



# Renfrewshire Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan

2024–2027

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# Foreword

Thank you for taking the time to read this Community and Learning Development Plan, which covers the period 2024-2027.

This is the first plan we have written since we set up our new partnership arrangements and it is only the first step in our new approach. As our partnership working gets stronger, we will update this plan.

Community learning and development work in Renfrewshire has many strands and reaches many people. We recognise that our learners and our communities are at the heart of what we do, and as an initial priority, we will be looking at how we further strengthen local voice and lived experience in developing and shaping future activities and programmes of work.

Our plan supports Renfrewshire's four Community Plan themes—Thriving, Well, Fair and Safe—and reflects the priorities of our Community Learning and Development Partnership Forum. This plan sets out what we want to achieve as a partnership in the next three years, and details some of the shared actions we will take to support people to live their best possible lives.

We are committed as partners to building on the strengths and brilliant examples of great partnership working we see in Renfrewshire every day.

On behalf of Renfrewshire CLD Partnership Executive Group

**Alan Mc Niven, Chair**

Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire

**“Working together to ensure our communities, people and families living in Renfrewshire have the capacity, support, resilience and opportunities they need to thrive”**

# What is Community Learning and Development?

Community Learning and Development (CLD) is an approach to lifelong learning which aims to empower people and communities to take part in, and help shape, their own learning and development at all stages of life and in ways that suit a person's needs.

The identification of local priorities and the delivery of activity to meet those priorities should be an inclusive and collaborative process involving stakeholders including learners, young people, community members, community volunteers, local authorities, voluntary and charity sector organisations, educational institutions, and other organisations across the public and third sectors.

The key principles of Community Learning and Development recognised nationally are:

- Inclusion and equality
- Empowerment
- Partnership and collaboration
- Lifelong learning
- Participation and engagement
- Inclusive learning
- Assets-based approach



# Why do we need a Community Learning and Development Plan?

It's important that all local partners involved in delivering community learning and development activities work together to understand the opportunities and challenges and barriers to accessing these.

It is a legal requirement for each local authority in Scotland to consult on and publish a plan every 3 years. This must set out how community learning and development activities will be organised and delivered within a local authority area (see Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013).

Whilst a local authority co-ordinates the development and monitoring of any Plan, many different partners are responsible for supporting and delivering community learning and development activities to local people and communities. As partners we need to be focused on supporting a Life-Long Learning Journey, ensuring that we work together to meet the specific needs of our communities and involve local people and partners in shaping this provision on an ongoing basis.



# How have we developed our local Community Learning and Development Plan?

## Our local Partnership Plan

Our local Partnership Plan has been developed in line with national guidance published by the Scottish Government, and has also been informed by the recent national review of Community Learning and Development in Scotland. The local and national strategic context which we have also considered is set out in Appendix 3 of this Plan.

Partners have worked together to consider all of the information that we currently have about provision in Renfrewshire, including data on specific needs relating to our communities, and consultation feedback from people that have used community learning and development services locally.

Partners have consulted widely on the priorities that we need to work on together and have identified a number of actions for progressing this work going forward. This includes strengthening our approach to consultation and engagement, promoting more opportunities for voice and influence, to closer partnership working and monitoring the impact of what we are doing together.

**There is much ambition for the future of Community Learning and Development in Renfrewshire.**

## Our Education Scotland CLD Progress Visit—Feb 2024

Our approach to developing this Partnership Plan has also been shaped by the feedback partners received from Education Scotland earlier this year.

Inspectors asked us to focus on strengthening our partnership working, making sure that all partners involved in supporting or delivering CLD activities have been involved in shaping this plan and have ownership of local agreed priorities.

We have put into place new partnership working structures to support this going forward which all partners have actively supported.

We also have identified initial actions and indicators that will demonstrate the impact that our joint work is having, and this is something that we will continue to work on together.

**You can read more about the inspection findings [here](#).**

# What does Community Learning and Development look like in Renfrewshire?

In Renfrewshire a range of different partners support community learning and development activities. Some of these may be direct services or supports whilst other partners contribute to support for a person or community as part of their lifelong learner journey.

Renfrewshire also has mature partnership working arrangements, driven by partners who have a shared agenda and purpose. You can read more about what this will mean in our action plan Appendix 1, or in Appendix 2 which provides further information about key partners and their roles.

Renfrewshire has a rich landscape of third and voluntary sector community development organisations. Some of these are place based, like Tannahill Centre, Active Communities, Star Project or Erskine Arts, and some of these are for communities of interest, for example youth work such as Create Paisley, or supporting New Scots like Pachedu. There are also a whole network of community led groups such as parent groups, senior forums, growing grounds, community development trusts and community councils.

Some of these organisations have professional CLD practice and approaches at their core, while others may not even consider themselves to be CLD providers—we recognise that all have an important role to play in shaping and delivering Renfrewshire's CLD priorities, and should feel their contribution is reflected in this plan now and going forward.







# Governance and Partnership working

In mid-2024, more formal partnership arrangements were introduced for CLD in Renfrewshire. It was recognised that this new approach would create new opportunities to collaborate, to share information, to understand gaps in provision or where there may be duplication. This has led to two new groups being established.

Our CLD Partnership Executive Group is made up of local strategic partners and is currently chaired by the Chief Executive of Engage Renfrewshire. Its role is to provide strategic co-ordination of community learning and development activity across Renfrewshire, to agree shared priorities, improvement actions and performance measures, and to oversee the planning, delivery and monitoring of these. It will report into the Community Planning Partnership on the progress being achieved.

Our Renfrewshire CLD Partnership Forum is made up of groups and organisations who deliver some form of CLD activity in Renfrewshire. Its role is to inform the Plan on an ongoing basis, to ensure the voice of service providers and service users is reflected in the work of the CLD Partnership in Renfrewshire, and to strengthen local partnership working.

As partners we have identified that we need to continue to strengthen the role that voice and listening to lived experience plays in terms of shaping what we do locally. This will be a key priority going forward.



