

COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT: STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CLD IN ARGYLL AND BUTE 2021-2024

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates the Community Services Committee on the development of the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Strategic Plan for 2021-2024.
- 1.2 The CLD Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships (2012) set out expectations on Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) to use CLD approaches to public service reform and to develop a clear framework for the planning and delivery of CLD by the Local Authority and partners.
- 1.3 The CLD Regulations of 2013 require a three year partnership plan for CLD to be developed by the Education Authority by 1 September 2021. This Plan will be subject to scrutiny through the newly formed Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership.
- 1.4 A new strategic CLD Partnership has been established involving key partners across the sector, with a clear remit and governance structure in place. During the preparation of the new plan all relevant local and national plans were reviewed in a CLD context, policy drivers considered, partner data analysed and a consultation exercise undertaken with learners to identify local need and emerging priorities. There is clear synergy between the identified CLD priorities and those of the CPP.
- 1.5 The most recent inspection by Education Scotland of the CLD Service in Argyll and Bute took place in 2019 with a subsequent follow up visit in 2020. Key lessons have been learned and focus given to these areas over the duration of the new plan.
- 1.6 Members are invited to:-
 - Note the areas requiring further action during the lifetime of the new plan
 - Approve the CLD Partnership Strategic Plan for 2021-2024

**COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT: STRATEGIC
PLAN FOR CLD IN ARGYLL AND BUTE 2021-2024**

2. INTRODUCTION

This report sets out the requirements for each local authority to develop a 3 year partnership plan for Community Learning, how the new partnership plan was developed and the reporting arrangements that have been put in place.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:

- i. Note the areas requiring further action during the lifetime of the new plan;
- ii. Approve the CLD Partnership Strategic Plan for 2021-2024.

4. DETAIL

4.1 The Strategic Guidance defines the purpose of CLD as:

- i. Improved life chances for people of all ages, through learning, personal development and active citizenship;
- ii. Stronger, more resilient, supportive, influential and inclusive communities.

4.2 CLD is defined as an approach that is used by a range of partners. CLD Learning providers should meet the outcomes above through:

- community development (building the capacity of communities to meet their own needs, engaging with and influencing decision makers);
- youth work, family learning and other early intervention work with children, young people and families;
- community-based adult learning, including adult literacies and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL);
- volunteer development; learning for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the community, for example, people with disabilities, care leavers or offenders; learning support and guidance in the community.

- 4.3 A new governance structure is in place including clear monitoring/reporting arrangements and performance scrutiny.

The council's Education Service will undertake the client role and remain as the key contact for liaison with Education Scotland. liveArgyll will be responsible for ensuring that the four statutory obligations, as set out in the Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013, are met:

- 1) To be clear about what CLD is and who the priority groups for CLD provision are within their authority – LA will deliver all CLD service requirements that meet both the service specification set out by the Council and Education Scotland requirements.
- 2) To secure provision in the area by looking at the needs of the priority groups and individuals;
- 3) To involve and consult with priority groups, individuals and stakeholders to find out what they need and want – an extensive consultation process will take place as part of the development of the new CLD plan priorities.
- 4) To create and publish a CLD plan every 3 years – liveArgyll have taken on the lead role in the development of the new plan and establishing the new strategic partnership. Progress reports will be prepared for the Community Services Committee and Local Area Planning Groups on an annual basis.

Along with the Employability Partnership the CLD Partnership will report to the Outcome 3 lead who will in turn report on the work of the partnerships to the CPP Management Committee.

- 4.4 The partnerships consulted with more than 700 learners, and wider community groups, to establish what they consider to be the most important priorities for CLD in the area. This exercise included a survey and focus groups targeting specific learners and target groups. Given the challenge of undertaking a consultation during the pandemic and the support required for many learners, further face-to-face consultation will take place in year one of the plan and the action plan will be updated to ensure emerging local needs are being met.

- 4.5 CLD needs in Argyll and Bute have been carefully considered and grouped under six key themes:

- Digital skills
- Core skills for learning, life and work
- Health and wellbeing
- Your voice
- The learner offer
- Improve how we work as a partnership

The partnership recognises the importance of ensuring organisations within the sector work together, sharing expertise, manpower and resources to reduce inequalities and support those who need it the most coming out of the pandemic.

The action plan sets out our shared priorities for the next three years to improve outcomes for individuals and communities across Argyll and Bute.

The partnership will monitor progress and produce a self-evaluation each year reporting the performance to Argyll and Bute Council and the Community Planning Partnership.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 Members are asked to approve the CLD Strategic Partnership Plan for 2021-2024. The work of the partnership over the coming three years will focus on individuals and communities who are most disadvantaged with the aim of bringing about positive change in their lives and in our communities across Argyll and Bute.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1.1 Policy – The development of the CLD Plan supports the delivery of national outcomes. The Community Learning Service and CLD provision make a significant contribution to Outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Argyll and Bute SOA.

6.1.2 Financial – none

6.1.3 Legal – The council is required to publish a 3 year Community Learning Plan as set out in the Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

6.1.4 HR – None

6.1.5 Equalities/Fairer Scotland Duty – It is not anticipated that any of the recommendations in this report will have a potential negative impact on any particular group or discriminate on the basis of age, disability, gender, race, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity or religion and belief.

6.1.6 Socio-economic Duty – none

6.1.7 Risk – any potential risks minimised via strong management/performance scrutiny governance arrangements

6.1.8 Islands – none

6.1.9 Customer Services – the needs of priority groups and individuals will be met in line with the Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013

25th August 2021

Douglas Hendry, Executive Director with responsibility for Education

Policy Lead – Councillor Yvonne McNeilly

For further information please contact:-

Nicola Hackett, Business Development Manager LiveArgyll

Appendix 1 – CLD Strategic Partnership Plan 2021-2024