

# Welcome to the CLD in Scotland Conference

17 April 2024

#CLDinScotland

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# Capturing the impact of CLD

2pm – 3pm

Professor Emeritus Karen McArdle,  
University of Aberdeen,

Sue Briggs, CLD Author

Kirsty Forrester, Strategic Development Officer  
Dundee City Council

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### **CLD changes lives**

"I'm blown away with how amazing this experience was. I've totally changed how I see things, I've been living day to day, but now I'm planning ahead for the future, for myself and my family. I also want to share what I've learned with the community. I'm calmer, more patient and happier. I don't shout as much and am making sure that I take time to myself to Still and Chill. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for this programme."

**CLD: A cause for celebration**

#BecauseOfCLD

Kenny

Kenny

For me I think reading and writing is an essential.

"We choose to come here and  
I feel we are listened to  
unlike school"

(Young Person)

**Julie**

Julie

And that's a big difference  
it makes you feel like



*Lynn Clark (Plus 1 Research)*

“I was struck by how often the word “with” is used  
to describe our work.  
WITH community members  
WITH each other.”

We “co-create learning experiences,  
not just inviting our students to the table,  
but encouraging them to determine the menu so that we can all be  
fed.”

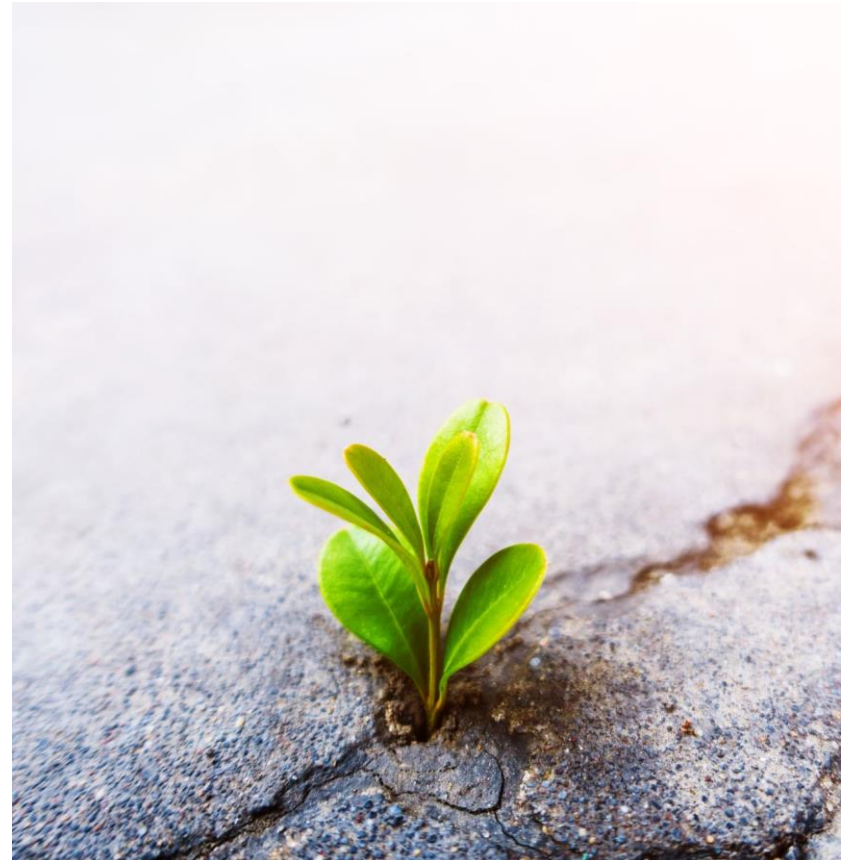
***Person centered approaches to learning:***

*“Previously when I'd been to a class,  
I was just given printed out programme, which didn't suit  
me.*

*I feel here I have been treated with respect as an  
individual.”*

# Social Justice

- Thinking about social justice leads inevitably to thinking about discrimination, hunger, crime, family and childhood poverty.
- Working to maintain society and help people to fit in is arguably important, but I suggest insufficient.
- We need to (and do) work for : individual change; systems and structures; wider social and economic policy (knowledge and practice).



