



Community Learning and Development

Annual Report

2016-17

Adult Learning
Community Partnership
Community Regeneration
Health Inequalities
Youth Work

Dundee
City Council
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**CHANGING
FOR THE FUTURE**

#becauseofcld

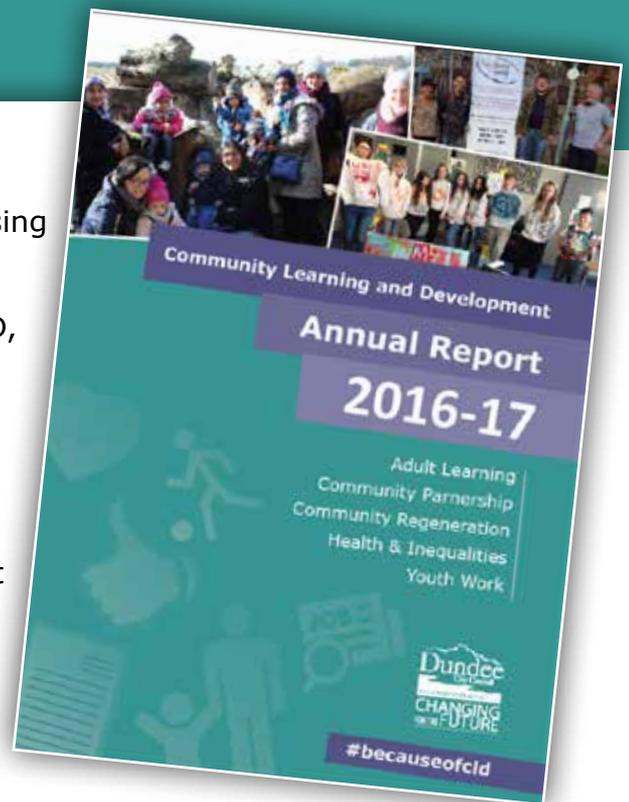
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Introduction

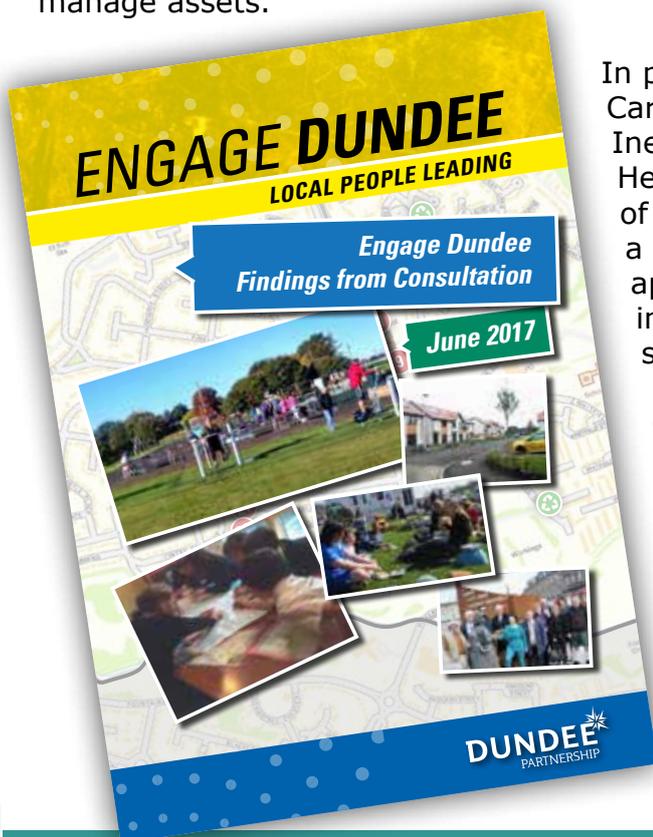
It gives me great pleasure to introduce the first Community Learning and Development (CLD) Annual Report for Neighbourhood Services (Housing and Communities).

2016/17 was a year of significant change for CLD, moving from the Chief Executive's Service to be part of Housing and Communities in the newly formed Neighbourhood Services directorate. CLD plays a central role in ensuring individuals, families and communities reach their potential through lifelong learning, mutual self-help and strong community organisations. During this first year there has been a restructuring with Youth Work and Adult Learning coming together under one Manager and starting to look collectively at areas such as employability, volunteering and literacy.



The Community Regeneration teams have led community engagement, identifying needs and priorities for the new Local Community Plans and the Local Outcome Improvement Agreement. They are also taking on a wider role in community capacity building which includes support to tenants groups.

The formation of Community Partnerships team has strengthened the commitment to community involvement in the management and running of Community Centres. With this team also having responsibility for Community Asset Transfer and Participation Requests, which will further strengthen our work with communities to own and manage assets.