# Understanding local need

In developing our shared priorities and action plan, partners have reviewed local data sources and information and considered consultation feedback gathered through the CLD Partnership Forum and other consultation mechanisms. We highlight some of the key factors driving our priorities in the infographics below:

## Our changing populations

Our population continues to grow, Renfrewshire is now home to almost **184,000 people**

Between 2011 and 2022 our population grew by **4.8%** with the over 75 age group increasing by the most (**22.1%**)



We have welcomed new Scots from Syria, Afghanistan and Ukraine amongst other countries through the **National Refugee Resettlement Programme**

We have **10 areas** in the top 5% for income deprivation

It is estimated that we will have **90,601** households by 2028

## Our local economy

We are performing well in key areas, including employment, education and earnings

In 2022/23 average weekly income rose to **£715.70**



We have a higher than average proportion of workers in low paid sectors **34.9%** of workers



Our largest employment sectors are: **Retail, Business Administration and Manufacturing**

We have **26,200** economically inactive people in Renfrewshire:

**30.9%** long term illness

**23.7%** retired

**23.3%** students

## Our health and wellbeing

The Adult Health and Wellbeing Survey 2022/23 showed that:

**55-64** age group are more likely to have caring responsibilities

**22%** of our residents have taken part in formal volunteering in the last year

**One in six** people live alone

**33%** of people have a limiting condition or illness

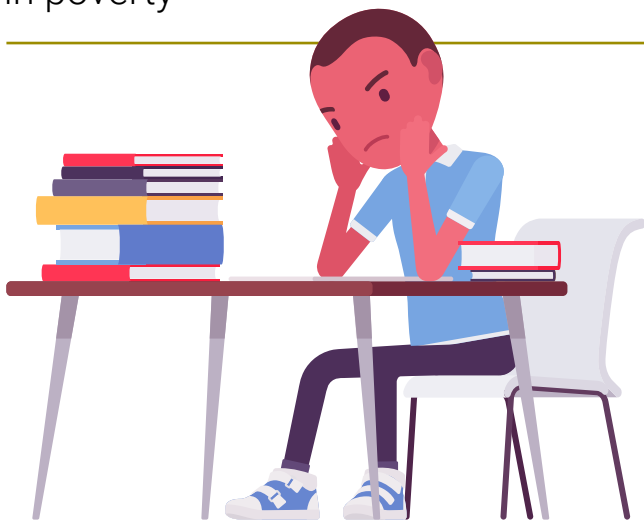


We have a **higher than average number of carers**, with an estimated **24%** of residents having a regular care commitment

## Poverty and the cost of living:

Our residents have been impacted by the ongoing cost of living crisis

**20.4%** of children live in households in poverty



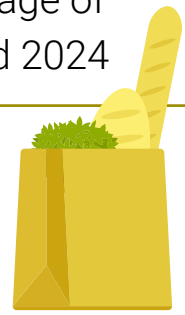
By P7, the gap between the most and least deprived 20% meeting the literacy standard was **26%**

**1028** homeless applications in 2023/24



Rent increased by an average of **10.9%** between 2023 and 2024

Food prices have increased by **23.9%** since March 2022



The number of people accessing Advice Works for support has increased by **7.8%**

# What learners and partners told us were emerging or continued priorities:

**Adult Literacies**, helping children with homework, practical support for things like driving theory tests, writing skills



**Young people** told us there were key priorities about health and wellbeing, personal safety, alcohol and drugs, climate change and mental health



**Neurodiversity**

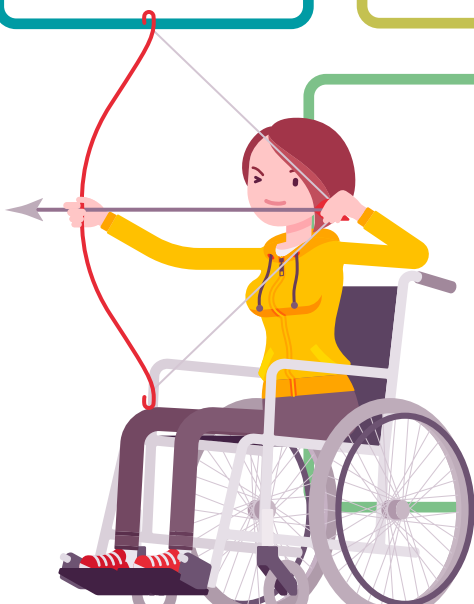
**The Promise**

**BSL**

**Digital Skills**, job seeking, internet safety, social media



**Young people** wanted to see more sports, outdoor and creative activities, trips and experiences, and youth groups being provided locally



