

What are the barriers to efficient and adequate community learning and development provision in our area?

When meeting the requirements of the [CLD Regulations 2013](#), and specifically Regulation 2, partners and communities will be taking stock of the CLD provision in their area with a view to identifying barriers obstructing development. This exercise forms part of the underlying process to meet the CLD Regulations and does not need to be published as part of the three year plan. It should, however, involve partners and communities and forms an important driver of improvement.

The provision of efficient and adequate CLD is different in each area as each has different priorities, partners, resources, populations, infrastructure and needs – a different history. These differences are reflected in the Single Outcome Agreement agreed with Scottish Government and will equally be echoed in the unique process and planning developed in each area for the CLD Regulations.

When assessing their provision, local authorities, their partners and communities will wish to consider four main areas to ensure that they are delivering community learning and development that responds to local needs while being fit for purpose in a national context during this period of intense change.



Building on practice - roles and responsibilities

Scottish Government recognise that the majority of Scottish CLD provision is rated as good or above by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education. We want to see local authorities and their partners build on their successful self-evaluation practices by defining for themselves what adequate and efficient provision looks like at a local level. It is for each local authority and its partners to take all the information that they have and to come to their own decisions.

We hope that areas will use this process to identify their ambitions for CLD provision and check progress against them – is provision across all partners offering the right things in the right places at the right times? Is the workforce supported in the right ways? Where are your strengths? Are you, as a group of partners, working together as well as you might to improve life chances and support stronger, more resilient, influential and inclusive communities?

Through inspection activity, Her Majesty's Inspectors will consider how the process to meet the requirements of the CLD Regulations is progressing.

Policy context

The value and impact of CLD has been recognised in a range of current and forthcoming legislation and policy. LAs and their partners will wish to ensure that their provision supports both local and national policy in a coherent and joined up manner. *The CLD Strategic Guidance (2012)* remains the key national policy for CLD, and covers themes such as workforce development and partnership working. Recent areas of related development at a national level include:

- The Statement of Ambition for Adult Learning
- Our Ambitions for Improving the Life Chances of Young People in Scotland: The National Youth Work Strategy 2014 - 2019
- Education Working For All! Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce Final Report
- The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- Curriculum for Excellence Implementation Plan 2014-2015
- The Community Empowerment Bill (currently going through Scottish Parliament)
- The wider public service reform agenda.

Community and partner views

The views of partners (including the LA itself), communities and learners will be at the heart of an area's judgement of whether its provision is adequate and efficient. Each area will have a range of mechanisms for residents and participants to feed back on services (whether provided by the local authority or partners) and the material gathered will also give evidence in support of the barriers to efficient and adequate provision.

Evaluation and scrutiny

Local authorities and their partners are already working to a range of quality frameworks, both local and national, for example, *How Good is our CLD2*. Consideration should be given to which broad areas of these frameworks are of use in evaluating and evidencing efficient and adequate CLD provision – for example, supporting the workforce. This may include feedback from inspections, self-evaluation material and reporting around the SOA, community plans and various existing quality marks (eg the CLD Standards Council's Standards Mark).

Area profile and related data

Local authorities and their partners have access to a wealth of data from local and national sources which, when effectively analysed, enables them to understand the

demographics of the area they operate within. This may include the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, local and national surveys, DWP datasets etc.

Review and improvement

We anticipate that partnership areas will review their understanding of adequate and efficient CLD provision at regular intervals as the Scottish and local contexts evolve. The process to meet the requirements of the CLD Regulations will result in a published plan every three years, and the evaluation of the impacts, strengths and challenges of each plan should inform its successor in a cycle of continuous improvement.