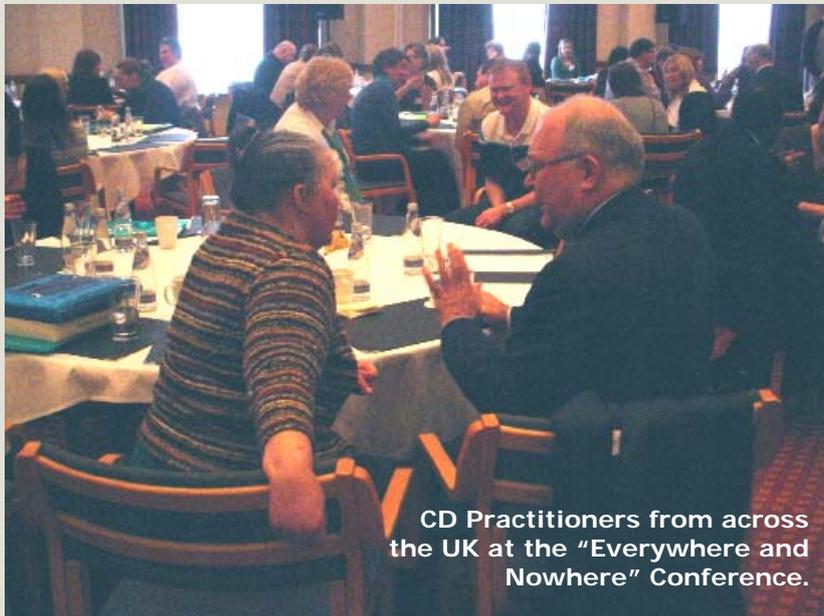


Scottish Community Development Network

'Supporting People who Support Communities in Scotland'

"How do we raise the profile of Community Capacity Building, and better support practitioners?"



CD Practitioners from across the UK at the "Everywhere and Nowhere" Conference.

This question was discussed by CD Practitioners from across Scotland at '*A Capacity for Change*', a joint event with Scottish Community Development Centre.

This issue develops the theme further.

The Conference report starts on page 4, with our recommendations and Viewpoint on Page 10.

Communities Scotland's proposed Outcomes Framework for Community Capacity Building to which SCDN contributed, is on page 8.

Inside this issue:

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"Is Community Development Everywhere and Nowhere?"

"Community Development seems to be everywhere, but how is it really reflected in policy and practice across the UK, and where does the real power lie?" That was the question that

CD practitioners from across the UK came together to explore at SCDN's joint conference with our UK wide counterpart Community Development Exchange (CDX). Presentations by Mae Shaw and Sel William (pictured) and Akwugo



stimulated an energetic debate.

(Continued on page 7)

CD News In Brief

'People and Place' Regeneration Policy Statement

Launched in March, this is described as a statement of intent which has emerged from collective Scottish cabinet agreement to take stock and set out clearly how the Scottish Executive's regeneration – related activities are connected up.

"The philosophy of outcome funding is: we do not purchase activity; we purchase results".

Big Lottery Fund Manifesto

SVQ Linked Degree in Community Development

Glasgow University have launched a new BA in Community Development as a route for people with experience of working in the community to a combined academic and vocational qualification.

Students can be either seconded by their employer, or placed by the University into a relevant work setting.

Achievement of the SVQ Level 4 in Community Development Work is independent of the academic assessment and can normally be completed in two years.

Big Lottery Fund – "Investing in Communities"

The Big Lottery Fund have published their manifesto, with a new commitment to Outcome Funding, in order to:

"bring real improvement to communities and the lives of those people most in need".

For the first time BLF will be an investment funder rather than a grant maker. This means putting more resources into providing support and guidance for organisations before they apply for funds; supporting organisations to manage funds and focussing on four overarching outcomes.

- people have better life chances;
- communities are safer, stronger, and more able to work together to tackle inequalities;
- people have better and more sustainable services and environments;
- people and communities are healthier.

£275m is to be invested over the next 3 years in projects that aim to achieve these Outcomes.

Jargon Buster Page 8.

Performance Information Project (PIP)

This initiative by Learning Connections consists of five main strands:

A pilot exercise to collect national information on participation in CLD

This identified that 5,000 community organisations were supported in the week of the study.

The development of outcome frameworks for CLD

This includes one for Community Capacity Building. These are now out for consultation (see Page 8).