In partnership with Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership, the Community Health Inequalities Team, which comprises Dundee Healthy Living, Equally Well and the Sources of Support social prescribing service, is using a Community Learning and Development approach to tackle health inequalities and improve health, and to promote poverty sensitive practice within services.

Overall it has been a very exciting and busy year for CLD, we have taken the lead in a number of significant pieces of work such as the Engage Dundee consultation, with 6,000 responses received. We have taken a strategy on Community Asset Transfer to

Committee and had approval for a scheme, which not only honours the commitments in the Community Empowerment Act but also enhances the opportunities for the community to get involved in Asset Transfers.

Our work with partners in Children and Families has seen the addition of three new members of Youth Work staff funded from the Attainment Challenge monies and our work with Syrian Refugees has resulted in three additional part-time ESOL tutors and a part-time ESOL Senior. This will help further develop the work currently happening with families who are being relocated in Dundee.

We have commissioned the setting up of a CLD wide database to record our work and report on impact and the establishment of two digital community engagement MA's are helping upskill staff in digital communication.

In addition a very positive Inspection from Education Scotland highlighted the quality of work staff on the ground are doing and the tremendous impact that this is having on communities in Dundee.

At a time when there is significant change happening it is very heartening to receive this feedback and to have government endorsement for the quality of work and strategic direction of CLD in Dundee. Most importantly this inspection reported on the positive impact on people's lives and our role in strengthening communities. This Annual Report provides a flavour of the work CLD is involved in and some of the headline impacts that CLD is making under our strategies objectives of:

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

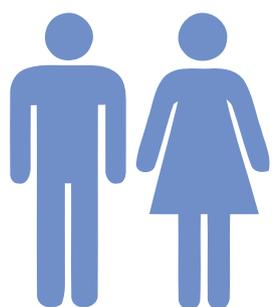
Marie Dailly
Service Manager Communities



CLD in Numbers

Adult Learners and Young People

6842 engaged in CLD programmes (youth and adult)



3826
adult learners

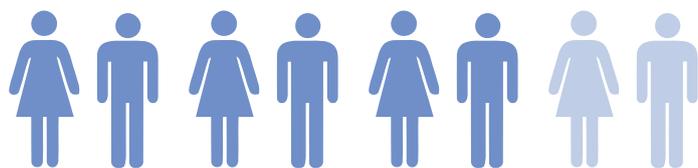
2066 (54%) from Community Regeneration Areas.

389 adult literacy learners.

1272 people received adult guidance.

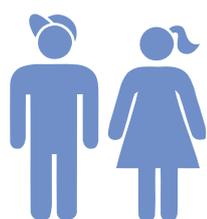
476 learners in ESOL programme.

566 parents/carers taking part in family learning, 341 from Community Regeneration Areas.



85%

of learners reported an increase in confidence.



3016
young people involved in youth work programmes

2042 young people in diversionary work.

816 received a Duke of Edinburgh award.



Employability

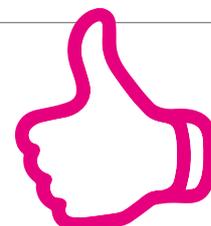


1516

adults and young people engaged in employability focused programmes.

301 young people involved in CLD youth work employability programme.

110 young people involved in CLD youth work employability progressed to positive destinations.



Volunteering

1742

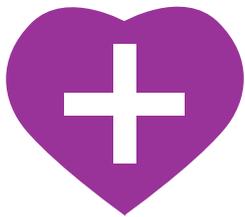
young people took up volunteering activities.

160

volunteers helped to support community centre programmes.



Health



1298

participants attended health related short courses.

1810 individuals given advice at health information points.

134 individuals participated in DHLI accredited cookery courses.

949 individuals participated in DHLI physical activities.

Community Involvement and Partnerships

73

groups received community capacity building support.

339

individuals provided with personal support, training and development.

400

individuals involved in local community plan impact assessment.

6,000

responses to Engage Dundee.

11,818

attendees at community engagement events.

29,856

people attended cultural events in community centres.

66

partnership agreements between community centres and community/voluntary groups.

6

Local Management Groups running community centres in partnership with Dundee City Council.

3

asset transfers completed.



CLD Learning and Organisational Developments

In 2016 CLD managers made a firm commitment to regular 'in-service' days for CLD staff, as part of the new improvement and planning cycle.

Our first full in-service day was held in October 2016 and over 80 staff took part in a lively programme, reaffirming their connections with each other, as well as becoming more familiar with the new **How Good is the Learning and Development in Our Community (HGILDOC)** framework and the CLD Standards Council.

We had a **focus on volunteering** at a **seminar for Youth Workers** in November, exploring the new corporate volunteering policy and what it means for us in practice.

