



The independent review of CLD in Scotland: Information for Youth Workers supporting young people's participation



The Scottish Government is reviewing Community Learning & Development (which includes Youth Work) in Scotland.

It's important that young people involved in Youth Work, whether through local authority youth work services, or voluntary sector youth groups (including uniformed groups) are included in this review process.

Children and young people up to the age of 18 have a right to have their say in matters affecting them and to have their views considered. From June, this right will be enshrined in Scots law under the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act. Scotland's youth work sector has been leading the way on fulfilling children's right to participation, so it is especially important that their views and experiences play a central role in the CLD review.

Scottish Government want to hear from young people about what they think is working well and what could be done better.

Learners are encouraged to participate in the review process in one of the following ways

As an individual:

1. A young person can complete the Scottish Government 12 questions through an online survey. The easiest way to do this is to answer the questions online at Citizen Space.

2. If the young person cannot access the online survey on Citizen Space they can submit their response to the 12 questions by sending an email to CLDindependentreview@gov.scot. Please make sure to structure the response in line with the survey questions.

As a group:

3. A youth group can collectively complete the Scottish Government 12 questions through an online survey. The easiest way to do this is to answer the questions online at Citizen Space. Please indicate in Question 12 how many young people were involved in the response.

4. If the youth group cannot access the online survey on Citizen Space they can submit their response to the 12 questions by sending an email to CLDindependentreview@gov.scot. Please indicate in Question 12 how many young people were involved in the response and make sure to structure the response in line with the survey questions.

As you complete your response, each page will provide the option to 'Save and come back later' at the bottom. This means you can save your progress and return to the consultation at any time before it closes. If you don't use this feature and leave the consultation midway through, your response will be lost. Once you have submitted your response, you can enter your email address to get a pdf copy of your answers sent to you.

On the 'About You' page at the end of this consultation, organisations/groups and individuals will have the opportunity to tell us more about their work and/or how their response was informed.

Feedback

After the consultation has closed there will be a few months delay before any responses are published. This is because Scottish Government must check any responses to be published abide by their [Terms of Use](#).

A analysis report will usually be published some months after the consultation has closed. This report will summarise the findings based on all responses submitted. It will be published on the [Scottish Government website](#) and you may be notified about it if you choose to share your email address.

YouthLink Scotland, Young Scot and the Scottish Youth Parliament will be asking Scottish Government and the CLD Review leads to make sure Young People are informed throughout.

Remember to complete and return your response by 3 March 2024.

The review is focused on four themes

Awareness and Visibility

- How visible is CLD, and the positive outcomes it can deliver for learners

Accessibility and availability

- If someone wants to do CLD learning, how likely are they to find the learning they need or want?
- Is there a lot of unmet need?
- Are local offers being tailored to local demand?
- What are the potential likely barriers to accessing CLD?
- Is CLD effectively meeting the needs of the more marginalised groups in society?

- How effectively is CLD reaching out to under-represented groups?
- Are there barriers to access?
- Is there a disparity of access?

Support and learning

- Is learning taking place in a safe and welcoming environment?
- Are learners encouraged to give and receive regular feedback on their learning, and if it is meeting their goals?

Pathways and progression

- Are learners made aware of opportunities to take their learning to the next stage Are learners supported with their learning to transition to the next stage?
- Do we know if CLD learning is delivering positive/good outcomes for the learners?

Survey Questions

There are twelve questions included in the survey, you can choose to answer all the questions or simply the questions that you feel are most relevant or important.

Under each of the main questions we have offered a 'youth friendly' interpretation which can be used to support discussion with young people.

The Scottish Government questions are marked (SG)

The suggested Youth Friendly version of each question is marked (YF)

QUESTION 1

SG: What do you know about community learning opportunities in your local area?

YF: What do you know about youth work opportunities in your area? How easy (or not) is it to find out about these opportunities?

QUESTION 2

SG: How did you find out about these learning opportunities?

YF: How did you find out about your youth group?

QUESTION 3

SG: *If you wanted to learn something new in a community setting, how would you go about it?*

YF: *Apart from in school, if you wanted to get involved in a group that would help you to learn about things you are interested in or issues that affect you, how would you find out about them?*

- Is there anything that makes this difficult for you? If yes what?

