

Partnership use of HGIOCLD4 framework in CLD planning Aberdeenshire Council and Lead Scotland

Background

In spring 2021 the partners on the Aberdeenshire Learning Communities Partnership (ALCP) decided to invest in strengthening their understanding, confidence and capacity around CLD Planning. At that time they were shaping the 2021-24 CLD plan and looking at how they could best work together to support communities through the Covid-19 pandemic and into recovery. Partners identified the potential benefit in a shared professional learning session to support them in the challenge of CLD Planning during a time of change.

Two of the strategic partners, Aberdeenshire Council and Lead Scotland, came together to design and deliver a short programme aimed at strengthening leadership and management in the partnership.

Selecting quality indicators and challenge questions

The two partners decided to use the draft framework *How good is our CLD? 4TH edition* to bring some rigour to the programme. They identified the key needs were ensuring effective management and delivery of services as a partnership which led them to two quality indicators:

1. **Management and Delivery**; “3.2 Partnership working”.
2. **Leadership and Direction**; “6.1 Raising standards”.

They selected just a few of challenge questions from these two QIs. Ones that would directly support shaping the CLD plan and let the partners explore both the challenges and how they could work together to resolve them. The sessions also allowed participants to experience a paced introduction to the HGIOCLD4 framework.

The sessions and outcomes

Each of the one-hour sessions (delivered online a month apart) were interactive in nature with live use of an online jamboard to prompt discussion, identify areas for improvement, and record outcomes. The use of two initial challenge questions, and a final challenge question in each session helped to drive the discussion. In addition, each session was explicitly linked to the relevant CLD Standards Council competency to set the area of focus in a clear CLD practitioner context. Feedback shows that the delivery model worked well for the partners attending the sessions with all participants reporting their expectations were met.

Outcomes from this use of the HGIOCLD4 framework included:

- Greater understanding and confidence in CLD planning amongst participants.
- Greater clarity on the partnership’s strengths and areas for improvement.

Partners have agreed to build the use of the framework into future partnership meetings, exploring other HGIOCLD4 themes as the 21-24 CLD plan is delivered.

Participant quotes

“It assisted in my understanding of some of the challenges that partnerships such as the ALCP face when collaborating on CLD planning within a regional setting.”

“I liked the fact it was co-delivered by partner colleagues and was short / compact and very focussed.”

“I liked the fact the programme was clearly linked to the CLD Standards Council competencies, helps in recording own professional learning and made me think about this”

