

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Subject: FALKIRK COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CLD)
ACTION PLAN**
Meeting: EDUCATION EXECUTIVE
Date: 28 APRIL 2015
Author: DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

1.1 As agreed by the Education Executive on 11 November 2014, this paper seeks to:

- update members on the progress made in developing the CLD Action Plan which sets out the proposals as to how CLD partners intend to meet the need for CLD within the Falkirk Council area.

2. KEY POINTS FROM THE REGULATIONS AND NEW GUIDANCE

2.1 Members will recall that the Regulations place two obligations on the Council.

- to ensure that the need for CLD provision within the Council area is assessed.
- to publish a 3 year Action Plan by 1 September 2015 setting out what CLD provision the Council will make, how it will co-ordinate provision with other providers, what action the other providers intend to take during the period of the plan and what needs will be unmet.

2.2 The Regulations and Guidance set out the following 4 key policy goals for CLD:

- To ensure communities across Scotland - particularly those that are disadvantaged - have access to the CLD support they need.
- To strengthen co-ordination between the full range of CLD providers, ensuring that Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs), local authorities and other providers of public services respond appropriately to the expectations set by the CLD Strategic Guidance.
- To reinforce the role of communities and learners in the assessment, planning and evaluation processes, enabling them to shape CLD provision.
- To make the role and contribution of CLD more visible.

3. **PROGRESSING WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CLD ACTION PLAN**

3.1 **Goal 1: To ensure communities across Scotland - particularly those that are disadvantaged - have access to the CLD support they need.**

In progressing the development of the Action Plan, Education Services and CLD partners have been making clear links to the demographic and socio-economic data that exists. This data has been collated to ensure that it clearly identifies the CLD needs of individuals, groups and communities.

- The Workers Education Association
- Forth Valley College
- Skills Development Scotland
- Department of Work and Pensions
- Employment and Training Unit
- Education Services.
- Salvation Army
- Aberlour Child Care Trust
- Barnardos
- Braes Family Centre
- Falkirk Young Carers Project
- Falkirk and Clackmannanshire Carers Project
- Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB)
- Link Housing Association
- Paragon Housing Association
- Falkirk Council Social Work Services
- Falkirk Community Trust
- Falkirk Council Corporate and Commercial Services
- NHS Forth Valley
- CVS, Falkirk

3.2 **Goal 2: To strengthen co-ordination between the full range of CLD providers, ensuring that CPPs, local authorities and other providers of public services respond appropriately to the expectations set by the CLD Strategic Guidance.**

As CLD partners are working on the development of the 3 Year Action Plan they have been debating what constitutes '**adequate and efficient**' CLD provision within the Falkirk Council area. CLD partners are very aware of the resource constraints that exist within the statutory and non-statutory public and voluntary organisations, therefore they realise the need to ensure that what resources are available are targeted at those who would most benefit from them. This area of work will be ongoing and will require sensitive dialogue between the CLD partners involved.

3.3 **Goal 3: To reinforce the role of communities and learners in the assessment, planning and evaluation processes, enabling them to shape CLD provision.**

Education Services and CLD partners have been taking into account the views of learners and communities in developing the 3 Year Action Plan. For example, Youth Scotland, Falkirk CVS and Education Services staff are working with the voluntary youth work sector to assess the sector's CLD needs and to identify how best these can be met in the future.

In addition, have been working with individuals to clearly identify the CLD needs that may be required as part of employability support.

During April and May 2015, Young Scot, Youth Scotland and Education Services staff will be involving young people in identifying their CLD needs and ways that they can be involved in planning and evaluating the impact of CLD. These examples are not exhaustive and Education Services staff are confident that they will have a well-developed assessment, planning and evaluation processes in place that will support the implementation of the Action Plan.

3.4 **Goal 4: To make the role and contribution of CLD more visible.**

With the support of Education Scotland, Education Services has developed an impact measurement tool for CLD provision. There is agreement from the large number of CLD partners that they will use this tool to support evidencing the impact of CLD provision. This will in turn, be shared across partners to ensure that the evidence will be used to inform future delivery. It will also be used to aid public reporting purposes and celebrating the extensive work that community groups make to the vibrancy of the Falkirk Council area.

4. TIMESCALES

- 4.1 The Regulations and Guidance state that the 3 Year CLD Action Plan must be in place for **1 September 2015**.

5. NEXT STEPS/WAY FORWARD

- 5.1 Education Services will continue to develop the 3 year CLD Action Plan for publication by 1 September 2015.

6. EQUALITY AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Equality: Regulations and Guidance make specific reference to compliance with the Equality Act.

Financial: No additional resources are provided by the Scottish Government to develop these plans. No additional staff costs would result from this proposal.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 That Education Executive:

- (i) note the progress CLD have made in conjunction with our partners to develop our 3 year CLD Action Plan; and**
- (ii) request that a further report tabling the draft Action Plan submitted to the Education Executive in June 2015.**

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Director of Children's Services

Date: 15 April 2015

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL