

Appendix 2. CLD - The National Context

The Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013 place a statutory duty on local authorities to produce a 3-year plan detailing how Community Learning and Development will be delivered within the Council area. Each local authority is required to produce a clearly defined framework for planning and delivering community learning and development, through consultation with learners and in partnership with providers.

CLD Learning Partners commit to promote and practice within **fundamental CLD Values** of:

- **Self-determination:** respecting the individual and valuing the right of people to make their own choices.
- **Inclusion:** valuing equality of both opportunity and outcome, and challenging discriminatory practice.
- **Empowerment:** increasing the ability of individuals and groups to influence issues that affect them and their communities through individual and/ or collective action.
- **Working collaboratively:** maximising collaborative working relationships with the many agencies which contribute to CLD and/or which CLD contributes to, including collaborative work with participants, learners, and communities.
- **Promoting learning as a lifelong and life-wide activity:** ensuring individuals are aware of a range of learning opportunities and can access relevant options at any stage of their life.
- **Promote and adhere to national standards** and good practice and provide support for stakeholders to understand and implement these.

This CLD Strategy applies the values of CLD and recognises and seeks to respond to a range of other relevant national strategies, including:

National Performance Framework (NPF)

The NPF describes shared ambitions, providing a vision for national wellbeing across a range of economic, social, and environmental factors. It sets out the strategic outcomes which collectively describe the kind of Scotland in which people would like to live and guides the decisions and actions of national and local government.

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and Review of Community Planning which aim to empower community bodies through supporting them in taking ownership or control of land and buildings, and by strengthening their voices in decisions about public services. Communities of place or interest now also have new rights under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to request participation in the planning and delivery of services, which has implications for the Council and other public services.

Adult Learning Strategy for Scotland

Adult learning is essential to enable and encourage adults in Scotland, to acquire the knowledge, skills, and confidence necessary, to play an active and productive role, personally, economically, and societally throughout their working lives. The strategy recognises the significant societal changes and the way in which community-based adult learning can promote an inclusive and learning society.

New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy

The New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy aims to support refugees and people seeking asylum in Scotland's communities. The Strategy is the result of a partnership between the Scottish Government, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and Scottish Refugee Council. The strategy supports - and is supported through - the many partnerships and initiatives that exist across Scotland to welcome refugees. The third strategy takes account of a landscape that has changed considerably with new legislation on asylum and largescale relocations and resettlement of people from Afghanistan and Ukraine. The New Scots vision is "For a welcoming Scotland where refugees and people seeking asylum are able to rebuild their lives from the day they arrive." The key principle of New Scots distinctive approach is to support refugees and people seeking asylum from 'day one' of arrival in Scotland.

ESOL (English as a Second or Other Language)

ESOL supports the language learning needs of a diverse range of people, living in Scotland, whose first language is not English. These include refugees, asylum seekers, migrant workers, settled minority communities and their families.

ESOL provision is offered by a range of providers including CLD services through local authority partnerships, colleges, schools, voluntary organisations, and private language providers. ESOL learning also meets outcomes outlined in the Scottish Government's New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy: 2024 sets out the approach to supporting refugees and asylum seekers living in Scotland.

The development of ESOL Partnerships within each community planning area means that a range of formal learning opportunities and activities is delivered across each local authority area in a manner that uses the funding available to meet learners' needs more effectively.

Equalities: The Equality Act 2010

Every area of work within the Council has a role to play in promoting equality and diversity. While this is the right thing to do and has clear advantages for the Council, there are also legal requirements. Equality law (The Equality Act 2010) protects people from unfair treatment and asks public bodies (including Glasgow City Council) to show how they make a positive difference to equality groups.

One of the specific duties requires the Council to publish a set of Equality Outcomes and report progress towards them every two years. The new Equality Outcomes have been developed for Glasgow through engagement with organisations such as Diversity and

Equality Strategic Groups and designed to reflect the understanding of the impact of the act for public and voluntary services. (Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) Appendix 1).

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The UNCRC sets out the specific rights that all children have helping them fulfil their potential, including rights relating to health and education, leisure and play, fair and equal treatment, protection from exploitation and the right to be heard. Community Learning and Development partners are committed to ensuring these rights are upheld and contribute to increasing the life chances of children and young people in Glasgow.