**Personal and Social Development,**  
support around health and  
wellbeing, arts and crafts  
and confidence building



**Support for Volunteers**

**Skills for learning** developing  
the young workforce



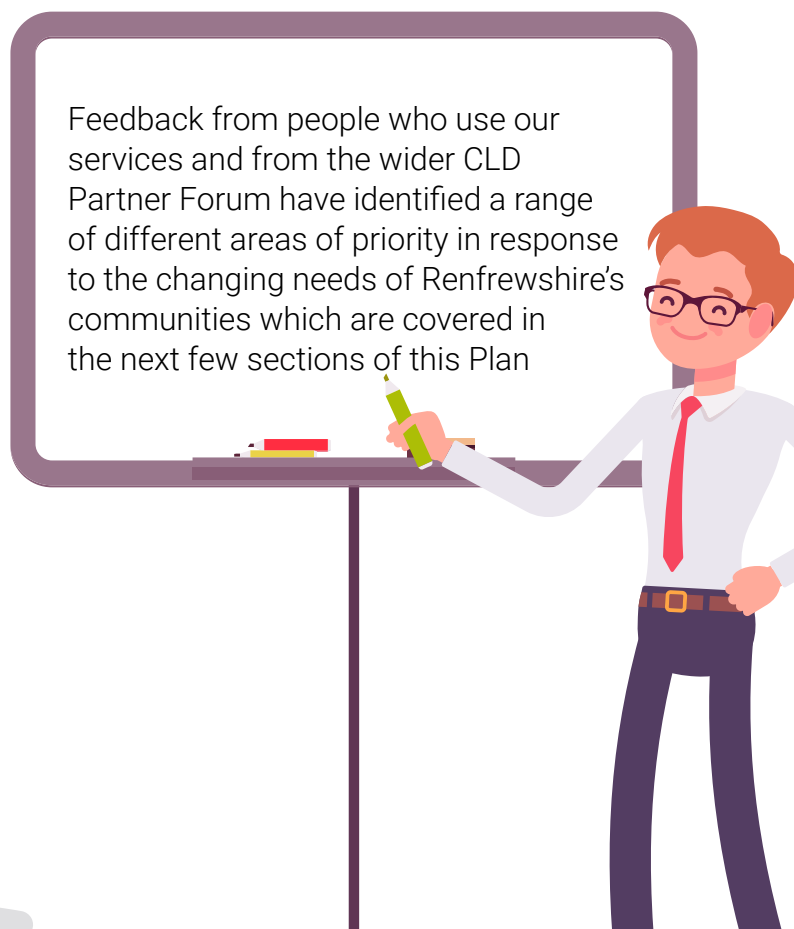
**Gaelic Education**

**ESOL and support  
for resettlement**

# In summary

- Partners have increasing evidence in Renfrewshire that there is a real deepening or widening of inequalities locally in Renfrewshire, as households continue to be impacted by the cost-of-living crisis.
- Renfrewshire's population is growing; becoming more ethnically diverse and the age profile is changing too. One in 6 people live alone and may have less social connection.
- Child poverty remains a concern in Renfrewshire, as is the poverty-related gap in terms of educational attainment.
- Our economic profile confirms that Renfrewshire performs well compared with regional and national data on some key economic indicators but there are concerns about levels of economic inactivity in Renfrewshire.
- Local health and wellbeing survey data indicates that health inequalities in Renfrewshire are also deepening. There are high level of people experiencing challenges with their mental and physical health, which impacts wider wellbeing and activity. One in 4 people report that they provide care to someone on a regular basis.
- Alcohol and drug issues remain a concern for local partners with increasing levels of drug and alcohol related deaths in Renfrewshire.

Feedback from people who use our services and from the wider CLD Partner Forum have identified a range of different areas of priority in response to the changing needs of Renfrewshire's communities which are covered in the next few sections of this Plan



# Our CLD Partnership Plan— Our Shared Priorities

Through our engagement process we have identified four priorities which are aligned to our existing Community Planning Themes

## Priority 1

Provide a programme of high-quality lifelong learning, accessible to all.

## Priority 2

Build strong, connected communities where people can participate and influence in their local area.

## Priority 3

Deliver targeted opportunities to reduce barriers and tackle inequalities.

## Priority 4

Strengthening our CLD Partnership and developing our local workforce.





# Renfrewshire Community Plan—Themes and Action Areas

Supporting low-income families

Tackling health inequalities

Addressing the climate emergency

## Thriving

Provide opportunities and support to parents to enter, sustain and progress at work

Tackle the barriers to work for people with disability's and health conditions

Tackle the barriers to work for people with disability's and health conditions

## Well

Join up support for families within communities and across partners

Provide a network of community mental health and wellbeing supports

Make sure there are local spaces and nature that support health and wellbeing

## Fair

Provide support that allows families to live dignified lives and respond to the cost of living crisis

Reduce the impact of alcohol and drugs and support recovery

Deliver a 'Just transition' towards net zero with families at its core

## Safe

Work together to support children and young people at risk of trauma and harm

Make sure people can live safely and independently at home and in the community

Develop adaptations to climate impacts for vulnerable people

# Priority 1—Provide a programme of high-quality lifelong learning, accessible to all.

## Partners will focus on activities which:

- Help citizens to develop skills for work and life, enhancing employability and opportunities for anyone at any stage of the lifelong learner journey
- Engage and provide opportunities for young people to achieve the best possible learning outcomes
- Promote digital inclusion, providing opportunities to use digital in every aspect of day-to-day life safely.
- Provide safe, welcoming spaces for the delivery of CLD activity, making them accessible, stigma-free and trauma-informed.

## Community Learning and Development builds on people's existing skills and strengths, as well as supporting people at any point in their life to learn new skills—for work and for life.

We know there are people in our communities who face barriers to economic activity, whether that's because they are caring for children or another adult, because of their own health needs, or because they feel they don't have the right mix of skills for the work they would be interested in.

We want to continue to build our work across CLD and employability partnerships to provide a cohesive partnership offer that supports people facing these barriers.

Children and young people remain a priority, and at the heart of our strategic partnership plans locally. We work hard

through programmes such as Developing the Young Workforce, through attainment challenge initiatives and other vocational and extra-curricular opportunities. We will continue to offer community based youth work opportunities that build strength and capacity amongst young people, as well as offering Duke of Edinburgh and other wider achievement programmes to help every young person to achieve success and reach their potential. Digital developments have brought many benefits to society, but as more and more services move online, the risk of some people being left behind increases.



## Case study

### Caroline's Adult Learning Journey

Caroline has been taking part in Adult Learning groups for over 10 years. She originally sought out support with her literacies so she could help her grandchildren with their learning. Overtime with support from her tutor her goals have shifted and expanded.

Caroline has said that thanks to coming to the group she has done things that she "never thought she would be able to learn or do." For example, driving theory and negative numbers.

Through attending the adult literacies group Caroline has built her confidence and has sought out other learning opportunities both within Adult Learning and beyond. She has joined the Talking Heads group in Southend, participated in various college course, including: Understanding Mental Health, Sewing and Knitting. She is now starting a psychology course with the Open University.

Partners work very closely in Renfrewshire to promote digital inclusion—our DigiRen partnership continues to go from strength to strength and is making a real difference. We recognise the need for digital inclusion to be a golden thread through all our programmes, as well as continuing to work collectively on projects such as DigiZones.

