

# Tayside and Fife CLD Upskilling News

## ‘Developing a Learning Culture’

Representatives from Angus, Dundee, Perth and Kinross, and Fife Councils meet regularly to plan and deliver learning and development opportunities for CLD staff across the areas.



### Here’s what we did in 2015-2016

In June we delivered 2 sessions developed from the programme by Professor Karen McArdle ‘The Changing Picture of CLD’. 15 practitioners attended a session on CLD Ethics, and 25 practitioners attended Statistics and Stories. Some of the participants attended both sessions on the same day, tiring but hopefully worthwhile! We were delighted to welcome a large cohort from the voluntary sector to the afternoon session on Statistics and Stories.



*‘Interesting discussions, helped to put a number of issues and phraseology into context. Nothing is black and white!’ ‘Training was current, relevant and prompted valuable discussions. These discussions are needed in CLD.’*

### This is what is planned for 2016-2017 so far.....

There are some exciting new developments happening around Employability in both Dundee and Angus. We will be looking to organise a seminar to share the learning in early summer 2017.

We will be rolling out more sessions on CLD Ethics, and Statistics and Stories. Details coming out soon.

We will be participating in a joint event with other CLD networks from across the country in December.

This will be to explore ways in which we can collaborate and share knowledge, expertise and resources.



## Community Empowerment Act Seminars

A seminar on the important Community Empowerment Act was held in Forfar in March. This brought together a range of Tayside and Fife practitioners involved in the roll-out of the Act, and provided an opportunity to discuss some of the implications, opportunities and challenges we all face in the implementation. Each local authority area provided an input as a discussion starter on aspects of the Act including asset transfer, participation requests, LOIPs and allotments.

## Digitally Agile Practitioners

Our i-pads action research project entered its second year. This explores the benefits and uses of tablet technology in community learning contexts.

This year research has focussed on two ESOL contexts, one with learners and one with tutors. In both cases the research explores the use of the mobile device to enhance learning, through apps, watching clips, interviewing, filming, recording lessons etc.

*'The iPads were also great in the ABC class as most of the students are in their 60s and above (the oldest is 82) and they haven't used computers or tablets very much so it was a good way to introduce technology in a fun way and also improved their English.'*

Research has also taken place in a Family Learning context. Tablets have been used to film clips of family learning sessions outdoors, and instructional videos on creating resources for use with learners. Some of these video clips have been uploaded to the Dundee Group Space on i-develop so they can be a shared resource.

*'Whilst looking through all the clips, very interesting discussions took place about what was happening in the clips. There were things happening in the clips the member of staff wasn't aware of before this and turned into a personal reflection session.'*

Limitations of the i-pads relate mainly to non-availability of wifi in some of the learning contexts, and the fact that they come without any technical support from our IT services.

Overall, there have been exciting uses made of the technology, and there is potential to share these ideas further through i-develop as well as through the increased staff expertise on the ground.

We plan to organise another Community Empowerment seminar in February 2017, to provide an opportunity for practitioners to share progress. In the meantime, a staff survey is being organised to find out what our learning needs are around the Community Empowerment Act implementation.

For information on how to submit proposals for a tablet technology action research project over 2016-2017, please contact Sue Holland-Smith  
[Sue.holland-smith@dundecity.gov.uk](mailto:Sue.holland-smith@dundecity.gov.uk)



We are planning a "hands-on" learning event on digital skills and tools in spring 2017. What we would like to do is bring practitioners together, in a place where they can access the digital equipment they need to create digital products and have them share skills and knowledge in very practical ways. We would see people bringing real practical tasks to the day and leaving with them completed or significantly advanced.

Details have yet to be finalised, but we will be coming out with two asks:

- For people who are confident in their digital skills to support colleagues
- For people who are less confident, but open to development to come and learn.

## How good is the learning and development in our community?

Evaluation resource  
Updated September 2016

### How Good is the Learning and Development in our Community?

More than 50 CLD practitioners attended two learning sessions in Perth and Dundee in June. The sessions were led by Alona Murray HMIE, and introduced us to the new self-evaluation framework, HGILDOC. We had the opportunity to explore some of the indicators in relation to our work areas, and also started to think about the relevance of some of the other self-evaluation frameworks in relation to CLD practice, particularly with partners.

The practitioners who attended these sessions will help to rollout the learning to staff teams across Tayside and Fife.

In Perth and Kinross, and Fife, HGILDOC is now being rolled out to groups of staff, and in Dundee there will be a focus on the new framework as part of the CLD in-service day in October. This will help us all with our self-evaluation and improvement planning, as well as thinking ahead to the rollout of the new Inspection models.

### Family Learning

This year instead of holding a conference we decided to hold a series of practitioner workshops across the Tayside and Fife area. At time of writing, 3 out of the 4 planned workshops have taken place in Fife, Dundee and Perth, with a workshop in Angus planned for November. It has been interesting trying out a new model, with the aim of spreading out the learning opportunities across the year, and holding smaller events to allow for more interaction between practitioners.

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

*'Great workshop – loved the 'hands on' approach and different types of learning/delivery. Very creative.'*

*'Highlights for me were the Men and Children Matter and Young Fathers Network. So will give some thought as to what can be developed from these in Fife.'*





Adult Achievement Awards - Inverness colleges

"I think the Adult Achievement Awards is the most exciting thing for adult and community education that's happened in decades."



### Accreditation and Attainment

Angus colleagues will lead a seminar on the Adult Achievement Awards in early summer 2016, based on their experiences of the pilot project and phase two of the implementation.



### CLD Standards Council Members Events

So far we have held 4 Members events in Dundee, 3 lunches and one twilight session. Each session has had an input from practitioners on a topic of interest, and information on the CLD Standards Council. We have also enjoyed chatting to each other over lunch, and a couple of fun quizzes! Photo from the September Members Lunch hosted by Rocksolid Youth Project and Dundee City Council exploring the topic of 'Co-Production'.



### CLD Standards Council Members Events

provide an opportunity to network and share learning with other CLDSTC Members across local authorities, voluntary sector, universities and more.



We hope to broaden out Members events to include more Members from outside Dundee, across Tayside and Fife. Please get in touch if you would like to host an event and would like some help with this. Contact details are below.

**For more information on any of these CPD opportunities please contact**

#### Angus Council

Graham Hewitson - hewitsongg@angus.gov.uk

#### Dundee City Council

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#### Fife Council

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