A survey of the impacts of the CLD

The first stage in this is a literature review of current evidence on

the wider outcomes of CLD.

Surveys of current management information systems in use in CLD

Survey work has been undertaken to give 'snapshots' of the systems currently in place within local authorities and the voluntary sector for Community Capacity Building, and also Youth Work and Adult Learning.

Workforce survey for CLD

Reports for most strands are due in Spring 2006

Outcomes Framework (Page 8) and Viewpoint (Page 10).

PoWEr Inquiry

After eighteen months of investigation, the final report of the Power Inquiry, described as an independent inquiry into Britain's democracy, has now been published.

Power describe their findings as "...a devastating critique of the state of formal democracy in Britain."

The research showed widespread disillusionment with party politics, yet high levels of involvement in community activity and pressure

groups, suggest that the problem is not one of apathy.

As they put it themselves, *"The problem is that we don't feel we have real influence over the decisions made in our name. The need for a solution is urgent. And that solution is radical. Nothing less than a major programme of reform to give power back to the people of Britain..."* www.powerinquiry.org

Event!

Civicus World Assembly

The CIVICUS World Assembly is a forum for international civil society representatives to get together, exchange ideas, experiences and build strategies for a just world.



The event provides a shared platform for high-profile speakers and grassroots activists from all over the world.

As we went to press, delegates were converging on the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow for the 2006 Conference.

The event included a seminar organised by the International Association of Community Development, which SCDN members were invited to.

International Perspectives on UK issues

The International Association for Community Development (IACD) have consulted with CD practitioners across the UK to identify the issues about which they would welcome international input. The top issues were:

- Environment/sustainable community development
- Capacity building and training
- Refugees and migration

Further work will involve identification of good practice examples and the collation

of summary case studies, and workshops across the UK, including one on Scotland.

For Further details contact

iacdglobal@ed.ac.uk

www.iacdglobal.org

Other IACD activity included hosting a seminar and their Annual general Meeting in Glasgow as part of the Civicus World Assembly (left). SCDN members and others were invited to consider: "Does Asset Based Community Development deliver Social Justice?"

Changing Lives: 21st Century Social Work

The 21st Century Review group have now published their summary report.

- Key Points from a CD perspective area as follows:
- *Services must be organised in ways that enable people to use them their carers and communities*
- *Services must build individual, family and community capacity to meet their own needs [this includes] working alongside regeneration and community development work to build the capacity of communities to support themselves*
- *Services must become part of a public sector wide approach to support vulnerable people and promote wellbeing.*

Viewpoint Page 10

Strategic Framework for Community Development Update

We reported last issue that our UK counterpart CDX was reviewing their Strategic Framework, and can now report that it is being replaced with a CD Resource Pack.

The first contribution to the Pack is now available from the CDX website. **'What is Community Development'**, as the title suggests aims to provide a straightforward and accessible introduction to the key ideas underpinning community development.

More on News Items

Further information relating to our News stories, including full web links for items referred to will be posted on www.scdn.org.uk shortly after the publication of each issue.

Jargon Buster!

Community Capacity Building

“Development work that strengthens the ability of community organisations and groups to build their structures, systems, people and skills so that they are better able to define and achieve their objectives and engage in consultation and planning, manage community projects and take part in partnerships and community enterprises.

It includes aspects of training, organisational and personal development and resource building, organised in a planned and self-conscious manner, reflecting the principles of empowerment and equality’.

**Steve Skinner,
Building Community Strengths,
CDF**

Conference Report: A Capacity for Change

Conference Report

This was our second big event in 2005, and was organised jointly with our colleagues at Scottish Community Development Centre

This brought together SCDN members and other practitioners from across Scotland to look at what we understood Community Capacity Building to mean, and what could be done to further support it in Scotland.

There were 64 people in attendance, the roles and geographical spread of participants were varied and included community activists.

The Conference report starts on this page, with our recommendations included in our Viewpoint on page 10.

About the event

This report records the key points from the discussion of Community Capacity Building at the ‘Capacity for Change’ conference.

The event was organised in response to the interest of many SCDN members in the topic, and also to respond to the opportunity presented by Communities Scotland commissioning work to develop a framework for the development of Community Capacity Building across Scotland.

The event was designed as a networking, information gathering and discussion forum, rather than as an event with formal presentations and workshops. The commonality between all participants was an interest in Community Capacity Building and a desire to contribute to the debate of current and future developments to strengthen Community Capacity Building.