Finally—for all partners, we recognise that we need to ensure that people accessing CLD opportunities feel that these are safe, welcoming and supportive. This may mean working to make our spaces more inclusive, but also working with communities to make it better to move around and access things within their local area.



# Priority 2—Build strong, connected communities where people can participate and influence in their local area.

## Partners will focus on activities which:

- Support people to engage and participate in things taking place within their communities
- Provide mechanisms for citizens to contribute to decision-making
- Promote opportunities for personal and social development through the rich network of opportunities across Renfrewshire
- Build capacity by facilitating and increasing access to arts, cultural and health and wellbeing opportunities

**We have a great track record locally of encouraging and supporting volunteering opportunities, and in providing community-based personal and social development opportunities for local people who want to be more active in their communities.**

As partners we want to do more to build community capacity and wider community connections—making it easier for people to get involved in things going on in their communities, shaping new ideas and plans, and taking part in decision making at all different types of levels. We've worked on a range of opportunities for people to contribute to decision-making, from participatory budgeting exercises to a range of fora dedicated to amplifying the voice, influence and lived experience of different communities.

There are brilliant local organisations and often life changing opportunities available for people to get outdoors, meet new people and improve wellbeing, or to participate in a wide range of arts and cultural opportunities. We want to do more as partners to promote access to these and to make great links between all the great work that people are taking forward. This will ensure we make the best possible use of the resources that are available in Renfrewshire.

## Case Study

### Community Capacity Building from HSCP

As part of Renfrewshire's Community Food Framework, the Health Improvement team has committed to creating training opportunities for 24 local community chefs within the locality. To date, two "Train the Trainer" Community Cookery sessions have been held, resulting in 12 new Community Chefs who are now equipped to cook and work at local food events, such as those hosted at Winter Connections venues. The framework also aims to provide support and training opportunities to enhance potential employment options for local community members.

Additionally, a Food & Health training session was held, providing individuals from five different community organisations with foundational knowledge on food and health and allows them to safely handle and prepare food at community events.

The Community Food Framework is also focused on supporting organisations that work with people from ethnic minority backgrounds by targeting local organisations and initiatives to improve health and food access within these communities. Furthermore, the framework has a provision for exclusive training opportunities for the local voluntary sector, such as a Community Chef course, aimed at enhancing employability skills.

## Case Study

### Friends of Howwood Park

Afer the installation of a new park in Howwood, the Friends of Howwood Park group was set up hoping to make the park more relevant to village life. The group have organised regular fitness classes, an Easter Egg hunt, outdoor bingo, a mini library, a Halloween Scavenger Hunt and a Christmas Tinsel Walk. The group have also taken on ownership of the Pavilion within the park and use it to host a breakfast club, a children's library, and provide changing facilities and storage for football and other events in the park.

Through the Green Spaces, Parks and Villages Investment Fund, the group secured £21,000 to create a large shelter in the park, which now provides a space for park users to meet and socialise regardless of the weather. The group has also received funding for tools which help them keep the park clean and tidy.

The Chair of the Friends of Howwood Park said:

"The Parks and Villages Investment Fund really has changed the landscape of Howwood Park, offering an exciting experience for users of all ages. Footfall has without a doubt increased; we are all so proud of what we have collectively achieved, especially with the new group looking specifically after the interests of the Park! With our new shelter, and new seating and benches in the village, the Green Spaces and Village Investment Fund has been a great catalyst for bringing our communities together."

# Priority 3—Deliver targeted opportunities to reduce barriers and tackle inequalities.

## Partners will focus on activities which:

- Remove barriers for people accessing learning and development opportunities
- Specifically target communities of interest or localities where specific needs have been identified. This includes in relation to BSL, neurodiversity, disability or caring responsibilities.
- Recognise the increased diversity of our local communities, welcoming and supporting new Scots to settle in the local area.
- Support young people to participate and engage in their local community –ensuring they are safe, well and supported to access opportunities which support them to thrive and develop.

## Promoting CLD services to diverse communities in Renfrewshire

**Our goal is to ensure that all individuals and communities can access these services without facing additional barriers, providing targeted support where needed to support those who experience inequality and disadvantage.**

We know that some groups face greater barriers in accessing learning and other opportunities, and this could be about health needs, about poverty, about being care-experienced, or about being perceived by others as different.

In recent years, we have welcomed growing numbers of New Scots to Renfrewshire, and our engagement in the development in this plan has demonstrated this needs

to be a real priority for local partners. We are building partnerships with support agencies to understand the specific needs of the communities they serve and to raise awareness of available CLD resources. Part of this work will include developing culturally inclusive communications, ensuring that information about CLD services is accessible in languages and formats suitable for all.

We will regularly assess the effectiveness of our efforts to promote access and use feedback from local community-led organisations to continually improve our approach.

A key priority will be to review youth work activities across the partnership and exploring gaps for some geographical communities or communities of interest, as well as the need for further targeted support for young people who may become involved in high-risk behaviours.



## Case Study

### Summer of Fun

In May 2024, funding of £100,000 was allocated through the Fairer Renfrewshire programme to support the development of a summer holiday programme, with a focus on providing support over the holiday period to low-income families. A programme of multi-agency, universal and targeted work delivered across Renfrewshire throughout the summer holidays as part of the 2024 Summer of Fun. This included:

- Summer camps for young people aged 5-14 delivered by Youth Services and Street Stuff
- Summer ASN provision in Mary Russell and Riverbrae schools, as well as through KLAS Care funded by Whole Family Wellbeing Fund
- Evening activities delivered by Street Stuff
- A family programme delivered by Adult and Family Learning and funded by Multiply
- A small grants fund funding 21 community and voluntary organisations to deliver activities in their local area
- A libraries summer programme delivered by OneRen, including a programme of mobile library activities delivered from the Skoobmobile

# Priority 4—Strengthening our CLD Partnership and developing our workforce.

**We think it is important for the CLD Plan to have a cross-cutting priority focussed on strengthening our partnership working in relation to Community Learning and Development.**

Stronger partnerships will allow us to maximise opportunities to make a difference, to enhance our information sharing, reduce duplication and help us make the best use of our resources. It will help with identifying unmet need and gaps in provision and target resources in a joined-up way.

