



# Community Learning & Development (CLD)

## A Year in Review 2024 - 2025

A Perth and Kinross where everyone can live  
life well, free from poverty and inequality



# Foreword

I'm pleased to write the foreword for the Annual Review of the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Team 2024/25.

The CLD team focuses on three core areas: Adult Learning and Community Capacity Building and Community Ownership. This report will provide deeper insight into the valuable work taking place across Perth and Kinross — in local community centres, campuses, and libraries. Our team is dedicated to improving life chances by supporting adult learners to return to education, develop new skills, or learn English. We also play a key role in strengthening communities by offering funding support, guidance, and practical help to local organisations, while fostering connections and networks. The CLD team are committed to reaching and supporting those most in need. We work in positive partnerships with PKAVS Third Sector Interface, Live Active Leisure, Culture Perth and Kinross, and our commissioned services within the Adult Learning Partnership, such as Churches Action for the Homeless, and Education Centre Bajka.

The Community Learning and Development Team contributes to a wide range of corporate priorities, particularly 'working with communities' and 'developing a resilient, stronger and greener local economy' as well as the Community Planning Partnership's priorities of increasing employability and skills and improving mental wellbeing.

I hope you find the information and case studies in this report both insightful and inspiring. A heartfelt thank you goes to all our dedicated team members, whose commitment and hard work continue to make a meaningful difference in people's lives every single day.

**David Stokoe**

Service Manager, Community Learning and Development and Equalities

“Community Learning and Development (CLD) supports primarily disadvantaged or vulnerable groups and individuals of all ages to engage in learning, with a focus on bringing about change in their lives and communities. CLD activity has a strong focus on early intervention, prevention and tackling inequalities.”

**Education Scotland**

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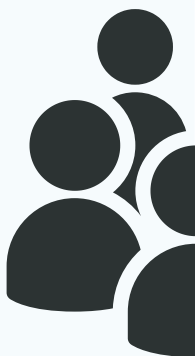
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# Adult Learning

WWW.PKC.GOV.UK/ADULTLEARNINGHUB

**618**  
**ADULT**  
**LEARNERS**

across Perth and  
Kinross area



“Cook & Connect ran a series of cooking sessions at Strathearn Community Campus designed for men aged 60+ who had little to no cooking experience.

The aim of the sessions was to bring men together to learn new skills and connect with others in their community. Sessions were relaxed and designed to give the knowledge and confidence needed to enjoy cooking whilst gaining an understanding of healthier food. These sessions taught life skills such as budgeting, planning, cooking whilst providing social interaction with others.

Participants were involved in planning recipes, sharing the preparation, cooking and clearing up. Once the dishes had been made we sat down and ate together. The act of creating a dish followed by communal eating resulted in a sense of achievement, new friendships forming and conversations around food. The group was very engaged and everyone participated with gusto!”

**132**

learners achieving level 2 food  
hygiene qualifications via  
online course

**159**

learners completing a 5-week  
basic or 5-week building digital  
skills course

**169**

learners improving their English  
skills through attending ESOL  
classes

**43**

learners achieving level 2, 3 or 4  
qualifications in SQA Numeracy,  
Communications or ICT

**40**

learners improving their skills in  
reading, writing, spelling and  
numbers

**75**

learners completing an ASDAN  
short-course in a variety of  
skills-based topics



## LAUNCHED

Adult Learning in the Community Fund for  
local organisations to deliver informal and /or  
formal adult learning projects in their  
community,

**8 PARTNERS**

engaged in delivery of community-based  
adult learning in Perth & Kinross to

**220 LEARNERS**



# Capacity Building

[WWW.PKC.GOV.UK/ARTICLE/22779/COMMUNITY-LEARNING-AND-DEVELOPMENT](http://WWW.PKC.GOV.UK/ARTICLE/22779/COMMUNITY-LEARNING-AND-DEVELOPMENT)

**110**  
**COMMUNITY GROUPS**

supported  
across Perth and  
Kinross area



“Moncreiffe Church wanted to open their doors to the community and be able to offer support, signposting and opportunities after their soup kitchen closed during Covid and never recovered. This was primarily due to costs and lack of volunteers. They wanted to open up a small café to support those struggling with the cost of living offering free home cooked meals, soup and sandwiches. For the café to operate they needed to look at recruiting volunteers and making sure that people were trained in Food Hygiene and policies, apply for funding and get permission from the church kirk session.