Perspectives on Community Capacity Building

Because Community Capacity Building can be a contested term, and can be understood as a ‘top down’ model of intervention reflecting a deficit view of community need, it was important to establish a common understanding of the term.

Various definitions were provided in the conference handout, and the predominant view was that the definition offered by Steve Skinner (left) is the most comprehensive and helpful.

A shorter definition of capacity was offered by a participant:

‘The ability to do something and the power to achieve it..’

There was also a general view that the dimensions and elements of community capacity

(Continued on page 5)

Conference Report: *A Capacity for Change*

(Continued from page 4)

building set out in LEAP (the original version for community learning and development) were helpful, and that there was no need for a 'new' framework. There was however a need for guidance on the ways in which capacity building work could be done most effectively – in other words methods, processes and practice tools.

Discussions in the morning session of the conference led to the establishment of a model of capacity building, shown in the diagram below:

The Diagram

The diagram represents the main dimensions of Community Capacity Building as they emerged in discussion. The overall purpose of CCB was seen as an important component of a good quality of community life, described as safe, stable and sustainable. These qualities are more likely to be achieved if communities are able to make good use of their assets, and to be able to negotiate changes and improvement with decision makers and service providers. For this to happen commu-

nity organisations need to be able to learn, to be active and organised, to be engaged in discussions and dialogue, and playing a role in delivering services and supports. Capacity building is the support that can be offered to community organisations and interests to help them develop these abilities.

Community Capacity Building is one area in which progress is more evident in England than in Scotland. The UK Home Office report 'Firm Foundations' (2004) estab-

lished key messages, as follows:

- **Adopt a community development approach**
- **Recognise & build on what exists**
- **Take the long view**
- **Ensure support is available**
- **Embrace diversity: respond to local circumstances**
- **Learning is the key – for all**

A recurrent theme in the event was the view that capacity building has been, and remains the 'poor relation' in CLD when compared to youth work and adult learning. Because of this, participants welcomed the initiative currently being undertaken by Communities Scotland, but emphasised that there was much to be done for Community Capacity Building to be properly understood and supported.

(Continued on page 6)

Key Elements of Community Capacity Building



CD Jargon Buster! published

SCDN has compiled the *Community Development Jargon Buster Plus*.

This offers definitions of key terms relating to the process and practice of Community Development, such as:

- **Community Capacity Building**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Community Practice**
- **Upstream and Downstream Community Development**
- **Horizontal and Vertical Community Involvement**

This collates material from a variety of sources, and adds SCDN's own critique of the terms, their implications, and how they relate to each other.

The document is out in a consultation draft, and can be downloaded from the Jargon Buster page of www.scdn.org.uk

Conference Report: A Capacity for Change

(Continued from page 5)

Concerns and issues

The majority of participants were of the view that capacity building is not taken seriously in Scotland, and that there are many barriers to it being achieved.

These included:

Cultural and attitudinal barriers

A lot of rhetoric, but in practice tokenism, the perpetuation of a dependency culture and frustrations felt in communities and by workers; a sense of a lack of change and direction: 'how many bloody initiatives do we have to live though'. Lack of belief, lack of unity, lack of vision: abusive behaviour and anger expressed at community meetings

Power barriers

Decision makers not listening or committed to responding to community issues, the capacity building agenda being driven by policy ('a top-down imposition

of what should be a bottom-up process') rather than community needs, and that policy being driven by fashion; capacity perceived as threatening by councillors and some agencies.

Structural barriers

Participation structures are still too often bureaucratic and top-down, and community interests are poorly represented: indeed some felt that community planning structures permitted far less representation than the earlier SIPs. Too much consultation but not enough evidence of its impact on decisions; insufficient recognition that Community Capacity Building is a long term process. Some activists are over-burdened, and some do not properly represent their constituency.

Capacity barriers

Experienced by practitioners - a lack of clarity about the outcomes of Community Capacity Building and the direction of work, a shortage of workers skilled in this area of work; an

absence of direction and support to Community Capacity Building efforts; insufficient resources both to support participants and to take forward practice, lack of information; lack of sustainability,

"Participation structures are still too often bureaucratic and top-down, and community interests are poorly represented."

lack of space and time for reflection and learning

Management and development barriers

Agencies and organisations not being able to define needs, engage with hard to reach groups; community learning and development partnerships not prioritising, or investing in Community Capacity Building, lack of will to lead and drive the agenda at strategic level. Insufficient commitment to resource participation and address the practical and finan-

A Capacity for Change

(Continued from page 6)

cial barriers to access, care and support.

A vision for community capacity

Participants explored and discussed the sorts of outcomes that might be expected – for communities and for government – if there were to be a serious investment in building community capacity. The following points were made:

Positive change for **people in communities**, because they would be more aware of and involved in decisions, would have more knowledge and confidence and thus be better able to exercise choice and access services, as well as influencing and improving service delivery.

There would also be a positive impact on **community infrastructure**, in the form of financial knowl-

edge, intellectual support and physical resources to support effective activity. Such resourcing would be based on community needs, and serve to enhance community assets.

The **quality of community life** would be enhanced: there would be less alienation and apathy, a sense of optimism and community pride, more stability, stronger leadership, more trust and an equalisation of power.

Both these impacts would, in turn have an effect on the quality of **engagement and partnerships**. These might become 'genuine' partnerships within which communities would be able to be assertive, would take responsibility and would build the levels of trust that would encourage collaborative, creative approaches and tangible products.

Outcomes Framework (Page 8)

Viewpoint (page 10)

Community Development: Everywhere and Nowhere?



(Continued from page 1)

The event took place at Edinburgh's Radisson Hotel on March 9th 2006.

Workshops

Workshops looked at:

- Support for CD Practitioners
- Jargon in Com-

munity Development

- Grassroots community development
- Learners in Regeneration

A Full report will be prepared and posted on our website late summer 2006.

Our other activities

SCDN has continued to progress our priorities through a variety of activities, including:

- Participation on the Outcome Frameworks group for Community Capacity Building
- Attendance at a 5 Nations CD summit in Wales (to follow up the Belfast event reported last issue)
- Signing up to the Partners in Re-

generation Compact (March, 2006): a written statement / agreement between the Scottish Centre for Regeneration and organisations contributing to regeneration. SCDN is recognised as the national network representing CD practitioners.

- Contribution to the Scottish Centre for Regeneration's Perspectives Paper on CLD

Identifying the Outcomes of Community Capacity Building

Learning Connections at Communities Scotland have identified a number of Outcomes of Community Capacity Building, which are listed on this page.

The Outcomes were developed by a working group including SCDN.

The exercise is part of a larger Performance Information Project, which includes further work on Community Capacity Building.

Jargon Buster!

Outcomes are “the changes or consequences that happen as a result of the activities of an organisation. Outcomes are normally what an organisation is trying to achieve but some Outcomes are unintended”. This is distinct from **Outputs** which are the specific products (of the CD activities) that aim to cause the Outcomes.

Outcomes of Community Capacity Building

The Outcomes listed below are identified as **Intermediate (or Process) Outcomes** that may happen fairly quickly and directly as result of Community Capacity Building. These focus on changes in the organisation or communities’ ability to achieve their goals.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 1. | Confident, skilled and active community members |
| 1.1 | Increased confidence |
| 1.2 | Increased skills and knowledge |
| 1.3 | Increased ability to transfer and apply learning in community contexts |
| 1.4 | Increased belief in the possibility of change (personal, group and community) |
| 2 | Active and influential communities |
| 2.1 | Increased networks and working relationships within communities |
| 2.2 | Increased capacity for effective community action |
| 2.3 | Increased/more effective collective action within communities |
| 2.4 | Increased community influence over issues they identify as important |
| 2.5 | Increased/more effective community delivery of services where necessary to meet their aims |
| 2.6 | Effective community organisations and structures are in place to address community needs and aspirations |
| 3 | Resourced and delivering community organisations |
| 3.1 | Community organisations have access to the resources they need to achieve their aims |
| 3.2 | Community organisations control assets where necessary to achieve their aims |
| 3.3 | Community organisations deliver services where necessary to achieve their aims |