We have recently established a CLD Partnership Executive Group to provide collective strategic leadership, and a Partnership Forum to facilitate information sharing and delivery of joint priorities. As these are new governance structures, there will be a strong focus in Year 1 of this plan in developing these groups and ensuring that the right mechanisms are in place to deliver community learning and development activity as a true partnership. This will include agreeing how we represent learner and citizen voice within our governance structures, and how our third sector and community partners are best represented on the Executive Group. We will also agree a communications

approach and establish arrangements for enhanced information sharing and joint working. This would also include identifying ways to raise the profile of CLD and generate wider awareness of what's available.

We consider workforce development to be a key component in strong partnership working. Training is already shared for some practice elements, including Renfrewshire's inter-agency child protection training, and CPD delivered with one other council and local CLD partners. It is important that CLD practitioners are supported to undertake training, and that there are clear pathways to progress through the profession.

As we embed our governance arrangements, we will look for opportunities to share learning and development opportunities. By amplifying the voices of partners, learners and citizens within our governance structures, we will also create development opportunities for staff and volunteers looking to work in different ways.



We will also raise awareness of the CLD services available by exploiting existing networks, online platforms and publications. We will leverage the existing influence of the various partnerships and boards we are involved in to reach a broad spectrum of the community. For example:

- Health & Social Care: We will promote CLD activities that enhance well-being, resilience, or offer educational components tied to health and social care.
- Alcohol & Drugs Partnership: We will highlight recovery-based learning opportunities, targeting those with lived experience and their families.
- INVEST/Developing Young Workforce: We will focus on youth-targeted opportunities like skills development and career readiness programs.

To further promote the CLD service locally we will collate stories that showcase the benefits of participating in CLD activities—including testimonials and case studies from local community members. We will also where possible develop short videos showing how CLD activities have benefited individuals and communities. We will seek to co-opt our partners' newsletters to include updates on upcoming CLD learning opportunities, key service developments, and successes.



# Our Partnership commitment to The Promise

Renfrewshire is committed to keeping The Promise and listening to the voices and needs of our care-experienced community. The delivery of The Promise in Renfrewshire requires a strongly committed multi-agency partnership working approach and demonstration of a collective understanding, commitment, and activity in relation to The Promise across all the partners. Our Partnership recognises our key role to deliver on The Promise and are a key active partner in Keeping The Promise in Renfrewshire.

Delivering The Promise in Renfrewshire is part of a wider vision on improving outcomes for Children and Young People who are more likely to face poorer outcomes because of experience of child poverty, other inequalities, trauma and adversity. The Promise approach in Renfrewshire is clearly aligned with significant other policy areas and part of a wider ambition that Renfrewshire's children and young people are happy, healthy, safe and thriving. The Promise aligned policy areas include United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Getting it right for every child, National Trauma Transformation Programme and wider equalities strategies and legislation.

As partners we will ensure that we make every effort as Community Learning and Development professionals or wider delivery partners to adopt a loving, nurturing approach that encourages a culture where our service users are empowered to ask us about any aspect of our services. Central to our approach to The Promise and our wider policy development work is actively listening to our Children, Young People and Families.

In all our Community Learning and Development activities we are ambitious for our Care Experienced children and The Promise is a key priority for us to ensure children who are Care Experienced have all they need to thrive, while recognising that they may experience unique challenges.





## Case Study

### Promise Arts and Culture Programme

The Promise Arts and Culture Programme aims to build social and cultural capital amongst Renfrewshire's Care Experienced young people and Young Carers, ultimately improving outcomes for these disadvantaged and marginalised groups in the short and longer-term.

Since its beginning in March 2022, the Promise arts and Culture programme has brought Care Experience young people from across Renfrewshire to work with artists from different disciplines such as Film Making, Animation, Graffiti and Street Art, Design, Photography and Fashion and Textiles in order to create dynamic creative environments where young people could explore their creative voices.

The success in engaging Care Experienced young people and Young Carers across Renfrewshire in diverse creative projects has already resulted these young people moving onto the Youth Services project Art Boss. Here these young people will continue to have creative and artistic experiences that respond directly to their needs.