Everyone refreshed their knowledge of **Child Protection** in workshops held in March 2017, ensuring that all know what to look out for, and the procedures for reporting any concerns.

A lot of our learning and development continue to be developed and delivered via our partnership arrangements in the cross authority partnership Tayside and Fife Professional Learning Alliance. People tell us they value the opportunity to learn and share practice with peers from other areas. One of these opportunities was the **Go Digital** event which was held in Brechin in March, where practitioners shared and developed their digital skills. A good contingent from Dundee attended, both as participants and workshop leaders. **Family Learning workshops** were held in each local authority area, over the course of 2016. These were very practical, hosted by practitioners for practitioners, sharing lots of good ideas!

Workshops exploring **CLD Ethics** have been held in both 2016 and 2017. This has been a good opportunity to think about some of the challenges and dilemmas facing practitioners, and how the Code of Ethics can help us.

Two Modern Apprentices completed their apprenticeship in Youth Work. One has been employed with the CLD West Youth Work team at Ardler as a Youth Worker. Two Digital Media Apprentices started in January.

Quotes

'Training was current, relevant and prompted valuable discussions. These discussions are needed in CLD.'

'Would appreciate regular, similar workshops like this of an interactive, practical nature. Thank you, very enjoyable.'

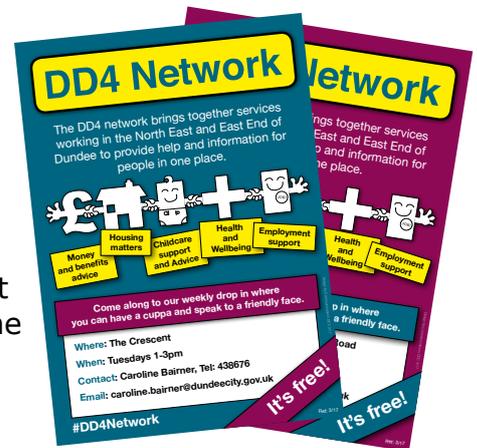
Alongside this we have offered regular opportunities for CLD Standards Council members to get together, share ideas and practice, and keep up to date with the national picture.

Improve life chances of people of all ages through learning, personal development and active citizenship

DD4 Network

The DD4 Network has developed as a result of an employability review carried out by Rocket Science at the request of Dundee Partnership and it outlined a number of key recommendations to be taken forward.

An integrated Employability pilot came to fruition in September 2017 when a number of key Agencies/Projects came together to plan a way forward in the North East/East End of the City (communities of Whitfield & Midcraigie). The aim of DD4 Network is to explore how a community based, integrated model of working improves the employment journey for local people.



On the 21st November 2016 the DD4 Network opened its doors in Brooksbank Centre on Mondays 1-3pm and The Crescent on Tuesdays 1-3pm offering a one stop shop to support local people.

This entire process brings the right agencies closer together and is leading to a more joined up working approach with the partners pulling together building greater trust and sharing knowledge and information.

This has also resulted in a noticeable increase in cross-referrals between the partners. These are really positive outcomes that ultimately benefit the clients and local community.

Outcomes

- Better understanding of what helps people to engage and then progress.
- Improved participation of people who are not engaged in employability and support services.
- Improved outcomes for people engaging with employability services.

Next Steps

Focus on the DD4 area. Training agencies & employers will develop the pilots further reviewing progress and making changes as required to lead to tangible outcomes for local people.

Quotes

"Very good service."

"Getting CV help."

"Explained everything in detail."

"I got the help I needed."

North East Health Inequalities Positive Action Group (HIPA)

The North East HIPA group is a local health inequalities action group, built on the foundations of the Health Issues in the Community (HIIC) course. HIIC is an accredited training programme developed by the Community Health Exchange (CHEX) aimed at increasing community capacity and participation and supporting community development approaches to tackling inequalities in health. HIIC helps equip local people for the real challenges they face in developing community responses to health issues and becoming more active citizens.



The HIPA group started in September 2016 in response to locally identified need and meets on a weekly basis. It is made up of a core group of 10 local people and facilitated by the Dundee Healthy Living Initiative Community Health Worker in partnership with a Community Learning and Development Adult Learning Worker. The Community Health Worker and Adult Learning Worker are registered HIIC tutors who guide participants through a number of course units and support them to explore concepts including: social justice, poverty, discrimination, power, relationships, exclusion and the social model of health.

The group have successfully completed the Level 1 course and are excited to be starting Level 2 throughout the coming year; expanding on their learning and becoming more involved in tackling health inequalities in the North East.