Relationships with key partners enabled support at a local level to address issues. Support included - REHIS 1 training (NHS), Policy and Practices, Funding, Adult Learning, Volunteering, (CLD Team), supply of surplus homegrown fruit & vegetables (local organisations) and child protection & first aid training (Safer Communities Team). The café has added an extra day to operate through community voices being heard and listened to.”

**79**

organisations working in  
partnership with CLD Team to  
deliver projects

**56**

community groups encouraged  
to work in partnership with  
other local organisations

**48**

community groups supported  
with sourcing and applying for  
funding

**19**

community groups supported  
with governance, legislation  
and policies

**7**

stronger communities networks  
to share information, ideas and  
opportunities for collaboration

**4**

local action partnerships to  
tackle local inequalities and  
influence local decision making



## MEET THE FUNDER

was an opportunity for community groups and organisations in Perth and Kinross to drop in and meet with funders to discuss possible funding options for local projects big and small.

### 10 FUNDING ORGANISATIONS

hosted stalls at the event promoting funding opportunities and giving advice

### 126 GROUPS

attended the event and received funding advice and support



# Community Grants

WWW.PKC.GOV.UK/PKGRANTSDIRECT

# £665K

## TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

£365k Community Investment  
£200k Warm Welcome  
£100k Participatory Budgeting

### Locality Participatory Budgeting Fund - Case Study

Background: £100,000 was available to communities to support projects that tackle the cost-of-living within four targeted areas: Central & North Perth; Rattray; South Crieff; and Coupar Angus, Meigle & Alyth.

Approach: 8 primary schools were provided with resources and took part in voting in the classroom. Local youth organisations carried out voting drop-ins within 2 high schools. Schools also encouraged wider community involvement by promoting on social media, at parent contact evenings, and sending voting papers home in school bags.

Impact: 799 children and young people aged 5 -17 years voted. School staff reported that children and young people showed enthusiasm for learning about local projects and enjoyed being involved in making decisions to support projects that matter to them.

# 161

CLF applications submitted for projects tackling inequalities across Perth & Kinross

# 114

groups successfully receiving CLF grants to deliver their projects within Perth & Kinross

# 105

groups providing a warm space with refreshments, activities and access to support services

# 6156

people attending warm spaces in their local community within Perth & Kinross

# 835

volunteers involved in the delivery of warm spaces across Perth & Kinross

# 67%

increase in number of volunteers supporting warm spaces this year from 2023/24



## LOCALITY PB

available to groups in areas of highest need (Coupar Angus, Perth, Rattray and South Crieff) focusing on projects tackling poverty, cost of living and upskilling volunteers. Decisions on how this fund is spent were made by local residents.

## 2516 LOCAL RESIDENTS

voted for their favourite projects to receive funds which was a 23% increase in participation

## 28 GROUPS

successfully received funding for their project

# Community Empowerment

[WWW.PKC.GOV.UK/ARTICLE/19819/COMMUNITY-ASSET-TRANSFER](http://WWW.PKC.GOV.UK/ARTICLE/19819/COMMUNITY-ASSET-TRANSFER)

# £195K

## ADVANCING COMMUNITY ASSETS FUND

£75k for capital improvements  
£120k for revenue improvements

“Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) applied to PKC for a community minibus and were successful in receiving a minibus in April 2025. RVS will use the minibus to increase the number of vulnerable and elderly residents of Perth and Kinross attending regular lunch and social clubs. They hope this will help improve loneliness and mental wellbeing.

David Reilly, service manager with the Royal Voluntary Service, said the organisation's new minibus would help combat social isolation. He said: "We are absolutely delighted. We support the elderly in Perth and Kinross and organise outings once a year - this will let us do it once a week instead."

Bigger plans now that the group own a minibus include regular daytrips for service users and even starting a Perth and Kinross Boccia league where elderly residents from across P&K can come together to socialise and keep active."



## PARTICIPATION REQUESTS

2 groups asked to work with PKC to make services better



## COMMUNITY MINIBUS TRANSFER SCHEME

launched to transfer ownership of council-owned minibuses to community groups at the end of their operational use

## 22 APPLICATIONS

received from community groups as part of phase one of the minibus transfer scheme

## 3 COMMUNITY GROUPS

successfully received minibuses as a result of phase one allocations

Phase 2 opens to applications in April 2025 with 6 more buses available to community groups

## COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER



## 34 GROUPS

enquiring about ownership of a PKC asset

7 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST  
about community ownership



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