# How will we know what difference we are making?

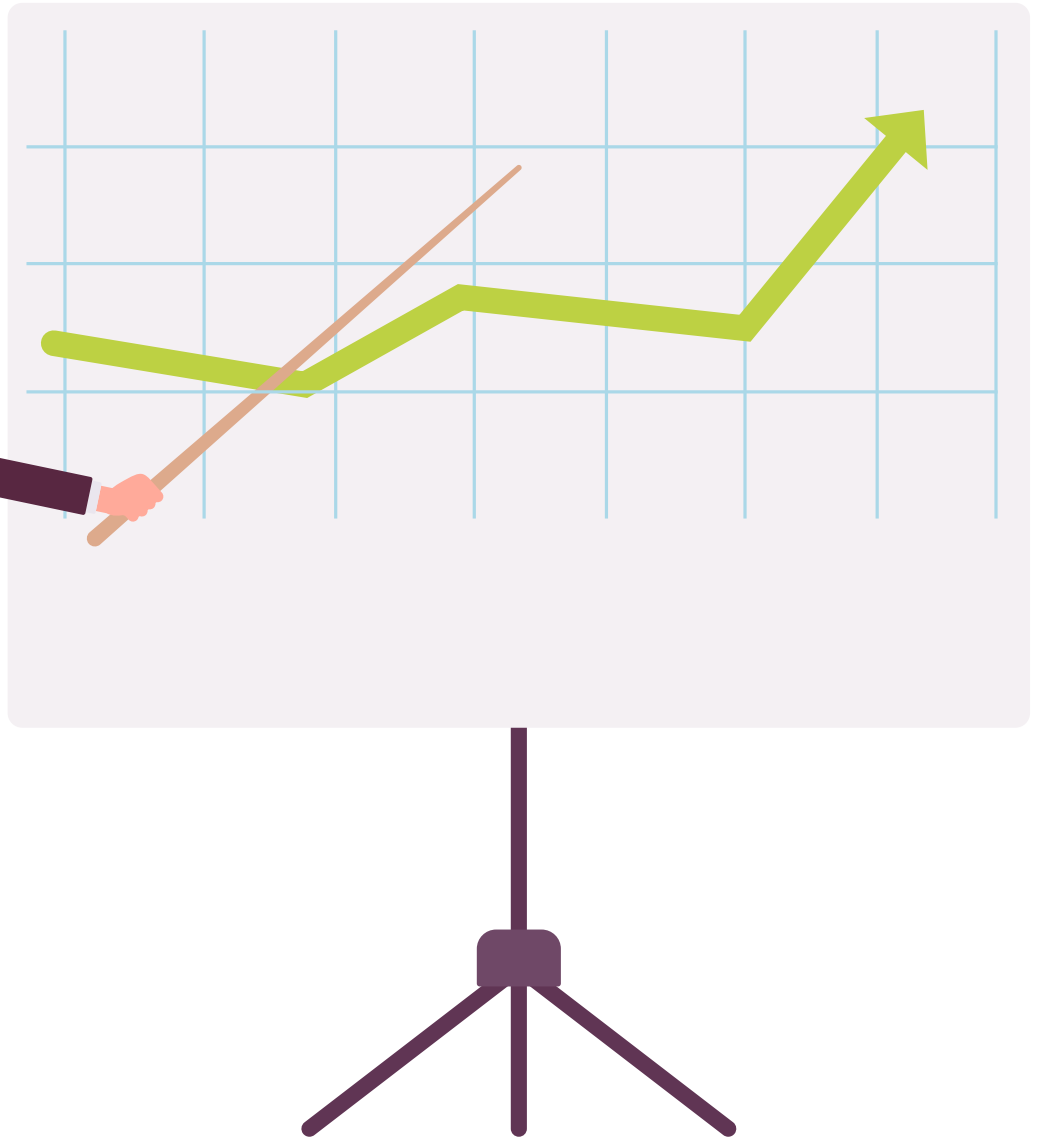
Partners have developed an action plan which sets out the key actions we intend to progress to deliver on the priorities which have been identified in this Partnership Plan.

We are developing a set of indicators to measure the effectiveness and inclusivity of our approach. These indicators are designed to help us track progress as well as identify areas for improvement. At this stage, these indicators remain under review, allowing for feedback and input from key stakeholders, including community organisations, partner agencies, and service users. The proposed indicators may evolve over time to reflect emerging needs and challenges.

While individual Community Learning and Development services across Renfrewshire use the How Good is our Community Learning and Development framework, we will explore how we can use this at a partnership level to more fully understand our strengths and any areas for improvement.

We recognise as a partnership that we want to do more to understand and assess need, and to listen to the voices of people throughout their lifelong learner journey. We need to embed this into our ongoing processes, and we therefore commit as partners to formally reviewing and reporting on progress at least once a year and adding and updating actions and planned activities as required.

This process will be overseen by the CLD Partnership Executive Group. We will also report our progress into the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Executive Board, and provide summaries to learners, communities, and wider stakeholders.



# Appendix 1

## Our Partnership Action Plan

### Priority 1—Provide a programme of high-quality lifelong learning, accessible to all

#### 1.1 Help citizens to develop skills for work and life, enhancing employability and opportunities for anyone at any stage of the life long learner journey

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
1. Review support and opportunities for volunteering across Renfrewshire as part of our wider employability pipeline	Year 1	Engage Renfrewshire Connected Communities–CLD	Number of adults receiving completed nationally recognised awards through CLD activity (SCQF levelled and awards such as Adult Achievement Award including sectional certificates)
2. Explore opportunities for closer joint working with Local Employability Partnership, particularly around supporting parental employability and supporting NOLB approaches	Year 2	Local Employability Partnership Invest in Renfrewshire	Number of adults gaining wider achievement awards, local awards and those not nationally recognised, through CLD activity (e.g., Health Issues in the Community and Keystone Award)
3. Development of a collaborative family learning offer with CLD partners	Year 3		

## Priority 1—Provide a programme of high-quality lifelong learning, accessible to all

### 1.2 Engage and provide opportunities for young people to achieve the best possible learning outcomes

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
<p>4. Partners to work together to increase the number of opportunities available for young people to access appropriate curricular pathways</p> <p>5. Develop a strengthened framework of support with SDS and Invest Renfrewshire to ensure pupils are supported to enter and sustain positive destinations</p>	Year 1	<p>Childrens Services</p> <p>Connected Communities—CLD</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland</p> <p>Invest in Renfrewshire</p> <p>West College Scotland</p> <p>University of West of Scotland</p>	<p>Percentage of school leavers in a positive destination</p> <p>Number of children and young people engaged in CLD activity</p> <p>Number of children and young people received completed nationally recognised awards through CLD activity</p> <p>Number of young people gaining wider achievement awards, local awards and those not nationally recognised, through CLD activity</p>

### 1.3 Promote digital inclusion, providing opportunities to use digital in every aspect of day-to-day life safely.

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
<p>6. Consider opportunities for all partners to promote digital inclusion and the work of the wider DigiRen Partnership</p> <p>7. Support the roll out of Digizones, particularly across community venues</p>	Year 1	<p>DigiRen Network</p> <p>Connected Communities</p>	<p>Number of people supporting around digital</p> <p>Number of digital courses delivered</p> <p>Number of devices / connectivity issued</p>

### 1.4 Provide safe, welcoming spaces for the delivery of CLD activity, making them accessible, stigma-free and trauma-informed.