Outcomes

- The group was successfully constituted in December and now has a strong management committee to provide leadership and increase the profile of progress made.
- Local people are critically aware of the links between deprivation, inequality and poor mental/physical health and are more skilled and confident to influence decision-making processes.
- Local people are actively engaged in their local community and involved in tackling health inequalities at a local level.

Next Steps

The group are scheduled to deliver a presentation to share their learning with others. A funding bid was submitted to the NHS Tayside Community Innovation Fund and the group were awarded £2640 to enable them to progress their learning and undertake the HIIC Level 2 course. The group are expecting to undertake a community-based research project exploring whether it is more expensive to follow a healthy diet. The learning will be shared with the wider community and services to raise awareness of health inequalities and to help others overcome barriers to following a healthy lifestyle.

Quotes

"What another great day in the group, the learning is coming along great, some good points raised for the group project."

"A great group today I feel we achieved a lot, I really enjoyed it."

"What a good day I had, best this year, all because of pushing myself to the max to come to the group."

"Brilliant group for learning and for being able to have a laugh. Not laughed in a while."

1st Syrian Refugees to join the ESOL Classes

Firas El-Ahmad (left) and Mohammad Haje (right) came from Syria to Scotland with their families under the Refugee Resettlement Scheme in December 2015 with absolutely no spoken or written English.

Firas El-Ahmad wasn't literate in Arabic which proved to be a huge obstacle.

They both started in very basic English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes at Mitchell Street Centre and worked very hard. Apart from ESOL, they have been doing voluntary work and helping the community with the local food bank.

Firas and Haje are both looking forward to starting at Dundee & Angus College in August 2017 with the hope to secure employment in the near future.



Quotes

"Now I can speak and understand people better."

"I want to learn more in the College and get a job."

The Literacies Team built on their positive links with Jobcentre Plus staff to work together and achieve better outcomes for local people who have difficulty understanding their claimant commitments.

Douglas Community Café

Set up to offer the community hot, quality, free or affordable, home-cooked food throughout the year, the Wednesday café is run by five volunteers in Douglas Community Centre. Established in 2012 with a small pot of local funding, the food provision is self-funded and continues to be promoted and supported by the centre's local management group for example, in helping to secure external funding for equipment.



The café has become an important local resource with a well-established, widespread quality reputation within the welcoming environment of the community centre. For some of the customers it is their only weekly opportunity to eat and socialise outwith their home. It has recently expanded to include access to services offering welfare advice and support.

The volunteers have developed a range of skills and qualities through involvement with the cafe, such as communication and confidence. In addition they are supported by CLD staff to undertake and completing appropriate accredited training. The facilities link to the citywide strategic theme of Health, Social Care and Wellbeing.

Outcomes

- Volunteers feel more confident in their roles.
- Volunteers have increased self-worth.
- People have more healthy and active lifestyles.

Next Steps

The café volunteers will be supporting a feasibility study to and consider extending the café's opening times/days.

During the summer holidays, some of the volunteers will support the centres cultural events such as the free family picnic and movie days in July.



Leeanne & Ali's CLD Journey

Leeanne came along to our Messy Play sessions at Whitfield 18 months ago with her son Ali. Ali has delayed speech development and has an older brother who is autistic. Leeanne was keen to get advice on how to support Ali's speech development and also to give him the opportunity to socialise with children his own age. They have attended Books for Bairns and Toddler Talk, both courses delivered by the Adult Learning Team.



Books for Bairns highlights opportunities for developing children's language and early literacy skills through the use of books and parents are supported to make resources linked to the books to encourage their children to engage with the stories. Free crèche was provided for part of the session to allow parents time to discuss topics and to make the resources to use with their children at home. Having cost effective props helped Leeanne get Ali interested in the books – his two favourite books are now Brown Bear Brown Bear and Shark in the Park! This was also the first time Leeanne had put Ali into crèche and she was delighted to see that after several weeks he settled well and allowed her some time to relax and chat to other parents with children of similar age. She is now confident using the crèche which gives her more opportunities to attend other adult learning groups.

Toddler Talk is delivered in partnership with Speech and Language Therapy and focuses on highlighting and modelling activities and strategies to encourage children's social skills (sharing and taking turns), listening skills and vocabulary development. The number of families attending this group is kept small to allow the parent and child time and space to fully benefit from the activities. Having a Speech and Language Therapist in the group has been useful for Leeanne to see her model how she talks to the children and to ask questions and seek advice informally.

Leeanne has said she has enjoyed coming to the groups because they are informal, relaxed, friendly and she feels comfortable coming along each week.



She has found them to be very beneficial for giving her additional resources, ideas and strategies to use at home with Ali and she has enjoyed having support from both workers and other parents. Ali has made new friends of his own, he is much more confident, he concentrates better, his listening skills have improved and he is happy to join in with the group activities. He is saying more words and is beginning to make sentences. Leeanne now feels confident that Ali will cope with nursery and he will take up his nursery place in August.