On the 16th of July 2024, all Children and young people in Scotland, under the age of 18, have protected rights under The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.

The Act is a landmark piece of legislation that incorporates the UNCRC into Scots law, empowers our children and young people to claim their rights and will help to make Scotland the best place in the world to grow up. The Scottish Government will be the first devolved government in the world to directly incorporate UNCRC.

National Youth Work Strategy

Youth work has a significant impact on improving the life chances of Scotland's young people. This is why the National Youth Work Strategy (2014-2019) developed by YouthLink Scotland, the Scottish Government and Education Scotland, sets out to improve outcomes for young people through youth work.

The five ambitions of the Strategy were:

- Ensure Scotland is the best place to be young and grow up.
- Put young people at the heart of policy.
- Recognise the value of youth work.
- Build workforce capacity.
- Measure the impact of youth work.

The National Youth Work Strategy Interim Report was published, taking stock of progress against the five ambitions. Eight priorities were agreed by the National Youth Work Strategy Stakeholder Reference Group, rights and participation, health and wellbeing, workforce development, attainment, and inequality, measuring impact, strategic and local planning, strategy evaluation and future plans. The upcoming National Youth Work Strategy (2023-2028) is currently with the Scottish Government awaiting publication.

Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) sets out a consistent way for people to work with children and young people. This helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people and how they can act to deliver these

improvements. Getting it Right for Every Child is threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy, and legislation affecting children, young people, and their families. Whilst government is not legislating universally for eighteen plus, it is the ambition that good practice established for pre-eighteens would be extended into young adult service provision. CLD helps lay the foundation for the collaborative approach to designing and delivering learning and skills-development services across the public and third sectors which are responsive to the needs of children and young people, with a focus on prevention and early intervention through individual and whole family support.

Raising Attainment

The Scottish Government will continue to support schools and local authorities through its £1 billion investment in the SAC programme over the course of the parliamentary term. Within that is continued investment in Pupil Equity Funding, empowering headteachers to develop local approaches to suit their children and young people's needs; and investment in Strategic Equity Funding to local authorities to implement strategic approaches to closing the gap in their local authorities – and make progress towards their stretch aims. Additionally, the Scottish Government through the SAC programme also continues to provide funding to support care experienced children and young people's attainment and wellbeing.

Curriculum for Excellence

Community Learning and Development and the youth work sector have a significant role to play in Curriculum for Excellence. They are important delivery partners, offering young people valuable opportunities for learning and personal development, both in and out of school. Strengthening partnerships between school staff and youth work practitioners remains a priority for the Curriculum for Excellence programme, particularly within planning and delivery of the senior phase which can only be delivered through effective partnership working. It is becoming more common for young people to learn through a range of providers. As a result, it is particularly important that partners work well together to plan and deliver the curriculum.

Family Learning

CLD plays a vital role in providing engaging and impactful family learning opportunities. Family learning is an approach to engaging families in learning outcomes that can have a lasting impact on the whole family. Effective partnership working arrangements are considered essential in the development and delivery of family learning as recognised in the Learning Together national action plan: update 2023. Family Learning practice is supported by the recently refreshed National Occupational Standards: Family Learning NOS | CLD Standards Council for Scotland. To support a consistent understanding of family learning Education Scotland have published a range of practitioner resources: Parents and families | Resource Themes | Education Scotland.

Keeping the Promise

The Scottish Government Promise Implementation Plan was published in March 2022. The Plan sets out the commitments and actions to Keep the Promise, which is a key priority of

Government and is overseen directly by The First Minister and a dedicated Cabinet Sub Committee for The Promise.

Considerable progress has been made since then and we are currently working on an updating the plan for publication in Spring 2024. This will complement The Promise Scotland publishing their Plan 24-30 in Summer 2024, following their review of Plan 21-24.

As we know, the lives of children and young people are shaped by the experience and the network of support they have around them. CLD have an important part to play in making the change required. The Scottish Government is keen to work with partners to drive forward the transformational change required to keep the Promise. In so doing we are aware that on the ground delivery is a key part of that change and are keen to identify where more focussed interventions or support may be needed.

