
Community Learning Partnership Plan

Summary

This report updates the Area Community Planning Group on the development of the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Strategic Plan for 2021-2024.

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.

The CLD Regulations of 2013 requires a three year partnership plan for CLD to be developed by the Education Authority. This new plan was approved by the Community Services Committee in August 2021 and will be implemented by the Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership. Progress will be reported to the Community Services Committee, CPP Outcome 3 Group and Area Community Planning Groups.

Community Learning and Development or CLD is a field of professional practice to empower people of all ages to work individually or collectively to make positive changes in their lives, and in their communities, through learning, personal development and active citizenship.

A new multi - agency strategic CLD Partnership has been established involving key partners across the sector, with a clear remit and governance structure in place.

Area Community Planning Members are invited to:-

- Note the content of the new plan and acknowledge the clear synergy between the identified CLD priorities and those of the CPP.
- Recognise the importance of community capacity building support and the need for partners to focus CLD activity on the most disadvantaged communities.
- Identify areas from the action plan where partners can work effectively together at local level to support learners and communities as part of COVID-19 recovery.

1. Purpose

This report provides Area Community Planning group members with a brief update following the approval of the new Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership Plan for 2021-2024.

2. Recommendations

Members are invited to:-

- Note the content of the new plan and acknowledge clear synergy between the identified CLD priorities and those of the CPP.
- Recognise the importance of community capacity building support and the need for partners to focus CLD activity on the most disadvantaged communities.
- Identify any areas from the action plan where partners can work effectively together at local level to support learners and communities as part of COVID-19 recovery.

3. Background

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.

The CLD Regulations of 2013 requires a three year partnership plan for CLD to be developed by the Education Authority. This new plan was approved by the Community Services Committee in August 2021 and will be implemented by the Argyll and Bute CLD Strategic Partnership. Progress will be reported to the Community Services Committee, CPP Outcome 3 Group and Area Community Planning Groups.

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4. Detail

The Strategic Guidance defines the purpose of CLD as:

- 1) Improved life chances for people of all ages, through learning, personal development and active citizenship
- 2) Stronger, more resilient, supportive, influential and inclusive communities

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.

The partnership consulted with some 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 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 emerging local needs are being met.

CLD needs in Argyll and Bute have been carefully considered and grouped under 6 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 undertake a self-evaluation each year. Progress on performance will be reported to the Community Services Committee, the Community Planning Partnership and Area Community Planning Groups.

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. An HMle follow up visit is planned for 10th and 11th November 2021.

5. Conclusions

The new CLD Strategic Plan (appendix A) sets out how the CLD Partnership will support the needs of our learners and communities over the next 3 years. Opportunities exist both at local and strategic level for partners to collaborate and share resources and manpower for the benefit of our communities.

6. SOA Outcomes

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

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