**Learn North: June 2023**

**Present:**

Colin Wright (Chair); Roisin Irvine (taking minutes, Abi Clarke, Craig Lowther, Helena Macleod, Ayesha Huda, Karen Delaney, Vikki Carpenter, Alison Sharkey

**Apologies**:

Laura Starkey, Kirsty D’Ambrosio, Joanne Ellis

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| 1. | **Welcome**  Colin welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions. Welcome Alison to the group. | **Action** |
| 2. | **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**  Outstanding actions.   * Craig, on behalf of UHI Shetland, requested that members continue to share and promote the PDA Youth Work and HNC in Working with Communities programmes. |  |
| 3 . | **Winter learning Festival**  Winter Learning Festival planned for Week of 30th October.  Karen has been promoting and encouraging engagement.  Karen noted the need for a shared calendar; the event belongs to all members.  Inputs confirmed:   * Monday 30th (am) – Gaelic input coordinated and facilitated by Anna Morison (SQA), Maeve McKinnon (HMIE), Jennifer McHarrie (Bord na Gaidhlig) – interactive workshop including discussion, raising awareness of statutory duty around Gaelic in the community – group to develop. * Tuesday 31st (to be confirmed) – Building Racial Literacy   Aberdeenshire have offered inputs on ESOL and Health & Wellbeing  Vicky will deliver a session on CLD plans. She will request Scottish Government CLD team co-deliver this. Twilight slot preferred (Wednesday 1st Nov, 18:30-20:00, TBC)  Vicky will deliver a second session on CLD Competences (twilight session TBC) and a session on Equality and Diversity.  Separate session on equalities. Colin asked for contributors to deliver this.  CLD Practice delivered by Sue Briggs- Sue will get back next week  Health Issues in the Community – sharing the process/ outcomes – of interest to third sector partners. Helena gave a summary of her recent experience of the course.  A place for direct input sessions and discussion sessions about Learn North developments/ how best funding can be used.  SEDC – Karen to make contact with them to deliver a session  Moray could deliver a session on Family Learning – shared practice session – sharing work across areas of practice.  Session about Multiply suggested – useful to get Multiply partners together – THC already doing this.  Thanks to Karen, the programme is coming together – group encouraged to fill gaps. Funding available to fund a session if there is something worthwhile.  Ayesha suggested a session on Intro to Youth Work – beginners guide – groups across the north who would benefit due to cuts to youth clubs. Craig will discuss with UHI colleges to determine what relevant courses are being delivered.  Climate Action – link to CLD – NESCAN or similar organisation to come and talk about their work in communities, climate change, Climate Assemblies and how that links in with CLD.  Vikki suggested that participants could be offered an opportunity to register their interest if the session were at an alternative time. Karen suggested a link to a later learning offer at another time of year or add opportunity to suggest future training. |  |
| 4. | **HMIE Sessions**  Alona will provide sessions on new progress visit format – Karen to arrange.  What are we looking for from the session?  New inspections will include webinars, quality indicators, shorter inspection periods, no grading system. It will be up to the community of practice to showcase best examples of CLD.  Karen suggested Jamboards could be produced as part of the information session which could then be shared across the north.  Inspections will take place Sept-April.  Ayesha noted that invitations to the session were received by the third sector too late – good opportunity for third sector involvement.  LN discussion as a partnership – 22nd June (am) – self-evaluation at the start – support one another. Sessions will look at 4 QIs. |  |
| 5 | **Bulletin**  Item not concluded at last meeting.  Karen. A bulletin could reinforce contacts and relationships – share info and practice. However, it takes time to prepare – could LN partnership fund this?  Colin. Gathering content a challenge. Template exists that could be shared. Could we experiment by creating a bulletin at the end of summer?  Ayesha. It is a lot of work – each area has a newsletter, this could be a LN one – what have we achieved as a partnership? Promote at the Winter Festival. Aim for end of August/ beginning of Sept?  Vikki. Great tool for promotion – create template? |  |
| 6. | **Partnership Priorities**  Winter Festival, workforce survey, learning pathways. What else are we trying to achieve?  Ayesha  What is happening elsewhere – common themes – climate action, cost of living crisis, mental health all still important. Access to training for the third sector – themes that cut across public and third sectors – third sector can provide wrap around to public service priorities.  Craig  Determining the workforce training needs across the partnership – aim to meet with formal qualifications and workforce development planning.  Vikki  CLD Standards Council provide support to the CLD workforce – promote the standards council and looks for ways to help.  Karen  Brining practitioners together around themes online – who would we want to contribute? Shared practice in a north specific context. Online events – what themes are your priorities? Who would you like to hear from? What are the common challenges? If this is a common priority, do we need to do our business differently?  Colin summed up the discussion by noting most members value sharing – should there be more opportunity to share as this seems to be key. |  |
| .7. | **Local Updates**  **Ayesha**  Climate Festival, Shetland – not well attended. Saltire Awards – 180 people at the ceremony.  Ayesha left the meeting.  **Vikki**  Recruitment drive for volunteer members – 16 new applicants to committees – still open to applicants.  Comms strategy – monthly bulletin.  Changes to the approvals processes.  Mapping learning pathways – Grow Your Own – encouraging colleges to offer CLD quals.  Policy work – prescribed annual hours for “learning” – policy is schools based/ teacher based – CLD Standards Council input advocates for recognition of wider learning – CLD recognition of attainment.  Education reform – new agencies within Scottish Gov – promoting what CLD does including community capacity building.  **Helena**  Highland TSI Assembly – third sector reps induction – Highland third sector awards.  Online community development forums. CLD Support Officer post vacant – with CLD action plan review coming up it will be good to have this post filled. Would like to involve more third sector voices through this role – onus is o third sector partners to represent themselves on the action plan.  **Colin**  Re-shaping due to budget pressures.  Family learning – working with Laura Starkey – series of meetings with CLD planning partnership groups.  **Alison**  No update – new to the group – needs time to assess what is relevant.  Ukrainian refugees access to ESOL provision – developing the volunteer ESOL tutor role – seeking resources. Lots of offers of support from LN colleagues including ESOL training materials and volunteer peer support system. Colin noted opportunity for collaborative session on this.  **Abi**  Development programme – from August, info session in July.  Volunteers’ week – activities to mark the event including social media content.  **Craig**  <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fit-future-developing-post-school-learning-system-fuel-economic-transformation/>  UHI finding ways to address financial pressures including reduction in credits  <https://consult.gov.scot/education-reform/professor-haywards-independent-review/>  Smart STEMS project inviting young people (S3+) to the campus to promote access to STEM sciences for target group (e.g. S3 girls studying sciences.  Vikki left the meeting.  **Karen.**  Volunteering committee report – local authority volunteering forum.  Peer review with full team – asked to share one piece of work each.  PDA Youth Work assessments  Locality events – group looking at volunteering opportunities.  There is an open invitation to a Canva workshop to the partnership.  **Highland**  Re-shaping Adult Learning team to create the best use of resources.  Cross-service refugee thematic group addressing barriers to equal access for refugee communities to public services.  Large numbers of refugees resettling across Highland – some challenges within communities – community cohesion project led by HLH.  Volunteer recruitment drive to boost volunteer numbers which have dropped during/ following covid. Developing marketing materials and improving volunteer (learning offer).  PDA SALL development work – refreshing content and assignments to include relevant and recent data/ policy and local Highland context. This will include video content created by learners.  Extending social enterprise project across Highland which will create rich learning opportunities and progression routes for adult learners. |  |
|  | **AOCB** |  |
|  | **Next meeting** |  |