Community Learning and Development Standards Council Scotland

The CLDSC is the professional body for people who work or volunteer in community learning and development in Scotland, funded by the Scottish Government to provide a registration system for practitioners delivering and active in CLD practice, supporting approvals for qualifications and CPD development opportunities. CLDSC advocates that Community Learning and Development (CLD), is a profession distinctive to Scotland that engages, educates, connects, and empowers individuals and communities, in particular those most excluded from opportunity, can play a pivotal role in creating and delivering new and radical socio-economic policies and interventions.

Mental Health Support

A new Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy was jointly published with COSLA on 29th June 2023. The Strategy is evidence-based, informed by lived experience, and underpinned by equality and human rights. It focuses on outcomes and is driven by data and intelligence. The scope of the Strategy is wider than previous work in this space, with increasing focus on wellbeing and prevention. We also considered how the Strategy takes account of social factor and inequalities that may impact a person's mental health and wellbeing. The Strategy seeks to look ahead to make sure we are doing the right thing to meet changing mental health needs over the coming years.

Employment and Skills

CLD plays a critical role in skills development – very often working with people who have been excluded from work and everyday life because of their low self-esteem, skills, and confidence. For many people across Scotland, CLD can create a route into skills provision at all levels. This route embeds literacy and numeracy into all its provision, so that learning and skills development becomes accessible for many people who are disengaged from learning.

Developing a coordinated learning offer with partners will be vital in ensuring that young people and adults have good quality opportunities to gain necessary skills and qualifications to progress in learning, training, and employment. CLD plans will include details of joint work with partners including Colleges, Universities, Skills Development Scotland, Trades

Unions, Chambers of Commerce and third sector providers to ensure sufficient opportunities for lifelong learning and skills development.

CLD intervention in this context has a significant role to play in delivering key outcomes for young people, adults, and communities alongside their partners. For example, CLD works alongside other skills development interventions such as Career Guidance and All Age Employability Services through No One Left Behind, to help support the person to get themselves ready by helping to develop the appropriate mix of attributes to be able to compete and sustain in the increasingly competitive job market.

Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)

The Scottish Government is committed to supporting all young people to achieve their potential and we have a strong record of tackling youth unemployment through DYW.

DYW Regional Groups are fundamental in facilitating the engagement between employers and schools to support young people transition into the world of work. Recognising the challenges young people can face entering the labour market, DYW implemented circa 300 DYW School Coordinators across all 32 Local Authorities.

With a focus on supporting all young people to have the best start in life, DYW has allocated over £1.7 million of funding directly to specialist third sector partners that support those hardest to reach during financial year 23/24.

By utilising employer relationships, the DYW Network plays a key role in engaging businesses to support Government priorities – particularly tackling child poverty. We remain committed to this cross-government approach to ensure we work together to improve the lives of the people of Scotland as set out in “In the service of Scotland.”

We are committed to, by 2026, helping all school leavers to access the transition support they need to achieve their potential, and ensuring every young person aged 16-24 can further their education or secure a job or training place. Developing the Young Workforce has a key role to play in helping us achieve this commitment.

DYW’s third sector partners provide targeted provision for young people facing additional barriers by offering work-based learning, work inspiration, and mentoring while connecting educators and young people with a network of inspirational business leaders.

Tackling Child Poverty

Tackling poverty and protecting people from harm is a critical mission for the Scottish Government. CLD has a significant role to play in helping to tackle poverty, as part of wider Employment and Skills policies. 16 The Scottish Government’s second tackling child poverty delivery plan, ‘Best Start, Bright Futures’ sets out how we will drive forward action that supports the path to achieving our child poverty reduction targets (see Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017). Covering the period 2022-26, the plan sets out the need to take a balanced approach to tackle poverty, committing action to increase the incomes of families, reduce the cost of living, improve the wellbeing of families, and to support the next generation to thrive. The plan also commits the Government to focusing on the impact of

actions through the lens of the families at greatest risk of poverty and ensuring that policies and systems work for these families.

Volunteering

The Volunteering Action Plan published in June 2022 aims to create a Scotland where everyone can volunteer, more often, and throughout their lives. This 10 year 'living' plan seeks to increase participation and reduce barriers to volunteering. It will also increase the opportunities available to volunteer: widening the breadth of opportunities and increasing access for under-represented groups. The plan provides a renewed focus on the contribution of volunteers in communities and seeks to tackle inequality in volunteering through supporting the most disadvantaged in our society. The plan acknowledges the reach of volunteering and the vital role of volunteers in the delivery of services across Scotland.