Outcomes of Community Capacity Building

| | |
|----------|--|
| 4 | Effective planning, management and evaluation within community organisations |
| 4.1 | Increased ability to identify and understand community needs and aspirations |
| 4.2 | Community needs and aspirations understood and prioritised |
| 4.3 | Increased ability to plan to meet needs and aspirations |
| 4.4 | Plans in place to meet community needs and aspirations |
| 4.5 | Community organisations are effectively managed by community members |
| 4.6 | Community organisations identify and act on learning from action |
| 5 | Inclusive community organisations |
| 5.1 | More positive attitudes to social and cultural diversity within community organisations |
| 5.2 | Community groups and organisations operate inclusively |
| 6 | Productive networks and relationships |
| 6.1 | Increased networks and working relationships between communities |
| 6.2 | Increased networks and working relationships between communities and appropriate organisations |

Community Capacity Building is intended to help communities to achieve wider changes: in the quality of community life. These are referred to in the document as **End Outcomes**. These Outcomes are longer term, more difficult to measure, and often harder to demonstrate that they are an effect of Community Capacity Building.

End Outcomes might relate to, for example:

- *Economic Activity and Employment*
- *Democratic participation and Engagement*
- *Health*
- *Community Cohesion and Inclusion*

More

The full Outcomes of Community Capacity Building document can be obtained by emailing pip@communities.scotland.gsi.gov.uk

While the official consultation period is now over, work continues to develop the Community Capacity Building strand of PIP.

SCDN will actively seek to contribute to this, and feed in the findings from our event, and the views expressed by SCDN members.

Further material will be posted on www.scdn.org.uk as it becomes available, and we will advise members of any opportunities to contribute.

How does Community Capacity Building relate to other concepts in Community Development:

Jargon Buster Page 14

Viewpoint



Our second event in 2005 was 'A Capacity for Change', which was organised jointly with our colleagues at Scottish Community Development Centre

The Conference report is on Pages 4-7, and on this page we give our further analysis and views on this subject.

Views expressed here are not necessarily those of individual SCDN members, or their employers.

A Capacity for Change: Our Recommendations

A funding stream to invest in communities

that would:

- Facilitate networks to build their capacity
- Be based on assessment of community needs, assets, deficits and infrastructure (including meeting places, development support, equipment and information)
- Work towards parity of influence
- Resource effective representation
- Be long-term: investing in change and reflecting a strong commitment.

A funding stream to invest in CCB development and support

that would be open and transparently targeted, and would include:

- **A workforce development programme** that would:
 - Provide support to community organisations as employers
 - Build skills and experience among capacity building staff
 - Encourage and support learning
 - Increase the number of staff with capacity building skills and remits
 - Support staff through mentoring and coaching

- Provide training at all stages and levels
- Provide training and support for departmental staff not involved at present
- Raise the profile and the benefits of CCB

A practice support framework,

including tools for:

- Setting up projects
- Using arts, drama as engagement tools
- Monitoring quality standards

A policy framework

that would set out:

- A clear statement of the purpose of CCB – agreed with the field and adopted by Communities Scotland and other executive agencies
- Government recognition and commitment to CCB as a principle, and as a grassroots, ground-up process
- A clear vision and identified goals, shared indicators
- Recognise the timescales involved and required
- Recognise and value volunteers
- A requirement on public agencies to engage in properly funded learning to ensure they can develop and respond to community capacity

SCDN and SCDC

Planning White Paper

"SCDN welcomes many aspects of the Planning White Paper. However, this package of measures will not deliver a radical change in the fairness or effectiveness of the current planning system."

"Community involvement must be based on participation not just consultation".

SCDN response to White Paper.

Community involvement must be based on participation not just consultation. This can be facilitated by the introduction of a limited third party right of appeal and the opportunity to challenge the proposals in the National Planning Framework.

The overall purpose of the planning system must be to deliver sustainable development; this is widely accepted and must be defined and set out in statute".

SCDN's full response is on the Policy page of www.scdn.org.uk

Viewpoint: Recent Developments

Performance Information Project (PIP)

SCDN welcomes this work by Learning Connections.

The Outcomes Framework for Community Capacity Building is well articulated and should be a useful in planning and evaluating for both professional CD practitioners and those with responsibility for delivering or managing this work across a range of agencies.

We did have some concerns about the use of the Quantitative element: that it might be used in a crude way to assess performance on the basis simply of Outputs such as number of groups supported, however, as an illustration for politicians and policy makers of the number of groups supported across the country it is useful.

We look forward to seeing further proposals from the Community Capacity strand and hope these will add value to the work of SCDN as the membership body for Community Capacity Builders.

