

## **CLD Strategic Guidance Implementation: Progress Report from Short Life Working Group**

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### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Community Learning and Development (CLD) Strategic Guidance (Scottish Government 2012) gives responsibilities to CPPs regarding its implementation; these are now also supported by legislation laid on the Education Authority.
- 1.2 Following an initial report to the CPP Management Committee given in May 2013, a short-life strategic working group of key partners was called together in order to understand the responsibilities and requirements that are laid on the CPP and the Education Authority, and to scope mechanisms for implementation and reporting.
- 1.3 The group held a first meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September. This report gives an outline of the progress of that meeting.

### **2**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 Partners are invited to note the contents of this report.
- 2.2 Partners are invited to comment on the progress of the short-life working group, and to support the group's offer of assistance in drafting relevant intermediate outcomes for the SOA.

### **3 DETAIL**

- 3.1 The Scottish Government published new CLD Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships in June 2012.

The Guidance places a number of responsibilities on Community Planning Partnerships, and these are now also supported by requirements laid on Education Authorities under the CLD (Scotland)

Regulations 2013.

The responsibilities laid on CPPs are to:

- i. Carry out systematic assessments of community needs and strengths, based on engagement and continued dialogue with communities that go on to provide the basis for their SOAs
- ii. Ensure SOAs have a clear focus on prevention and community empowerment, and utilise CLD provision and methods to achieve these, and
- iii. Review current partnership arrangements for planning, monitoring and evaluating CLD.

In order to support these processes, the CLD (Scotland) Regulations 2013 require Education Authorities to:

- I. Put a secure CLD process in place that:
  - a. identifies target individuals and groups and their learning needs
  - b. assesses whether those needs are already being met; and identifies any barriers to provision
- II. Ensure the process is based on consultation with representatives of the target individuals and groups, and of CLD providers
- III. Publish a co-ordinated 3 year strategy and action plan, based on consultation with these same representatives by September 2015; and every third year after that.

3.2 In order to better understand and scope the implementation of these responsibilities and requirements, a short-life strategic working group was called together.

The group membership currently comprises key learning provider partners, including: Argyll College, Argyll and Bute Council's CLD, Libraries, and Education Services, Argyll Voluntary Action, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, and Police Scotland.

3.3 The first meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

The group agreed that in order to progress the responsibility laid on CPPs to 'ensure SOAs have a clear focus on prevention and community empowerment', they anticipate being in a position to provide assistance in drafting intermediate outcomes for the SOA, particularly in regard to the outcome 'Education, skills and training maximise opportunities for all'; also to some or all of the other outcomes - learning, in its widest sense, impacting on all these aspects of life in Argyll and Bute.

If this proposal is agreed by the CPP, the group agreed to continue working together until the intermediate outcomes have been completed, and then to hand over to an identified permanent Implementation Group

in March/April 2014.

The group also discussed consultation mechanisms, and will be looking at finalising a flow chart to show how they see information about learning needs and gaps being fed from the local to the strategic level, and back again.

- 3.4 It was decided to wait for feedback from the CPP on this progress report before meeting again; but it is hoped that the group will be able to start to draft their contributions to the intermediate outcomes as soon as possible.

The group will also consider in more detail some of the possible mechanisms and formats for implementation and reporting.

#### **4 CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The short-life working group has made a useful start to understanding the scope, responsibilities and requirements of the CLD Strategic Guidance and its supporting legislation. It recognises it has a role to play in contributing to the SOA, and its members have agreed to work together to complete this initial action, and then identify and hand over to a permanent group.

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