College Taster Courses

Young people are supported by CLD Youth Work Staff to attend college taster courses. The courses are targeted to young people in their senior phase at school, who would not normally get the opportunity to experience college due to their poor attendance. The courses last for nine weeks one afternoon per week and have included Hairdressing, Motor Vehicle, Cosmetology, Child Care, Health and Social Care, Construction, Food and Drink Service.

Participants have the option to work towards SQA accredited certificate through Youth Scotland.



Outcomes

- Break down barriers to further education.
- Lead young people to positive destinations.
- Young people will be better informed and more confident.
- Young people will learn new skills.
- Young people will access community facilities.



Next Steps

- Evaluate the course feedback.
- Continue to support young people to access various taster courses through D&A College.
- Support with future applications for senior phase or full time courses.
- Reflect with young people on their experience and help to draw out personal progression.
- Encourage young people to share their learning journeys with a view to inspiring others.

Quotes

"I learned how to set tables and serve food and drinks. I also learned that I like the college better than school and I have got on to the full time course. I'm pleased with myself!" (Owen, 16)

"College gives you a chance to learn different things in a different way. I feel more relaxed here. It's been good getting to try it out. I think I'll look into doing another course when I leave school" (Rachael, 15)

"I learned about different trades in construction and how important it is to get on with new people to complete tasks. Through this College experience I now want to become a joiner".

CLD United: DISC Target Project & Strathmartine Active Youth

CLD United Evening Diversionary Programs are planned, developed and delivered by local young people with support from CLD Youth Workers.

The CLD United "Volunteer and Training Academy", delivered by CLD Youth Workers, (in partnership with Morgan Academy and St Paul's Academy) is a formalised training process which ensures local young people are provided with the opportunity to gain the skills and develop the motivation to enable them to contribute effectively and positively within their local learning community in the evenings.

This formal Training Academy runs two days per week in each area, for a full School term and is delivered as part of the schools formalized Senior Phase Curriculum Timetable.

The Academy delivers 4 afternoons of formal training per week during the school day, whilst concurrently providing weekly volunteering opportunities for local young people within our CLD United Evening Diversionary Programmes. This Academy process directly links school based attainment with CLD Community based achievement.

Young People who participate gain an SCQF Level 5 Sports Leader Qualification, Heart Start first aid training, a 300 Hour Saltire Volunteering Award and a range of other needs led training opportunities throughout the year.

Young people who successfully complete the year-long training and volunteering programme have the opportunity to make the progression into employment within the CLD United Project as "Young Community Leaders". This is made possible due to the effective local partnership with Dundee United Community Trust with financial support coming from Dundee Partnerships and local Community Regeneration Funding.

"Our partnership with DCC's CLD Youth Worker has been an incredible success for us this year and the previous 10 years. It has allowed us as a football club and Trust to provide high quality education, health promoting community engagement programmes to some of Dundee's most disengaged and vulnerable young people. Through CLD, we now not only provide vital sports diversions to young people for evenings every week, but also now employ 23 local kids who are making amazing contributions in local communities. Without DCC CLD's involvement, none of this would have been possible and we as a Trust would like to thank CLD Youth Work for their involvement with us."

*Jamie Kirk
Dundee United F.C Community Trust,
Operations Manager*

Outcomes

- 17 young people successfully completed their SCQF Level 5 Sports Leader Qualification.
- 17 young people gained a 300 hour Saltire Award for volunteering.
- 26 young people became active "Young Community Volunteers" within their local Community.
- 26 young people have made the successful progression from volunteering to employment.
- Young People have reported and recorded progressions in physical health, mental health, personal safety and confidence in line with GIRFEC and Curriculum for Excellence Outcomes.

Next Steps

To create more robust and practical systems which encourage and support our Young Community Volunteers to have more of an influence in wider decision making structures locally.

Quotes

"I have Learned that by helping myself, I can inspire others and help my local community." (Connor,18)

"Without the support of the CLD Youth Worker at the DISC Target Project, I wouldn't have got my apprenticeship as a joiner. Now I'm fully qualified, but I still Volunteer with the project, to give back what they gave me and to help other kids like me." (Ryan, 21)

"...As someone who is growing up in care...it gives me something to look forward to without looking different from everyone else. " (Anonymous, 16)

The Equally Well team delivered 34 training sessions with a total of 383 participants to service providers to support health inequalities sensitive practice.



Youth Work hosted a successful Tayside-wide EXPO at The Shore, promoting the transformational power of Youth Work.

566 parents and carers took part in family learning opportunities over the year.