Firm Foundations

Is the Home Office Civil Renewal Unit's Framework for Community Capacity Building (CCB). One of it's aims was to promote consistent use of language, so we welcome the identification of Community Capacity is part of wider process of community development.

SCDN agrees with its *six underlying principles* (page 12), particularly the adoption of a Community Development approach: CCB seems often misrepresented as simply a series of organisational activities removed from essential CD values such as equality and empowerment .

The importance of learning 'for everyone involved' and not just communities (as the term CCB seems to imply) is also welcome: communities will tell you that public bodies have a lot to learn about working with communities.

We applaud the focus on 'building community anchor organisations' : community controlled groups with a holistic focus on the community's issues, as opposed to participation of community members on agency-led structures.

Changing Lives: 21st Century Social Work

SCDN welcomes many of the recommendations of the Review:

- the focus not just on service users and carers, but also on **wider communities**, as supports for people
- the **joined-up approach** across and beyond the public sector
- the explicit recommendation to "**work alongside regeneration and community development work** to build the capacity of communities to support themselves"

However we would also have liked to see recognition of the value of Community Development staff within SW services. We believe the work done by CD staff has not only enabled service users and carers to have a voice in service planning and delivery, but also through this contributed to the development of modern, sensitive and cost effective services.



Policy Briefing
Editor Martha
Wardrop

'Adopt a community development approach – accepting as a starting point the principles on which CD is based.'

Firm Foundations

In Brief

A Vision for the Voluntary Sector: The Next Phase of Our Relationship

Published in December 2005, this sets out the Scottish Executive's commitment to nurture the voluntary sector. The key issues highlighted as the need to address funding issues, reduce the level of red-tape, and expand voluntary organisations' role in delivering public services.

Launch of OSCR

The Office of the Charity regulator was launched at an event in Edinburgh on 26th April 2006. It has developed a new website to provide new guidance from OSCR on key requirements of the new Act and also outlines the regulator's powers.

Firm Foundations: The UK Framework for Community Capacity Building

Background

The final report from the Home Office review of support for community capacity building, known as Firm Foundations, sets out the broad framework for pursuing the government's ambitions for civil renewal. It was launched, two years ago in December 2004, as an initiative intended to make better use of resources, promote common principles and consistent use of language in relation to capacity building across all sectors and tiers of government.

It identifies a range of benefits from investment in community capacity building, including social capital and cohesion, community self-help, participatory governance and sustainable involvement.

The Framework sets out a series of six underlying principles. It also identifies priorities for action to bring about change, most of which build on existing initiatives.

Principles

- Adopt a community development approach –accepting as a starting point the principles on which CD is based.
- Recognise and build on what exists – focussing on the assets and strengths of communities as well as their needs or deficiencies.
- Take a long view—recognising there are no quick fixes if change is to be sustainable.
- Ensure support is accessible at a neighbourhood, parish or community level
- Accept that learning is a key to success for everyone involved.
- Embrace diversity and recognise solutions are needed which respond to local circumstances, rather than taking a one-size-fits-all approach.

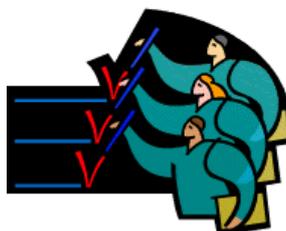
Priorities for Action:

- Develop a menu of learning opportunities [for all participants]
- Focus on building 'community anchor organisations'
- Promote local action planning
- Strengthen collaboration and co-ordination working through existing networks and partnerships

Implications for CD practitioners

It strengthens the role of community development approach, accepting as a starting point the values on which community development is based. It also recognises both geographical communities – and communities of people with a common interest or identity.

The Firm Foundations document is available on the Civil Renewal section of www.homeoffice.gov.uk



Policy Extra: Welfare / Equalities

Green Paper on Welfare Reform

The Government has announced a radical reform of the welfare state with the publication of the welfare reform green paper - ***A New Deal for Welfare: Empowering People to Work***.

The proposal is described as 'a once in a generation opportunity to transform the welfare state' and includes:

- reforming incapacity benefits;
- a £360 million roll out of Pathways to Work across the country by 2008
- extending support to lone parents and older workers;
- reforming housing benefit;
- transforming support for people living in our cities; and
- delivering support to meet the needs of everyone

This paper provides proposals for achieving an 80% employment rate for people of working age and is envisaged to mean:

- Reducing the number of people on incapacity benefits by 1 million;
- Helping 1 million older workers into employment;
- Helping over 300,000 lone parents into work

Implications for CD Practitioners

CD practitioners across the country have to re-

spond to changes posed by welfare reform. They have four principal tasks:

- assessing how local community development activity is being affected;
- planning for future impacts and appropriate responses;
- alternating the mix of local CD activities; and
- fostering cooperation among key agencies.

