

## Outcome Focused Practice

When we decide something needs to happen, we set aside resources to do it (these are called the inputs), we apply different methods to be able to do it (the processes), and achieve things, like an activity we have delivered or something we have produced (the outputs). The outcomes are the changes that happen as a result of that chain of events.

In any activity, some of the outcomes may happen fairly quickly and as a direct result of the action we have taken. However, we know that sometimes the results of what we do are seen in the longer-term, and might be the result of various factors – our action might be only one of these.

Change in local communities is clearly about the two national priorities for CLD

- Improved life chances for people of all ages through learning, personal development and active citizenship.
- Stronger more resilient, supportive, influential and inclusive communities

People involved in CLD will very clearly understand that their work with people and groups is likely to be over the long-term. It can often take a long time to work with people to build their skills and confidence, particularly when they have had a bad experience with education, or they've not had their views listened to before.

In CLD we would expect that these outcomes will then cause further 'ripples', and that wider outcomes will come about which improve the quality of life of individuals and the wider communities in which they live. These end outcomes of CLD will be longer-term and often more difficult to identify and measure.

(adapted from - Working and Learning Together and Delivering Change – Scottish Executive)