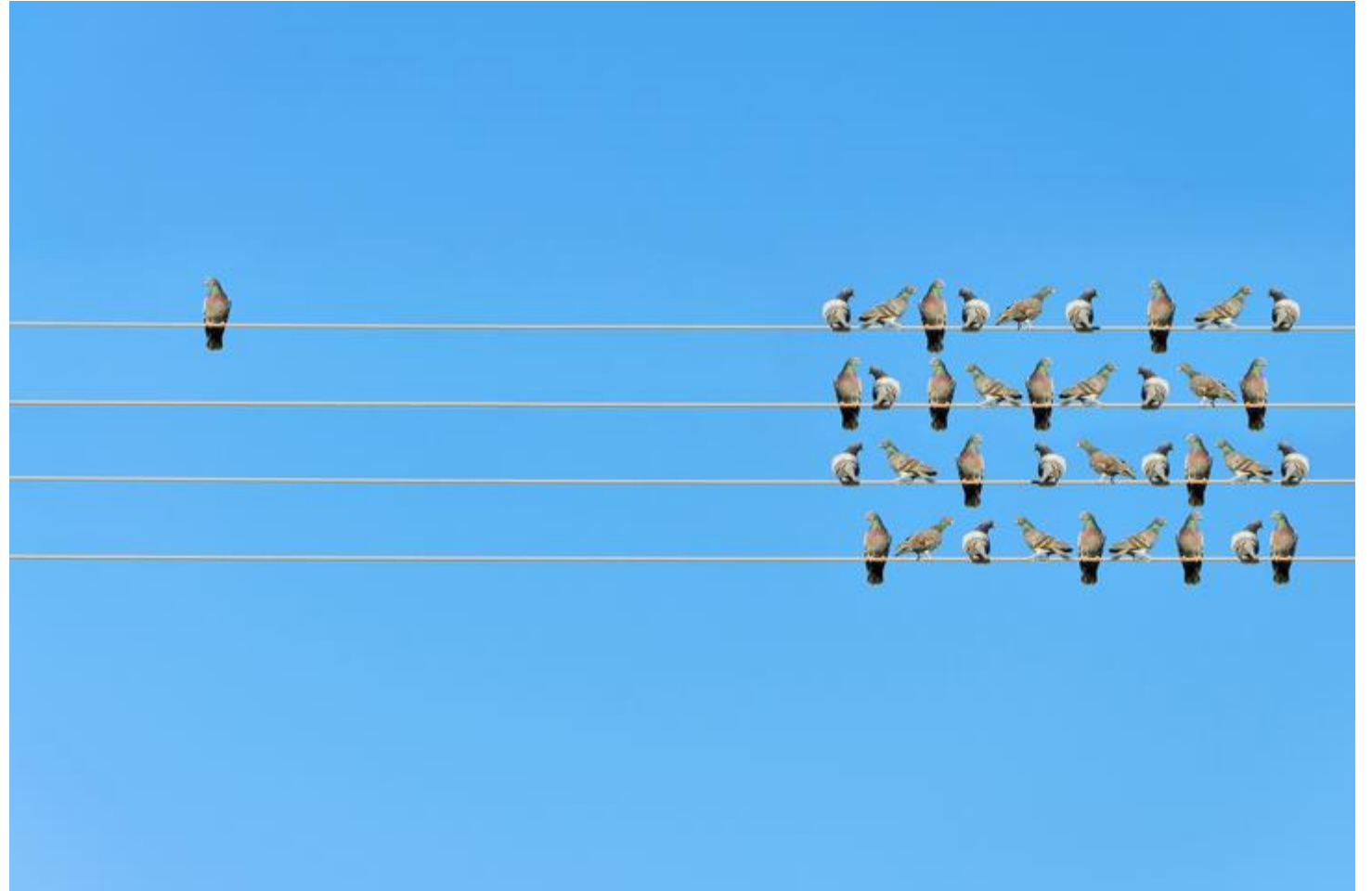


# What we can do about social justice

- Counter hegemony with critical education for us and them;
- Sharpen up our language and speak truth to power;
- Amplify and interpret voice and stories;
- Be political/change driven.

