

Policy context

The following Scottish Government policies and related guidance underpin Education Scotland's community learning and development work.

CLD is identified as having a key role in delivering a wide range of Scottish Government policies including, but not confined to, those listed below.

National Performance Framework

The Scottish Government's [National Performance Framework](#) sets out the strategic objectives for all public services, including those delivering community learning and development.

Purpose of CLD

To empower people, individually and collectively, to make positive changes in their lives and in their communities, through learning

CLD's focus should be:

1. improved life chances for people of all ages, through learning, personal development and active citizenship
2. stronger, more resilient, supportive, influential and inclusive communities.

Documents with a specific focus on CLD

The following documents are specific to CLD:

- [CLD strategic guidance](#) - Guidance for all those involved in planning, managing or delivering CLD services or using a CLD approach to support individuals and communities.

- [Working and Learning Together to Build Stronger Communities \(WALT\) 2004](#) - This guidance sets out the long-term framework for development of community learning and development (CLD) in Scotland.

CLD and education strategy

Community learning and development plays a key part in the Scottish Government education strategy.

- [Curriculum for Excellence](#) recognises that learning is lifelong, helping learners develop the skills they need for learning, life and work.
- [The Early Years Framework](#), about giving all our children the best start in life, is also relevant to CLD.

Policy context for specific areas of CLD

Policy and guidance relating to specific areas of CLD can be found in other sections of this website:

- [Community capacity building](#)
- [Working with young people, children and families](#)
- [Adult literacy](#)
- [ESOL](#).

The wider policy context

- [Achieving our potential: A framework to tackle poverty and income inequality in Scotland](#) - This framework sets out priorities for action and investment to tackle poverty and income inequality.
- [Skills for Scotland: A Lifelong Skills Strategy](#) - This policy document sets out the framework for the Government to work with people, communities, institutions and employers in driving forward the education and economic growth agenda.
- [CLD section of Change Action Plan](#) - The community learning and development section of the Learning for Change Action plan for sustainable development in Scotland.
- [Offender learning: Options for Improvement](#) - This report sets out the key strengths, weaknesses, gaps and areas of duplication in offender learning and makes recommendations for sustainable improvements in outcomes.

