**“Communities Empowered - Making it Real”**

**A Skills Seminar with Steve Skinner**

Thursday 9th June 2016

Evaluation

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| How did you hear about this opportunity? |
| * From a Colleague (x4)
* Through e-mail (x13)
* Through my own CLD Service (x4)
 | * From my Line Manager (x11)
* Consortium / Consortium Rep (x7)
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How satisfied were you with the following aspects?

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|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | N/A | Avg |
| Information received in advance | 0 | 1 | 2 | 26 | 13 | 0 | 4.21 |
| Booking process | 1 | 0 | 2 | 18 | 19 | 2 | 4.35 |
| Prior knowledge / Confidence / Skills | 0 | 2 | 7 | 26 | 4 | 3 | 3.82 |
| Venue - suitability / comfort / accessibility | 9 | 7 | 15 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 2.67 |
| Ability to take part / included | 0 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 13 | 3 | 4.18 |
| The Programme for the day | 0 | 3 | 8 | 25 | 6 | 0 | 3.81 |
| Content relevant to your needs | 0 | 6 | 13 | 16 | 7 | 0 | 3.57 |
| Workshop 1 - Building the Skills of Groups | 0 | 6 | 10 | 22 | 4 | 0 | 3.57 |
| Workshop 2 - Building Organisations / Building Involvement /Building Equality | 0 | 7 | 10 | 20 | 5 | 0 | 3.55 |
| Session - The Skills and Roles of Practitioners | 1 | 3 | 11 | 22 | 5 | 0 | 3.64 |
| Session - The Wider Picture of Community Empowerment | 1 | 1 | 11 | 21 | 6 | 2 | 3.75 |
| Knowledge/ Confidence/ Skills gained | 1 | 2 | 13 | 21 | 4 | 1 | 3.61 |

**NB Scores in N/A column not included in calculation of scores.**

How do you plan to use the data you have learned?

* Not picked up much, fairly low level information.
* Felt there was very little which was new and not dealt with in great depth before. Although, good to take time away to think and discuss issues with ‘new faces’.
* Continue networking and reflect.
* Will read further now importance has been highlighted.
* Research participatory budgeting and local groups that may benefit.
* Feedback to local community groups and develop knowledge of CE Act further.
* Cascade upwards to Line Manager and ask Community Partners what empowerment means to them.
* Steve’s 4 building blocks were a very clear and concise way of describing community capacity building.
* Use new approaches with a couple of groups I can think of.
* Share with colleagues and support community to understand.
* I feel as practitioners we do a lot of what was discussed already in communities. Gave me the opportunity to reflect on what I do and why.
* Not sure yet.
* Will work with team to feedback.
* A lot of information I already knew. Would have liked more time to share knowledge. Afternoon was more engaging. Go over the evidence.
* Help me to help the communities I work in i.e. recognizing their difficulties, giving them a platform.
* Intend to put into practice when working with community groups.
* Will be used within team plan - carry out tasks, support local groups to make effective use of C.E. Act for their benefit.
* Plan to put into practice some of the ideas from other delegates.
* Think about how the CE Act can be used as an opportunity to help communities but also consider the pit falls.
* Will be using some skills in team planning event next week.
* In specific situations with management committees.
* In working with some of my groups and will use some of the discussion points.
* Capacity building once the guidance is approved and participation requests go live.
* Cascade to colleagues.
* Reflect on the day.
* Discuss the programme with other CLD consortia around the country.
* Within my work setting and private life.
* To inform the consultation on the act.
* Useful in developing community engagement.
* I intend to roll out a similar programme for partners and organisations within my Local Authority area.
* To use it in my role as a manager of a 3rd sector organisation.
* I am going to work closely with CLD colleagues to ensure that all in CPP team (and partners) have the relevant skills to meaningfully empower community.
* Cascade to team.
* Hopefully it can be used during work planning.
* Work closely with colleagues to influence policy in near future as we go through strategic change.
* The content reminded me of the fundamental rationale skills and methods of empowerment we use. It will enhance my practice, from now.

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| When do you think you will use what you have learned? |
| Never | 0 - 3 Months | 3 - 6 Months | 6 - 12 Months | 12 months plus |
| 0 | 25 | 9 | 2 | 1 |

What specific improvements could have been made to the content of today’s programme?

