**CLD CPD National Network Leads Online Meeting**

**Wednesday 3 June 2020, 9.30-11am**

**1. Present**

Kirsty Gemmell (CLDSC–chair); Tayside &Fife - Sue Holland-Smith (Dundee City Council); Tricia Ryan (Angus Council); South East & Central - Diann Govenlock (E Lothian Council); Karen McGowan (Midlothian Council); West - Joan McVicar (S. Lanarkshire Council); North - Linda Clark (Aberdeen City Council); South West - Stephen Jack (D&G Council); Education Scotland - Alona Murray, John Galt

**2. Updates since last meeting – Networks, ES, CLDSC**

Tayside and Fife (Tricia/Sue)

* There has been discussion with Dundee University about the disruption to placements for CLD students which is causing concerns. The University does not think that summer placements are practical. The CLDSC has a meeting with reps from all relevant HE institutions in the near future. Kirsty also involved in UK-wide discussions. The need is for flexible guidelines that individual institutions and their practice partners can make work for them.

South East and Central (Diann/Karen)

* CLD reps from the 5 areas in the South East RIC met for the first time since lockdown. This is the first of a series of meetings planned to share practice and discuss common issues.
* Fife Council has adapted a framework of digital protocols from Glasgow Life for use.
* E. Lothian Council: CLD staff deployed to support school hubs and shielding groups. Youth workers also providing targeted support to ASN young people. Starting to look planning for CLD recovery. The restrictions about what digital platforms can be used is frustrating for staff. Eg Staff can now join Zoom meetings but can’t lead on them.
* Midlothian Council: Delivering innovative digital youth work via Facebook, Discord and Encore 360. Developing training and support for telephone befrienders for vulnerable groups.

South West (Stephen)

* The 4 area reps are in regular touch along with the SW RIC team and ES. Sharing practice and discussing key issues. Dehra MacDonald from ES has been sharing local practice via social media.
* D&G Council: CLD Managers currently deployed in cross-departmental hubs. CLD staff supporting community responses to Covid19 – eg food delivery etc. The Council is likely to continue to encourage virtual working to help to overcome travel challenges in the authority.

West (Joan)

* The West Alliance had agreed to consult on a provisional professional learning programme in March. Andrea McMillan (Glasgow Life) has sent out an [updated online survey](https://surveys.glasgowlife.org.uk/s/OOB8G6/) this week which also asks about new Covid19 crisis priorities.
* CLD group under West Partnership (RIC) has continued to meet to share practice. The group has established a closed iDevelop group to share experiences on CLD recovery planning.
* Joan also gave a flavour of the recovery planning in S. Lanarkshire – CLD staff working on plans including: locality hubs for the summer (over and above school hubs for children of key workers); targeted support for ASN young people; street work with young people etc.

North (Linda)

* North Alliance hasn’t met recently.
* Linda gave a flavour of current priorities in Aberdeen – Youth workers are working effectively in multi-agency hubs for vulnerable learners – currently with primary aged children with secondary aged to be included soon; CLD will have a leading role in hubs over the summer; Also looking at maximising outdoor learning opportunities – eg food growing; Adult learning teams are working with Syrian families and delivering some of their ESOL courses via Zoom and Moodles. Staff will also be involved in the roll out of SCVO Connecting Scotland programme – sharing IT hardware with excluded families and training digital champions to support those families; CD staff supporting volunteer groups in the community and looking to support those groups in the future.
* Initial discussions taking place between Sue Briggs and Dominique Carlisle-Kitz of potential peer mentoring/coaching support for CLD leaders in North and West areas. ES has been asked to help with this. Discussions with Kirsty on links to the CLDSC support later this week.

Education Scotland (Alona and John)

* HMIE inspections have been suspended for the foreseeable future. Inspectors will be supporting the education sector in other ways during the Covid19 recovery phase. Eg Developing the [‘Scotland Learns’](https://education.gov.scot/improvement/scotland-learns/) resources to help parents, carers and practitioners support learning at home.
* 90+ practitioners took part in the‘Big CLD Blether’ hosted by ES and CLDSC on 28/5. This was one of a series held with different parts of the education sector. Themes discussed were: Operational challenges during the current crisis; What’s working well; Supporting the health and wellbeing of learners and practitioners; and Looking forward. ES will share key messages from discussions. Evaluation feedback has been positive – practitioners are telling us that they are looking for more opportunities to share experiences and practice.
* ES is also hosting 3 more online webinars this week with a focus on Adult Learning; Literacies; and ESOL that are all fully booked.
* Future sessions are likely to move on from the ‘Big Blether’ model to focus on one specific topic or area of practice - under the banner ‘Wee Blethers.’ ES and the SC will continue to work together on these.

CLD Standards Council (Kirsty)

* Networks asked to keep promoting the SC’s [survey of CLD practitioners about their responses to the Covid19 crisis](http://cldstandardscouncil.org.uk/the-cld-response-to-covid-19-survey-results-from-wave-1/) which is providing a very useful evidence base for the SC to inform national and local recovery planning. ‘Wave 2’ of feedback will be published soon.
* Grants to Networks: Up to £2,000 will be available from the SC for Networks in 2020-21. More information about how to access grants will follow in the near future.
* Maggie Patterson will continue in her role in the SC team until December. Maggie is undertaking a review of CLD career pathways and is looking for information from the sector on: examples of career support; and key challenges/questions etc. Network leads asked to share this request.
* Kirsty thanked everyone who contributed to updating the SC’s contact list for the Networks.

**3. PL needs in lockdown/initial recovery period – (summer/autumn)**

* CLD practitioners and managers have been adapting well to the Covid19 crisis. It is throwing up new challenges and leading to new ways of working. They are learning through doing. Opportunities to come together with others to share experiences and practice are important at the moment.
* The group discussed current and emerging PL needs:
  + The challenges and solutions of using digital platforms and moving learning online.
  + Addressing cyber bullying is more important than ever
  + Alternatives to digital – eg telephone befriending
  + Considering the health and safety challenges of re-establishing face to face work with social distancing;
  + The likelihood that one-to-one engagement will be more practical than group work in some situations.
  + The increasing focus on street work to engage young people when many community facilities remain closed.
  + Increased importance of training and support for volunteers
  + Increased focus on supporting the well-being of staff during the recovery phase.
  + Peer to peer coaching/mentoring.
* Proposed that ES and the SC host a ‘Wee Blether’ with a focus on CLD PL needs in lockdown/initial recovery period.
* Network leads asked to promote iDevelop discussion groups as another way for practitioners to share practice. Encourage people to subscribe to get regular alerts. The National Networks iDevelop group is a good place to share resources as well as agenda items for future meetings.  <http://www.i-develop-cld.org.uk/course/view.php?id=137>

**4. PL needs longer term to help everyone adjust to new world/new roles**

* Many CLD practitioners are very busy and the circumstances of the current crisis change frequently.
* This group agreed to meet again in August to consider findings from upcoming Network and national surveys and ‘blethers’ and agree next steps for the longer term.

**5. Date of Next Meeting**

Proposed date for next meeting is Wednesday August 26th 9.30-11am (likely to be online).