

Ministear airson Òigridh agus Clann
Minister for Children and Young People
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Dear Chief Executive

The Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013: Guidance for Local Authorities

I am writing to draw your attention to the enclosed document, *The Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013: Guidance for Local Authorities*. Based on feedback and consultation with the community learning and development (CLD) sector, this forms the first part of a package of support for local authorities and their partners as they implement *The Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013* (“the CLD Regulations”). As you know, these Regulations place duties on local authorities in relation to:

- the auditing of need for community learning and development;
- consultation and planning for community learning and development at local level.

An online copy can be found at:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/communitylearninganddevelopment/

The text of the CLD Regulations and the main policy document for this area, *Community Learning and Development: Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships* are attached to the guidance as annexes.

CLD has a powerful impact on the lives of learners and communities, supporting them to identify and work towards change. Whether that change takes place in an individual’s life, helps to create a resilient and enterprising community or contributes to better public services in a changing landscape, Scotland has a need for successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors of all ages, working together throughout life to build a shared future.

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This focus on supporting the learning and development of communities is timely given the increasing body of evidence that building on individual and community strengths - an *assets approach*, allowing people to feel in control of their own lives - is essential in tackling deep-rooted social problems. In this time of diminishing budgets, we are clear that better partnership working at local level and a focus on preventative work is required if we are to improve the quality of public services provided in Scotland and ensure their future financial sustainability.

The CLD Regulations echo themes in a range of new statutory requirements and policy expectations, such as the outcomes of the review of Community Planning, legislative developments in relation to the implementation of the GIRFEC approach and services for children and young people, and the wider public service reform agenda.

In particular, there are links to the developing community empowerment legislation which is intended to support communities to achieve their own goals and aspirations through taking independent action and by having their voices heard in the decisions that affect their area.

Education Scotland are developing a programme of implementation support for local authorities and their partners, and details of this will be available shortly. Any queries about the Regulations or their implementation may be addressed to Jackie Halawi, Senior Education Officer, Community Learning and Development, 01382 576717, Jackie.Halawi@educationscotland.gsi.gov.uk

I would be grateful if you could disseminate this information to the appropriate Directors and all other relevant staff in your authority.

Yours sincerely



AILEEN CAMPBELL
Minister for Children and Young People