QUESTION 4

SG: *If you are doing, or have done some, community learning what made you decide to do this?*

YF: *What made you decide to join this youth group?*

YF: *What's the best thing about this youth club/group?*

YF: *How is this group/club different from other places to learn like school and college?*

QUESTION 5

SG: *If you had goals you set out to achieve through your learning, do you feel you achieved them?*

YF: *What difference does youth work make in your life? (tick all that apply)*

It helps me to:	Number of young people
Build my health and wellbeing	
Develop and manage relationships effectively	
Create and apply my learning and describe my skills and achievements	
Participate safely and effectively in groups and teams	
Consider risk, make reasoned decisions and take control	
Grow as an active citizen, express my voice and enable change	

Broaden my perspectives through new experiences and thinking	
Develop skills for learning life and work	
Overcome challenges and barriers to learning	
Something else? Tell us here	

QUESTION 6

SG: *Is there anything that makes it hard for you to keep going with your learning?*

YF: *Is there anything that makes it hard for you to attend your youth group? If yes tells what these are.*

QUESTION 7

SG: *Are you learning at a time and place that meets your needs?*

YF: *Can you take part in youth work at a time and place that suits you?*

	Number of young people
Yes	
No	
Don't know	

Comments:

QUESTION 8

SG: *How do you think your learning will help you in the future?*

YF: *How do you think the things you have taken part in at your youth group will help you in the future?*

QUESTION 9

SG: *Have any of staff or volunteers spoken to you about your future learning?*

YF: *How have youth workers helped you to think about how you can keep building on your learning?*

YF: *How do youth workers help you to think about your learning in the future?*

QUESTION 10

SG: *Tell us about the support you get with your learning from staff and volunteers?*

YF: *How have youth workers supported you participate in activities?*

YF: *How do youth workers support your learning and development?*

Youth workers....	Number of young people
Help me to overcome barriers and challenges	
Help me experience the world of work	
Give me volunteering opportunities	
Support me with my literacy and numeracy	
Help me with my school or college work	
Help me achieve qualifications and awards e.g. youth awards	
Help me to develop skills	

Help me to understand my progress and what I want to do next	
Create safe spaces for me	
Help me to learn at my own pace	
Help me learn through things that interest me	
Help me to improve my health and wellbeing	
Listen to me and I can talk to them	
Give me support	
Help me to find a job, college application etc	
Help me to understand my options for the future	
Something else? Tell us here	

QUESTION 11

SG: *Where would you raise any concerns about your learning and/or the place where you learn?*

YF: *If you were unhappy with what you were learning at your youth group do you know how to let someone know? Would you feel confident to do that?*

YF: *If you were unhappy with anything else about your experience at youth group, do you know how to let anyone know that? Would you feel confident to do that?*

QUESTION 12

SG: *Is there anything else that you want to tell us about Community Learning & Development?*

YF: *Is there anything else that you want to tell us about your experience of youth work? If yes, what?*

NB: If this is a group response please include the total number of young people involved here.

Glossary:

Community Learning & Development (CLD):

CLD is a way of working with people in communities to support their learning and development. It is different from the learning that happens in schools or college because it helps people to identify what they want to learn or achieve to improve their own lives and the lives of their communities.

Lots of different types of organisations offer CLD opportunities but it always involves an approach to learning that is guided by learners themselves.

CLD is delivered in a variety of settings and sectors, by practitioners with a wide variety of job titles and volunteer roles, working with people of all ages. This includes Youth Work, Community-based Adult Learning and Community Development

Community Learning:

This means learning with other people (your community). Your community is people you share something in common with. This might mean the place that you live and/or shared issues that affect you as a group of people or shared interests.

Community Setting:

A community setting is wherever you come together with those people (above) in might be in a community centre but might also be online.

Learning Opportunities:

The learning and development opportunities you are offered when attending your youth group.

Youth Work:

Youth work is an informal, rights-based educational practice that supports young people's personal, social and educational development. Youth workers form developmental relationships with young people that help young people to explore their values and beliefs; address issues that affect them; develop skills for learning, life and work; develop their voice, influence and place in society; realise their rights and reach their full potential.

These support notes were written by YouthLink Scotland working with #IWill Ambassadors. We acknowledge the time constraints involved and would like to especially thank Young Scot and the Scottish Youth Parliament for reviewing the notes and providing helpful feedback.



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