# What we do matters, how can we continue doing it?

- Showing impact, change and transformation
- Being robust
- Addressing hierarchies of knowing.



# Impact: simple measures

- Scale
- Quality
- Significance



Well-being of individuals, families, groups and communities: content of what we do.

- Living in hope
- A shared spirit of hope
- People's expectations of positive outcomes
- These positive outcomes happening
- Living a life of value for self and others



# Let's do this together

- Statistics and Stories need to be robust and evidential;
- Focus on change and transformation (sustainability): Scale, quality and significance;
- We can operate at micro, meso and macro levels: Show the sheer beauty and importance of what we do.





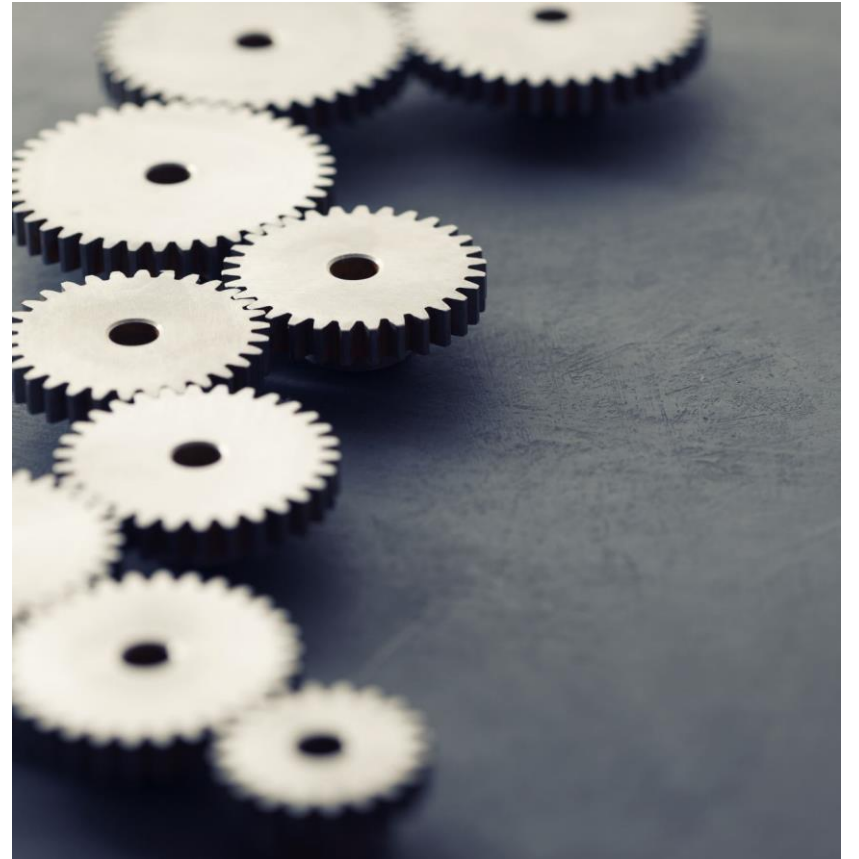
# We all know what we have in common:

- A commitment to facilitating change in the community;
- A concern for all members of a community;
- A commitment to community empowerment, participation and democracy;
- A commitment to equality of opportunity;
- An awareness of the intersubjectivity/interrelatedness of community influences;

*(McArdle, Briggs, Forrester, Garrett and McKay (2020)*

***The Impact of Community Work: How to gather evidence)***

- Social justice underpins what we do.



# What next for us.....

- **Define but not Confine**....be understood
- **Outcomes** stated , accepted, valued and coherently applied in a field of work which is necessarily varied at point of delivery.
- **Outputs** which deliver purposefully in order to support the achievement of outcomes where we know – and can show – our work is of value.



# We all know what we do (Cont.)

- What are the key **outcomes** against which we wish to be assessed, known, measured?
- What are the key **outputs** of our work that matter? How can we best use these?



# Thank you very much for attending the conference

Refreshments, networking and CLD Talks  
Vox Pop will now be in the foyer till 6pm.  
Enjoy!

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