Stronger more resilient, supportive, influential and inclusive communities

Recovery Friendly Lochee

Recovery Friendly Lochee is a partnership process which supports people in recovery from a drug or alcohol addiction. The process uses a community development approach to enable everyone in the area, including local people, businesses and service providers, to support those in recovery from substance misuse in a way which does not stigmatise them further. The vision is that by reducing stigma and fostering an environment where the wider community and services play a key part in supporting recovery, benefits will be apparent for both those in recovery and the community as a whole.



Recovery Friendly Lochee was launched in September 2016, presenting the feedback from a community engagement process to the wider community. It is recognised in the Dundee Fairness Commission Action Plan as an approach which would be beneficial to roll out across other areas in Dundee.

Outcomes

- **Short-term: Knowledge & Awareness**
Services and local people have an increased awareness of the links between substance misuse and inequality.
- **Medium-term: Support & Inclusion**
Services and local people are actively involved in supporting recovery and promoting the ethos and values of Recovery Friendly Lochee.
- **Long-term: Reduce Stigma & Isolation**
Lochee is recognised as a Recovery Friendly Community in which people in recovery face less stigma and are included in their local community.

Next Steps

Roll out the Commitment Scheme which recognises and certifies groups & organisations who are supportive of recovery.

Offer a programme of awareness sessions aimed at local people and services.
Develop a pack of materials to support the approach to be replicated in other wards.

Quotes

"A Recovery Friendly Lochee should mean that where people want to begin a process of recovery, they are not afraid to ask for help for fear of being stigmatised."

Menzieshill Community Centre, Stand Easy Project

The Stand Easy pilot project was established in 2016 at Menzieshill Community Centre, following an appeal to Dundee Association of Local Management Groups (DALMG) from the Stand Easy Project Coordinator for a suitable community setting and local management group support. The project aim was recovery for veterans experiencing mental health issues through self-expression/drama in a community based setting. The collaborative approach was based on a similar successful English project "Bravo 22" and partners included NHS, Dundee City Council, and the Community Centre Local Management Group amongst others. The project culminated in a performance at the centre in 2016 and received wide coverage in both local and national media. The project returned in 2017 as a result of the successful pilot.



Outcomes

- People have better mental health and well-being.
- Participants increased their awareness of cultural and community diversity.
- Increased cultural choice and opportunities for participants.

Next Steps

To create a mini tour of this years performance at other community centres in Dundee with the various local management groups, later this year.

Quotes

'We worked with the Menzieshill Management Group and in particular with Kirstie (Vice Chairperson) who is our link person with them. But Kirstie has become so much more than that, she participates and supports us whenever she can.' Alan, Stand Easy Project Manager.

'The opportunity to support this project has been very rewarding for me with my previous Services background'. Kirstie, Management Group Member.

Staff and volunteers have supported 285 Cultural events across community facilities.

Engage Dundee Consultation

Community Regeneration staff and partner organisations carried out a city wide consultation - Engage Dundee between June 2016 and March 2017.

Over 6,000 responses were received through paper and online questionnaires, focus groups, community call back events and engagement at various local activities and events. The consultation was also used to identify priorities to inform the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and how the new Community Infrastructure Fund is allocated. The findings of Engage Dundee will directly inform the key priorities in Local Community Plans currently being developed in each multi-member Ward.



Common Priorities Identified Across all Wards

- **Transport:** Traffic calming, improved bus shelters, cycle routes, dropped kerbs.
- **Environment:** Improvements to pavements, potholes, pedestrian crossings, litter, recycling.
- **Community Partnerships:** Community facilities improved, increase publicity about services and activities, increasing community spirit. Need to create more opportunities to connect with people who are isolated.
- **Amenities:** More equipment in parks, exercise trails, outdoor gyms, public toilets.
- **Parking:** More parking spaces, stop cars parking on pavement and grass verges, cycle parking, safer parks and schools.
- **Green Space:** Improved play areas, improved maintenance of green spaces, more green gyms, landscaping, pitch and tennis courts improvements.
- **Community Safety:** Low level of lighting, area management – e.g. removal of bushes and shrubs.
- **Antisocial Behaviour:** Drug and alcohol related issues, noise reduction, littering.
- **Poverty and Inequality:** Community Growing, fuel poverty, energy efficiency.
- **Work and Income:** Job opportunities, training, job shop infrastructure.
- **Housing:** Physical environment, housing tenancy support, Private Landlord Improvements.
- **Health:** Poor mental wellbeing and the need for earlier interventions relating to Mental Health services. Social isolation. Alcohol & Drugs Misuse.



Next Steps

Findings from the Engage Dundee consultation will inform the content of the new local community plans which are scheduled to be finalised in the autumn of 2017. It is vital that the format of the new local community plans are complimentary to the emerging local outcome improvement plan.