* More specific content in the morning.
* More networking time.
* More information on Community Empowerment Act.
* More time with Alistair McKinlay for a longer Q&A.
* Whilst I found the programme useful, I feel it was a little simplistic for many in the room.
* Thought there would have been more on the implementation, some exercises didn’t seem relevant for trained CLD workers.
* Having a lunch menu catering for gluten free and vegetarian, water. Larger venue, too claustrophobic, tables too small and too noisy for discussions.
* More breakout sessions as room was too hot.
* Would have been good to see more third sector organisations - I don’t know if they were on the mailing list.
* Good to focus on skills. Really required at local CLD level. More would be good on specific role of CLD within CE Act.
* I think the programme was great.
* More input from speakers. The input from the Scottish Government was interesting and would have liked him to go into more detail and answer some of the specific questions he was asked.
* Bigger room. More break outs to discuss impacts of the empowerment bill. Less PowerPoint more discussion.
* Felt that it was like much of the information I already had but it was good to network.
* The room was too hot.
* Go through the act and how CPPs will implement it. How will it be embraced by Councilor’s, Chief Exec’s etc. Would have been good to have a mix of them in the room. You were talking to people already doing what you’re suggesting.
* 4 CB points to stick to Empowerment Bill and not more general ‘empowerment’ (wheel was interesting but made the day less practical. I wanted information on specific skills relevant to the act.
* More detail on the legalities of the CE Act - would like specific information on extent participation. Requests could help local groups.
* Didn’t need to be a full day or more discussion on the statutory guidance relating to the process.
* Felt there was too much on basics and not enough on the policy context.
* Would have liked more information and discussion on the CE Act itself and the guidance.
* Tap into roomful of knowledgeable, skilled people. Most engaging part was the ‘promenade’.
* Larger room, water in the same room as lunch, more input from the views of community groups themselves - what they think would be helpful.
* Practice tools to assess and prioritise needs - cards on the table, programme priority search, public meeting.
* None really. The venue was a little crowded but the programme flowed well. I would like to have been challenged more by an input that allowed for critical thinking.

Do you have any suggestions or ideas for future conferences, workshops or networking opportunities?

* Sharing of good practice, allowing communities to be involved in our CPD and discussions about the future.
* Ensure programme is suitable for all.
* Bigger space/venue. Case studies - more time to show “good practice” examples.
* Maybe a follow-up next year i.e. ‘Community Empowerment Act - What have we done one year on?’
* Temperature of room was becoming very uncomfortable (While I appreciate Scotland in June isn’t usually this warm).
* Perhaps a digital space for attendance to feedback their thoughts and continue the conversation.
* More workshops to share learning and practice.
* Changing the table groups for each exercise so we can network more.
* More networking opportunities within the conference time.
* Might be good to stop grouping CLD together for training, mix us with other disciplines so they know what we’re doing and why.
* Once guidelines have been produced, come together exploring and learning from each other.
* Breakdown of CEA with legal advice - shorter event would be fine.
* Selection of case studies currently making use of the CE Act to read.
* Looking at local contexts and supporting one another.
* Community Planning Partnership + Community Learning and Development - explore relationship, links and how they can support each other.
* Input of critical research / myth busting 🡪 points of greatest influence / leverage.
* Relationships, agendas, skill set, capacity of practitioners involved in empowering, individual and organisation within Community Planning agenda, whilst de-skilling the CLD workforce.
* Would be good to be able to run similar sessions more locally.

Any other comments you’d like to make?

* Thanks for having me.
* Cramped, crowded and uncomfortable room did not provide the right environment for learning.
* Good to meet local CLD workers.
* Steve Skinner very well prepared and genuinely passionate for his role but would prefer more specific clarity on the Act and potential for change.
* Thanks to the organisers, it is appreciated.
* Not enough time for discussion. Not very empowered in my profession.
* Thank you.
* Really enjoyed the day, I feel more empowered.
* Well organised and facilitated. Thank you.
* Well organised as always with Consortium events.
* Too hot.
* Too many people in a small room. Not the best environment for learning.
* Maybe misread what day was about but had thought it would focus on the CEA and laws in it to support communities effectively and engage. Guess I will have to do the leg work myself.
* I misunderstood aim of conference, thought it was more around the CE Act. Good networking opportunity.
* Steve’s input was very interesting and thought provoking.
* Thank you.
* Was a good experience, allowed time for reflection, embed ideas for effective working in communities with individuals and groups.
* The room was too small for the number of people and extremely warm. I liked the interactive methods used throughout the day.
* Good seminar, interesting discussions.
* Far too hot and room was too small.
* Thank you for inviting us, SCDN appreciates the opportunity to participate in your development day.
* Room to small and warm.
* More fans/air conditioning needed.
* The day was different to what I expected. I thought i would be based more around the act.
* Good event - of practical help and added to my thinking around CE Act. Good to get feedback from colleagues from other organisations on their experience.
* It was a good day but as said earlier, I would have liked an input that was a little more challenging and controversial. Maybe what we do need to is be reminded of the basics.