UK Equalities Review

This is an in-depth review to investigate the causes of inequality and discrimination in our Society. The Review Panel started work in March 2005 and reports to the Prime Minister by Summer 2006. The Department of Trade and Industry is leading a linked exercise, the Discrimination Review, which is considering the opportunities for improvement to the equality legislative framework. It is anticipated that this work and the recommendations of the Equalities Review will lead to proposals for reform of the legislative framework for equality via a Single Equality Bill.

An overview of the issues

UK legislative changes and the establishment of the three commissions (Commission for Race Equality, Disability Rights Commission, and Equal Opportunities Commission) have brought the emergence of a framework to reduce inequalities.

The approach has broadened to include sexual orientation, religious affiliation, social origin, language and political beliefs and opinions - and to focus on celebrating diversity and understanding how inequalities arise and how they can be dealt with.

Restricted access to employment, goods and services are continuing aspects of inequality, as are under-representation in political, economic and community decision making; marginalisation in society; segregation, for example through restricted employment opportunities; direct discrimination; stigmatisation and/or labeling (for example, 'bogus asylum seekers'); and harassment, intimidation and violence.

Implications for CD Practitioners

Discrimination is another process that continues to exclude people from full citizenship.

While people are excluded in many complex ways, poverty and low income are primary factors. There is evidence from 1977 onwards of increasing inequality and decreasing social mobility within the UK's population.

The most significant inequality for organizations working to tackle poverty is the divide which exists between the richest and poorest people in our society.

Current Consultations

Scotland's National Transport Strategy

This sets out a series of questions about the country's transport future and provides an opportunity to comment on strategic issues.

Closing date: 13th July 2006.

Transforming Public Services – the Next Phase of Reform

A discussion document has been published which seeks views from those who deliver and use public services. The Transforming Public Services document is available on-line at:

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/06/15110925

Closing date: 30th September 2006



Historic Scotland's Support for the Voluntary Sector

Closing date: 31st July 2006

SCDN Jargon Buster Plus! Preview

SCDN members indicated at our 2005 Conference that it would be useful to have a Community Development Jargon Buster, and we undertook to do this.

We have now prepared a consultation draft. As well as definitions drawn from a range of sources it gives our analysis of the terms and their implications for CD. This and the next page offer a taster.

