**Learn North: April 2023**

**Present:**

Colin Wright (Chair); Kirsty D’Ambrosio (Secretary), Vicky Carpenter, , Fiona MacIness-Begg, Joanne Ellis, Abi Clarke, , Craig Lowther, Kerry Spence, Helena Macleod, Alex Edmonston, Ayesha Huda

**Apologies**:

Mark Richardson, Dan Shaw, , , Roslyn Aitken, Brenda Leask, Anthea Hulme, June Porter , Karen Delaney, Keith Anderson, Laura Starkey

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| 1. | **Welcome**Colin welcomed everyone to the meeting. | **Action** |
| 2. | **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**One amendment requested by Keith Anderson for attendance- Minutes recorded as accurate and seconded. Outstanding actions. * I-Develop: KDA has asked for access and has agreed to add relevant documents to I-develop.
 | KirstyKirsty  |
| 3 . | **Winter learning Festival** Winter Learning Festival planned for Week of 30th October.Suggested inputsTESOL Practise sharing- Resettlement Programmes- High Life Highland Multiply Practise sharing session- UHI- TBC, Aberdeenshire Council- Joanne TBC, Anna McKinnes- Lead for North on Multiply (Fiona McIness)CLD Plans- Review, Planning & Gaps- Practise sharing activity. Alex Argyll & Bute. Vikki/Education Scotland Youth Capacity- Ayesha to ask Youth BoardCLD Practise- Sue Briggs- Colin to follow up Health Issues In the Community -Sharing outcomes/impacts- KarenGaelic Input- Maeve McKinnon HMIE – Karen to follow upColin invites others not in attendance to contribute ideas/sign up to do something. Alex left early- **UHI update- Offer the same- Place on Youth Work and HNC Course.**  |  |
| 4.  | Financial arrangements – Shared Practise Fund * Accounting arrangements moved from Orkney to Aberdeenshire
* Proposed a Shared Practise fund (£2000) to visit partners and other networks to approve practise. Group agreed idea in principle. Suggested 50% match funding. Suggested trip needs to link to Learn North priorities.
* Suggested Karen to provide a bit more detail.
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| 5 | **Workforce development** **Outstanding tasks from last minute*** Proposed working group suggested involving CLD Standards Council and Robert Hind to examine the following questions. To be discussed at next meeting
* How do we as a group take a collaborative approach to identifying and assisting people in the North to access workforce pathways?
* How do we identify what the workforce training needs are as a North.?
* Craig Lowther waiting for short video clips of CLD practitioners talking about their work that can be linked to CLD courses. 30 second video to include: Who are they? What do they do? Why do they love their jobs> Why should they be a CLD worker??
* UHI still has places on Youth Work and Communities Course**.**
* Kirsty advised some staffing capacity around recruiting ESOL tutors due to demand resulting from Afghan and Ukrainian resettlement programmes.
* Craig at UHI mentioned ESOL is growing again due to resettlement programmes. Craig suggested that if difficulties with recruiting to send vacancies to UHI. The managers are Roz Bullard <Roz.Bullard.ic@uhi.ac.uk>; Nicola Macdonald Nicola.MacDonald.ic@uhi.ac.uk-
* Colin to include question about ESOL capacity/training in the survey.

Craig left the meeting | Colin |
| 6. | **Newsletter- Feedback and Future Editions*** Discussion lack of feedback from recipients of newsletter and suggested that in next newsletter feedback should be sought.
* Possibility of using another platform e.g. Padlet so number of views can be recorded.
* Suggested items from last meeting include: article about CLD Talks Podcasts, 3 wishes for training.
* Colin will create a survey/snap poll to see what people want to see in a newsletter. Circulate list of articles we are looking for and also ask for suggestions.
 | Kirsty/Colin |
| .7.  | **Future Priorities**Colin invited discussion on priorities for the year. . * Digital Upskilling- How we can offer quality hybrid offer to future proof CLD service- Joanne
* 3rd sector- Ayesha mentioned some challenges around accessing training. Can’t access all training – safeguarding, governance, digital skills, risk assessment, manual handling.
* Needs analysis training and attracting and supporting volunteers mentioned by Kirsty in Highland.

Colin left the meeting. Wider discussion to be continued at next meeting.  | Colin |
| 8.  | **Local Updates****Joanne*** Aberdeen- Pilot training through Education Scotland-Self- Evaluation Continuous Improvement- Took part as Children Wellbeing Partnership Collective. Will be rolling out in Aberdeenshire and looking at peer reviews.
* Potential to share good practise from this pilot.
* Looking at Workforce development and career pathways.
* Discussed how we could share skills across wider learn North network.

**Fiona*** Shetland- Getting used to new department. Manage Crown estate revenue funding- overwhelmed with number of applications- Panels of partners to be coordinated. Lost 2.5 posts. Training for place standard tool. 3 pilot areas. Not leading summer programmes due to change in focus. Use time for team development.

**Abi-** * Moray- Community Moray Fund launched to help families after cost of living crisis. Continuing to deliver training. Including funding applications, roles and responsibilities of a trustee, funder forums, health and wellbeing forum.

**Vicky-** * Standards Council- Looking at pathways for workforce development and learning pathways. Looking at stepping from grassroots to professional qualifications. Some staffing resource issues. Looking at communications/roles.
* Equality/diversity- member led meeting- safe space to ask questions. First session on Friday. Looking at race/white privilege. LGBTQ + session, members leading on youth work in Jewish communities.
* Community wealth building conversation in progress

**Kirsty** * Highland- Highland cares- supporting teenage mental health, suicide awareness, trauma informed work has set up funding to bid into. Well subscribed. Range of training offered.
* Adult Learning Operational guidance updated
* Training for Adult learning team - Jackie Howie learning Link Scotland
* Needs analysis training and development in pipeline.
* 2 representatives on leadership programme.

Helena joined the meeting**Helena-** * Busy in new role as Strathearn development officer.
* Highland 3rd Sector . Highland Third sector assembly 12 May- looking for new reps for groups. CLD roles will continue but no one for some other roles – HOIP, Community safety and resilience, highland practise model review group- getting new reps.
* Community development forum going well.
* Rising costs/impacts on rent. Stress. Peer network to share learning and support one another.
* Helena signed up for HICC. Helena.

**Ayesha*** June Porter and Brenda Leask- taking the lead on Multiply- UHI applied and VA Shetland applied from funding.
* Run courses in financial management, roles and responsibilities of trustees. CAB running money worries training and been really successful. Giving staff and volunteers confidence to talk to individuals in financial difficulty.
* Net zero- applied from funding from local development fund- 30 learners to participate in climate solutions through Royal Scottish geographical society. Hope to get a network of climate champions who will champion change at a grassroots level. Climate festival in early June.
* Facilities network and 3rd sector forums all meeting regularly on regular basis.
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|  | **AOCB****Pending actions from February.** * Kirsty to update Idevelop page. Joanne Ellis needs added to Idevelop space.
 | Kirsty  |
|  | **Next meeting****15 June 2023** |  |