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
<p>8. Partners to commit to delivery of trauma informed awareness raising and training across respective organisations</p>	Year 1	<p>Renfrewshire Trauma Champion</p> <p>Connected Communities</p>	<p>New indicators as part of annual stakeholder survey</p>
<p>9. Explore provision of Safe spaces to access support through further engagement with learners and the wider community</p>	Year 2	<p>Childrens Services</p>	

## Priority 2—Build strong, connected communities where people can participate and influence in their local area

### 2.1 Support people to engage and participate in things taking place within their communities

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
10. Develop community capacity and resilience by supporting community groups to form, grow and connect	Year 1	Engage Renfrewshire Connected Communities –Community Partnerships	Number of adults and young people taking part in influence and engagement activity through CLD
11. Support the development of local place plans as these emerge across local communities	Year 2 and 3	RC Economy and Development Local Partnerships	Number of community groups receiving capacity building support through CLD activity Percentage of adults who have done formal volunteering in last 12 months (SHS)

### 2.2 Promote opportunities for personal and social development through the rich network of opportunities across Renfrewshire

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
14. Work with partners to review existing information and advice sources for people in Renfrewshire, to ensure that information on local and national support is available to people when they need it and in the format they need.	Year 1 and 2	HSCP OneRen Culture Arts Health and Social Care Group Engage Renfrewshire Future Paisley	Develop indicators around improved health and wellbeing relating to CLD support through survey
15. Through our CAHSC (Culture, Arts, Health and Social Care) group, One Ren will lead work with colleagues and partners involved in the Future Paisley programme, to develop a range of arts and culture-based activities in a variety of settings to improve health and wellbeing	Year 1		
16. We will provide a tailored range of health and wellbeing programmes for older people; people with a disability; and identified excluded groups with health improvement needs	Year 1 and 2		



## Priority 2—Build strong, connected communities where people can participate and influence in their local area

### 2.3 Provide mechanisms for citizens to contribute to decision-making;

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
17. Explore options to develop a CLD Voice Forum / forum arrangements to inform future planning	Year 1	Connected Communities  Local Partnerships	Number of adults and young people reached and engaged with through one off promotional events / drop-ins / community events / engagements / etc.  Total budgets allocated using Participatory Budgeting and other participatory approaches
18. Explore options for further roll-out of participatory budgeting and decision making opportunities in Renfrewshire	Year 2		
19. Progress the Local Plans, Local Voices, Local Priorities campaign through Local Partnerships	Year 3		

## Priority 3—Deliver targeted opportunities across the CLD Partnership to reduce barriers and tackle inequalities

### 3.1 Promoting equity and equality by removing barriers to access

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
20. Support delivery of BSL action plan, including opportunities for delivery of activities in Renfrewshire for targeted groups such as young people	Year 1 and 2	Connected Communities  Promise Oversight Group  Our Children  Forum for Empowering Communities  Street Stuff	Develop indicators around improved health and wellbeing relating to CLD support through survey
21. Ensuring greater representation of the Care Experienced Community in all activity concerned in delivering The Promise	Year 1		
22. Carry out a mapping exercise of youth work activity across Renfrewshire to identify gaps in provision either geographically or for communities of interest	Year 1		

## Priority 3—Deliver targeted opportunities across the CLD Partnership to reduce barriers and tackle inequalities

### 3.2 Delivering targeted support to address disadvantage linked to poverty in our communities

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
23. Review school holiday provision to ensure it reaches target groups	Year 1	Connected Communities	Uptake of school holiday provision from families from target groups
24. Support development of Whole Family Wellbeing / Locality development approach to provide appropriate family supports and focussing on early intervention, providing opportunities for children, young people, parents and carers to shape the services that impact them	Year 2 and 3	Children Services Whole Family Wellbeing HSCP	
25. Support community led needs assessment process in Gallowhill including any subsequent development activity	Year 1		

### 3.3 Ensure there is a co-ordinated approach to welcoming and supporting new Scots in Renfrewshire

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
26. Undertake a partnership review of ESOL activity as part of our wider New Scots plan	Year 1	Connected Communities IN-Ren West College Scotland	Number of people accessing ESOL provision across Renfrewshire

### 3.4 Exploring options for outreach work that engages with young people who may become involved in high-risk behaviours

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
27. Undertake outreach pilot exercise and develop proposals for additional supports and activities for young people	Year 1	Community Safety Partnership Connected Communities Childrens Services Street Stuff	Measures to be developed as part of development of proposals

## Priority 4—Strengthening our partnership and developing the work force

### 4.1 Strengthening the way we work

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
28. Progress Connected Communities model in Renfrewshire	Year 1	CLD Partnership Executive Group	

### 4.2 Develop shared framework for understanding impact of CLD activities across the partnership

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
29. Undertake an annual partnership survey of stakeholders and service users	Year 1,2 and 3	CLD Partnership Forum	Survey results and action plan Self-evaluation against quality indicators in How Good is our Community Learning and Development? framework
30. Review how partners evaluate performance and use this data, and explore shared evaluation tools	Year 1,2 and 3		
31. Explore opportunities to share information on the reach and value of CLD approaches locally	Year 1,2 and 3		
32. Undertake an annual needs assessment exercise to inform any changes to the Partnership Plan including targeting of needs/ communities	Year 1,2 and 3		

### 4.3 Develop opportunities for CLD workforce and volunteers to develop their skills and confidence

Actions	Year Due	Who is responsible?	How will we measure
33. Develop local CLD Partnership workforce planning priorities	Year 1	CLD Partnership Executive Group	
34. Partners to identify opportunities for local people to gain work experience and career progression opportunities across respective organisations.	Year 1	CLD Partnership Forum	

# Appendix 2

## More information about the role of partners in Renfrewshire

In Renfrewshire, community learning and development work is delivered by a range of partners including a wide range of third sector and community groups. We provide some further information on these organisations below:

### Renfrewshire Council

In Renfrewshire, the Council is leading on the Connected Communities programme. The aim of the programme is to strengthen partnership working with communities and the third sector, to have a locality model where services are closer to their community and are more joined-up.

