theme groups
- Health Priorities

Achievement Through Building Community Capacity

The key priorities under this heading will be:

- Building Community Capacity to implement the Community Planning Pilot in Cowal and Bute.
- Building Community Capacity to support the extension of the Social Inclusion areas.
- Building community capacity to support the geographical Community Learning and Development Plans.
- Building Community Capacity to support the Regeneration Outcome Agreement.
- Building Community Capacity to support the Social Inclusion Business Plans.
- Building Community Capacity to implement the priorities identified through the Strategic Development Plan of the Community Learning and Regeneration Service.

- Priorities of all three theme groups
- Health Priorities

Geographical Targeting

The Strategy also proposes geographical targeting, this has been influenced by three main functions.

- An evaluation of the four geographical Community Learning Plans
- The Deprivation Study commissioned by the Community Planning Partnership and the use of this study in refining the borders of existing Social Inclusion areas as part of the Transitional Process.
- The proposed Community Planning Pilot in the Bute and Cowal Area.

There is considerable overlap in these factors as will be seen by the areas identified below:

- Dalintober/Millknowe and the other most deprived output areas in Campbeltown Central.
- East Kintyre – Output areas identified in the deprivation study. Should also link with the Community Learning Plan Area.
- Islay South – Output areas identified in the deprivation study. Discussions still underway about how work in this area could be best supported.
- Kirkmichael/Craigendoran and the other most deprived output areas in Helensburgh East. This will link with the Community Learning Plan Area.
- Rosneath, Clynder, Kilcreggan and Garelochhead. These areas were highlighted in the deprivation study. Considerable work has also been undertaken here by Community Futures. It is anticipated that links will be made between these communities and existing structures such as the Area Development Group in Helensburgh.
- Soroba in Oban will be expanded to take in the most deprived output areas identified by the deprivation study.
- Tiree and Coll will continue to be targeted as a Community Learning Plan area. Tiree has also been identified through the deprivation study.
- Ardenslate, West Milton and the Glebe will be expanded to take in the most deprived output areas identified in Dunoon Central.
- Ballochgoy will be expanded to take in the most deprived output areas in Bute, mainly Bute Central and Bute North. This area is also covered by a Community Learning Plan and will also form part of the Community Planning Pilot.
- The Cowal area in addition to Bute will form the Community Planning Pilot area. This will build on Social Inclusion work undertaken in Ballochgoy, Ardenslate, West Milton and the Glebe. It will also build on work undertaken in West Cowal by ACVS and East Cowal by Community Futures.

Thematic Targeting

There are likely to be three main focuses for thematic targeting. These are:

- Continuing development and implementation of the Argyll and Bute Literacy/Numeracy Action Plan.
- Development of a Youth Strategy for Argyll and Bute in parallel with the development of a National Youth Strategy.
- Ensuring that there are links to the Gaelic Development Plan. Clearly, more detailed work will have to be undertaken in relation to these, in particular the second and third priorities.

Community Learning Plans

A number of issues have been identified through consultation with the four geographical Community Learning Plan groups. These need to be given further consideration in the development of the Strategy.

These issues were:

- Need for wider partnership involvement
- Improve links to other partners agendas/targets
- Improve links to other key partnerships
- Improve links to and involvement of the community
- Consider potential of Digital Communities Project
- Improve the involvement of young people.

In addition Community Learning Plan groups identified strengths arising from the work undertaken.

- Where existing structures could be utilised this worked better
- Success in attracting external funding (although over dependence on short term external funding was also identified as a weakness)
- Effective needs assessment
- Targeting of work, particularly in Social Inclusion areas.

In strategic terms the key issues were seen as the integration of existing partnership structures and the way in which community engagement would be achieved within any new structures.