

Report of community learning and development in Glasgow City Council

Following a visit to Glasgow City Council in June 2022, HM Inspectors requested a report on progress against the outstanding areas for improvement since the original inspection in 2018. Glasgow City Council submitted a progress report in March 2023 and HM Inspectors met with them to discuss its contents. HM Inspectors recognise the challenges facing community learning and development (CLD) providers both as a result of the pandemic and the current cost of living crisis and took account of this during the visit.

Improving governance

It is clear that work is progressing in terms of improving the CLD Strategic Partnership governance structures. Since the last visit by HM Inspectors, governance arrangements have been refreshed to include themed sub-groups covering the over-arching CLD priorities for the city. Although these groups were in existence at the time of the last visit, they have since been strengthened. Two of the sub groups have strong partnership representation, but staff in the City of Glasgow recognise the need to ensure improved partner contribution at the Performance and Governance sub-group. In February 2023, Glasgow CLD Strategic Partnership engaged CLD partners in an annual self-evaluation event. Using challenge questions from [How good is our community learning and development?](#) partners were able to identify a clearer joint vision and way forward. CLD partners are now responding more effectively to new and emerging needs and securing additional funding.

Establishing measurable targets

CLD partners are making good progress towards establishing measurable baselines and targets. Progress against these is now being reported against key performance measures. These are helpfully aligned to the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) developed by Community Learning and Development Managers Scotland and being monitored through the CLD Action Plan for 2022-24.

Co-ordination of the learning offer at local level

At a local level in Govan, CLD partners were asked to strengthen the co-ordination of the learning offer. This included a clearer focus on outcomes and reporting. The South Adult Learning Partnership has strengthened its reporting arrangements and will now report against the CLD Action Plan. Similarly, the Govan Thriving Place Steering Group is now aligning local action plans to better reflect the CLD Action Plan.

What happens next?

Overall, the local authority and its CLD partners are taking appropriate steps to address the recommendations from the original inspection. As a result, we will make no further visits to Glasgow City Council and its CLD partners in connection with the original inspection.

Sheila Brown
HM Inspector
May 2023