Quotes

"Young people want more opportunities to have their views heard."

"Wider variety of meeting places needed to bring people together. Community meetings or "meet the neighbours" events would be good."

"Develop community gardening."

Kathryn's CLD Journey

Kathryn is a Trustee/office bearer with Finmill Centre Local Management Group and office bearer with Dundee Association of Local Management Groups.

"Being a member of Finmill Centre Local Management Group (LMG) and Dundee Association of Local Management Groups (DALMG) has helped me to grow in confidence and skills over the years. I used to be a really quiet person before that, I wouldn't say 'boo' to a goose then!

The reason for this growth is mainly due to the training provided, for example, last year I did risk assessment training, which was really useful for helping to plan events in the community. I also attend the annual OSCAR training for Trustees which helps me to understand my roles and responsibilities and any changes to charity law.

This has led to me joining and taking active roles in other local organisations including: The Community Regeneration Forum, The Community Council/ Safety Panel and the Local Community Planning Partnership, where I get to help make decisions and take action on local issues. Also, I have recently taken on the Chairperson role of a local branch of a national organisation (Cancer Research Relay for Life)".

Youth work staff supported 141 young people to take up volunteering / leadership opportunities.

Dundee Youth Council

Dundee Youth Council is led by young people for young people and aims to ensure that young people in Dundee have a voice and are listened to by Dundee's decision makers.

Outcomes

- **Engagement** – Visit youth groups and community centres to engage with young people directly.
- **Outreach** – Build relationships with youth projects and organisations in Dundee.
- **Events** – Host events which provide a platform for young people to have their say.



Next Step

- Continue to develop the above outcomes.
- Involvement in Dundee's contribution to Year of the Young Person 2018.
- Lead role in the development of Dundee City Council's new Youth Fund.



Quotes

"My experience with DYC over the last year and a half has helped me grow more confidence in my words, actions and ability to now pass this onto others who may need some more confidence and support." Jack, 18

"Being involved in DYC has allowed me to explore and engage with the different areas and groups of young people. This has made me more aware of what is going on in these areas and able to spread the word about DYC so we can be more interactive with our peers. In turn, I have had great fun and am more confident speaking to people I don't know and building bridges." Evie, 16

"DYC has given me and many more young people support when voicing our opinions, ensuring that youth voices are strong in Dundee. When doing outreach at community centres I have seen the influential role DYC has when listening and engaging with young people. As I am fairly new to DYC my experiences may be limited but I remain confident there is more DYC can do and will do when working with youth groups across Dundee." Ross, 15

"DYC empowers young people to engage with decision makers within the city. It means that young people are more aware of choices being made and feel confident enough to stand up for their futures. Different opportunities mean that we have the chance to grow and develop whilst working as part of a team." Robyn, 18

Fintry Community Council – “Poorie Park” Development

Back in 2012, the residents of Fintry first discussed the need to develop their local Fintry or “Poorie” Park following a consultation that the Fintry Community Council organised regarding the development of the Local Community Plan. A working group of the Community Council was established by members to investigate the need for the project, what people living in the community wanted to see in the park and costings for such a facility.



The area around “Poorie Park” is one of the most deprived of all communities in Scotland with two of the three data zones surrounding the park in the worst 5% and 10% of areas in Scotland, as defined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). The working group consulted with local residents, then engaged a landscape architect to start developing options based on feedback. The volunteers, with the support of Community Learning and Development Workers, developed an engagement programme with children, young people, families and those living around the park, to develop a plan that matched residents’ aspirations for a park.



A fund-raising strategy was developed to secure the £130,000 required to achieve local people’s ambitions for the space. Funder liaison and learning sessions were organised with volunteers to help them understand how to lay out their case for funds and to identify key outcomes for residents. Through this, residents also learned to negotiate on tendering and securing a maintenance agreement with the landowners to ensure that the facility continues to operate for the next 15 to 20 years.

The park opened on 2nd April 2017 with a crowd of over 1,200 people in attendance at a community celebration. Five years of learning, perseverance, fund-raising, “fire-fighting” and negotiation by residents, guided and supported by Community Learning and Development Staff, has provided a park that the community are proud of.

Outcomes

- Increase the Community Council volunteer skills.
- Improve the local area’s amenities.
- Get families more active and healthier.

Next Steps

Further community projects are planned, with a time-capsule initiative inspired by young people from the nearby Finmill Centre, which will gather pictures and stories of the Fintry of 2017 to be opened in 20 years. In addition, a graffiti project aims to engage young people in a creative project to improve an adjacent power station and tree planting sessions with local volunteers are planned for autumn 2017.

Quotes

"[The park is a] great asset to the community."

"The picnic area in the park is good."