As part of this, the Council will establish its Connected Communities Service in late 2024, which will include the Council's Community Learning and Development function (including adult and family learning and youth services), the Fairer Renfrewshire programme, and bring together a range of Council functions which support communities including community capacity building, volunteering, participatory budgeting, Local Partnerships, and a range of activities carried out as part of community planning and partnerships.

### Local Employability Partnership

Employability in Renfrewshire is delivered via the Local Employability Partnership, a strategic group of 10-12 key partner agencies and services supported by 6 thematic groups with around 50 additional partner staff working collectively to ensure that services meet local needs, that the participant voice is at the centre of service design and that services are genuinely joined up and offer a place-based, person-centred employability support in Renfrewshire. Services are aimed at those with additional disadvantages or barriers to work and our current priority groups are unemployed or low-income parents, those with long term health issues or disabilities, care experienced young people, BAME groups, those with criminal justice backgrounds.

## Engage

Engage are particularly able to support volunteering, help groups get constituted, and provide a community hub which can host training and networking and provide a shared space for other third sector groups.

Engage has, since 2022, delivered over £1.5 million worth of funding to the third sector via Scottish Government's Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. This funding has supported a range of programmes and community groups in developing community learning and increasing capacity within the sector. Some examples of funded work include: a participatory photography project with New Scots, learning photography and language skills in a relaxed environment; an outdoor learning school for adults in Inchinnan, learning foraging skills, basket weaving, and bushcraft; woodworking skills for men at new Men's Sheds in Renfrew and Lochwinnoch; personal development courses for women with experience of domestic violence and a creative programme of arts and crafts for older adults across sheltered housing complexes in Renfrewshire. In tandem with this funded work Engage have also delivered or co-ordinated training in relation to the fund and its associated work, including Outcomes Training, Application Writing, Mental Health First Aid and Self-Harm Awareness.

## Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership

Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership launched its Whole Family Wellbeing service in 2024, with several aims, including reducing inequalities in relation to family wellbeing, reducing the number of families needing crisis interventions, and increasing the number of families accessing wider support services. A Family Wellbeing Hub will be developed as a central, physical, location for joined-up supports and services; this creates an opportunity to align with the Connected Communities work and generate more opportunities for partnership delivery as well as reducing duplication.

## One Ren

One Ren delivers positive outcomes for the people and communities they serve. OneRen is the local charity established by Renfrewshire Council to provide culture, leisure and sporting opportunities to help people enjoy active and healthy lives. The charity provides a range of affordable, accessible and ambitious services that are open to all and designed to improve personal, social and economic outcomes.

## Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership deliver adult social care services and all community health services for adults and children, with a core objective of shifting the balance of care from acute settings to supporting people in their communities and closer to home wherever possible. The HSCP works closely with partners to ensure that services are planned and delivered collaboratively and on a 'whole system' basis. This includes, for example, the Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Integrated Children's Partnership and working closely with Housing Services. This helps to ensure that adults and young people are able to access support that is joined up and shaped around them rather than by organisational structures.

## University of the West of Scotland

University of the West of Scotland has five campuses across the UK, including one in Paisley. The University is committed to inclusive higher education, providing learning opportunities to students from a wide range of backgrounds. The University offers a significant choice of access, degree, CPD, postgraduate, full-time and part-time courses and applies a contextualised admissions approach to ensure students with varied learning experiences are provided with the opportunity to join UWS courses. The University of the West of Scotland works particularly closely with West College Scotland and can support learners who wish to articulate between the organisations as part of a seamless tertiary education experience. This approach could extend to creating pathways based on CLD activities.

## West College Scotland

West College Scotland is a community-based College committed to providing educational opportunities to anyone who wants to learn. You don't have to come to a College building to study!

West College Scotland's Ferguslie Learning Centre has earned a reputation as a focal point in the Renfrewshire community. Today, it is an important contributor in providing for, guiding, and assisting learners in Renfrewshire to seek qualifications, acquire employability and life skills, and gain personal and professional confidence. This extends to helping vulnerable individuals to overcome social and professional barriers as well as personal challenges, including unemployment, addiction, low self-esteem, stigma, lack of social connections, isolation, or—in case of international learners—cultural restraints.

## DigiRen group

Our long-running partnership approach to digital inclusion—through our DigiRen group jointly chaired by the Council and Engage Renfrewshire—showcases the benefits of partnership working to tackle inequality. The DigiRen group has focused on low-cost internet tariffs, digital banking, online safety, intergenerational work and the promotion of digital skills training. Through this partnership working, over 800 digital-related courses have been delivered, 50 businesses have been supported, and almost 700 devices or connectivity have been provided to tackle digital poverty.

# Appendix 3

## Our local and national policy context

Partners are operating within a complex environment with a range of local and national policy considerations which we need to consider and deliver on as required. We have highlighted these within the diagram below:

Legislative	
Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015	UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024
Requirements for Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013	Fairer Scotland Duty
National	
National Youth Work Strategy 2023-2028	The Case for Change: Adult Learning Strategy 2022-2027
National Improvement Framework	Community Wealth Building
The Promise	Developing the Young Workforce
New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy	No-one Left Behind
Volunteering Action Plan	Getting It Right For Every Child
Local	
Renfrewshire Community Plan 2017-2027	Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership Plan 2023-2026
Renfrewshire Council Council Plan 2022-2027	Renfrewshire's Plan for Net Zero
Local Employability Partnership Plans	Trauma Informed and Responsive Renfrewshire
Annual Education Improvement Plans	Fairer Renfrewshire
Renfrewshire Council Digital Strategy	Shaping our Future: Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2022-2025
Renfrewshire Council British Sign Language Plan	Renfrewshire's Gaelic Language Plan
Local Child Poverty Action Plan	



## Alternative formats and languages

If you need this review in another language or format such as large print, easy read, audio recording or braille, call us on **0300 300 0300** or email **communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk**

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اگر شما میخواهید این بررسی به زبان دیگری باشد، با شماره تلفون  
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