"Fintry Park is great. I love going with the children – I can take the dog for a walk and the children can play."



949 individuals participated in the indoor and outdoor physical activity programme supported by DHLI.

The development of the Broughty Browser Service Directory has helped highlight details of local services in relation to in-work poverty, loss of welfare benefits and health & wellbeing issues.

Communities staff have supported the development of Harris Education and Recreation Association (HERA). Committee members have been involved in all aspects of the evening classes programme. Over 100 participants attended classes and feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

How good is the Learning and Development in our Communities?

Inspection

Community Learning and Development (CLD) partners within Dundee City Council and the ward areas of North East and East End Dundee were inspected by Education Scotland in December 2016 and January 2017.

The inspection team reported positively on the leadership and partnership working in CLD. It highlighted effective use of data to inform priorities and local community planning partnerships working well bringing the community, service providers and elected members together.

Local organisations were seen to be productive with an exceptional commitment to place. Volunteers across all ages were reported on as enthusiastic, skilled and capable.

"Learners, volunteers and community members all benefit from the highly effective programmes that partners, including community organisations, provide".

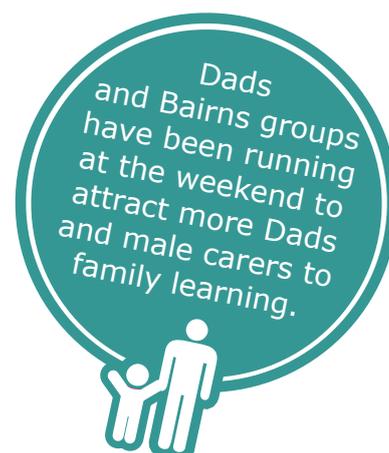
It was noted from the inspection that adult learning programmes are life changing and in some cases life saving for participants where learners are nurtured with tutors and workers taking a person centred approach to develop a holistic view of the learner. Across CLD high levels of respect exist between learners and those who support them. As a result participants are encouraged to feel confident to try new activities, challenge themselves, have greater self-esteem and are empowered to make improvements in their own lives and in their communities.

This inspection of CLD in Dundee City Council found the following key strengths:

- Strong leadership at all levels.
- Intelligence led targeting to reach key priority groups.
- Outstanding community groups making a significant positive impact on the community.
- High quality learning programmes having life changing impacts.

Education Scotland evaluated four important quality indicators to help monitor the quality of CLD across Scotland. The results for this inspection were graded:

- Improvements in performance – very good.
- Impact on local community – excellent.
- Delivering the learning offer with learner – very good.
- Leadership and direction – very good.



Extracts from Inspection of Community Learning and Development in Dundee City Council:

"Partnership working is well established, valued and increases positive outcomes."

"Community organisations receive highly effective, appropriate and consistent support to achieve their ambitions."

"Across learning opportunities learners voices are consistently heard and programmes adapted in response."

"High levels of respect exist between learners and those who support them."

The report in full can be found at:

<https://www.education.gov.scot/assets/contactorganisationinspectionreports/clddundeecitycouncil140317.pdf>

Casey's CLD Journey

I first started going into community centres through my interests in dancing. I started out going to Brooksbank Centre where I met George Thomson one of the CLD Youth Workers. From the beginning, he was always welcoming people in and getting to know all the young people, whether it was before we started our dance class or at the end of it. After getting to know the young people, George started to offer people the opportunity to help out the Dance Coach with the younger dance group. I was very keen to do this as I had been dancing for years. This carried on for a while and then came another opportunity for progression. George had given some of the older girls the chance to do their Dance Leader Award through Sports Development. Myself and some of the other girls took this opportunity and we really enjoyed it.

I then also started going to my local community centre which was the Finmill Centre. That is where I met Chris Seaton who is a CLD Youth Worker. After talking with Chris and him seeing the interests I had in working with children and young people, he offered me the chance to do some volunteering and take part in his volunteer training programme. This led on to me volunteering at one of the summer programmes at Braeview Academy for the transition of P7's going into 1st year. I did some dancing with the group of young people and joined in with different activities. I really enjoyed the summer programme and I liked the idea of giving young people opportunities to learn and building relationships with them. That's when I started volunteering with Sports Development and I helped assist a dance coach in a class at the Finmill Centre. I would stay on later and help out and that's when Chris told me about the modern apprentice position that was coming up within the council and I was lucky enough to get the job. I can't thank all the youth workers enough for supporting me and for all the opportunities they gave me to learn and better myself. I now feel like through doing my SVQ I am learning so much more and I am now able to give back to other young people the opportunities and support that I have been given. It has been a great experience.

I have now completed my Youth Work Modern Apprentice and I am now working as Youth Work Assistant within the West Youth Work Team in Ardler and St Mary's.

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