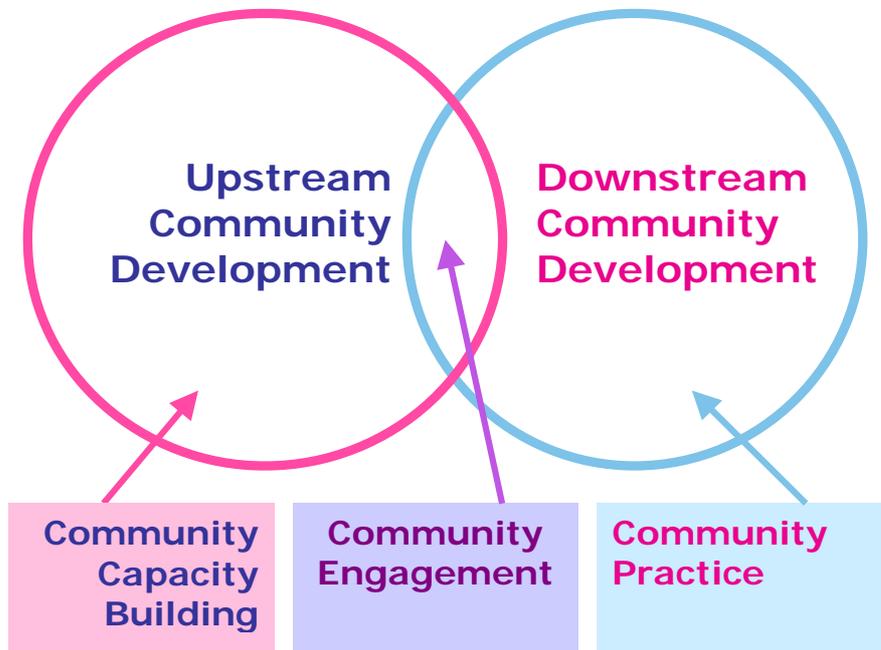
| Term | Definition (short version) | SCDN Comment |
|---|--|--|
| Community | <i>"People who communicate and interact with one another on the basis of common residence in an area or a shared interest to fulfil their needs".</i> | The identification of communication and interaction as defining qualities of a community is significant: a CD intervention may be required to help a given set of people become a community. |
| Community of Geography | <i>"Any community connected by common residence in a physical neighbourhood or larger area".</i> | People can identified as members of potential communities of neighbourhoods, towns, regions, and national level. |
| Community of Interest | <i>"Any community connected by common understandings and interests, (within or across geographical areas)".</i> | The shift from generic community development has increased the focus by CD on specific communities of interest, such as tenants, people with disabilities. |
| Community Groups & Organisations | <i>"...are located within communities of geography or interest. They are controlled by their users and are usually small and informal with no paid staff. They are often referred to collectively as the community sector".</i> | This is distinct from 'voluntary organisations', which provide services to communities, and are not necessarily controlled by the communities they aim to benefit. |
| Community Development | <i>"An approach (adopted by a range of professions and agencies) which strengthens local democracy and the capacity of communities to participate actively in determining the processes and outcomes of social and economic change".</i> | The definition of CD as an <i>approach</i> is useful for making the distinction with Community Work as an occupation. |
| Upstream Community Development | Those aspects of community development focused on the community and supporting them to participate effectively in community development processes. | This largely coincides with the Community Capacity Building role (<i>page 4</i>), i.e. helping communities come together as autonomous groups define and pursue their own goals and continue to develop the skills knowledge and confidence required. |

SCDN Jargon Buster Plus! Preview

Contribute

The full document can be downloaded from the Jargon Buster page of www.scdn.org.uk

Comments are welcome on the draft until 20th August 2006, preferably by email to info@scdn.org.uk



| Term | Definition (short version) | SCDN Comment |
|---|--|--|
| Downstream Community Development | Those aspects of community development focused on public bodies how they relate to community groups | Community Workers may have a role in this, along with others who may not see themselves as CD practitioners, e.g. managers and policy makers. |
| Community Engagement | <i>"Developing and sustaining a working relationship between one or more public body and one or more community group, to help them both understand and act on the needs or issues that the community experiences."</i> | Community Engagement can be seen as a product of the broader process of Community Development , which needs to happen both Upstream with Communities, and Downstream , within public bodies. |
| Community Practice | <i>"Developing and promoting policy and managing practice which empowers communities as partners in change and in planning and delivering services and programmes".</i> | This then focuses on the Downstream CD, within public bodies. While this will usually be the responsibility of people who are not primarily CD practitioners (such as managers and policy makers), CD specialists may have an advisory role. Compare with Community Capacity Building (Page 4) . |
| Community Work | <i>"An occupation providing community groups and organisations with technical, educative, and organisational support."</i> | While the definition emphasises Upstream CD, Community Workers understanding of community groups often informs Downstream work. |

Who are we?

Scottish Community Development Network is a member led organisation, for community workers / community development workers, paid or unpaid, full or part time, from the community, voluntary or public sectors, who support the principles and practice of community development.

We were formed in 1999, and are a constituted group.

What do we do?

We support our members through:

- the organisation of seminars,
- production of information,
- opportunities to comment on consultations and
- forums for discussion and debate on practice issues.

Strategic Priorities

1. *To strengthen the collective voice for Community Development in Scotland*
2. *To provide a forum for Community Development practitioners to share information on good practice*
3. *To provide opportunities for Community Development practitioners to discuss and debate issues of common interest*
4. *To promote practice which effectively empowers communities*
5. *To identify and disseminate to our members, relevant policy frameworks and priorities, highlighting implications / opportunities for practice development*

Join the Network!

| Sign up for: | Price |
|--|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Organisation | £10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Organisation | £20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership | £5.00 |

'I / we practice Community Development, live and/or operate in Scotland, and agree with SCDN's Values and Aims'

Online payments at www.scdn.org.uk are preferred, but we can accept cheques, or invoice you (organisations only!) if necessary.

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SCDN

Scottish Community Development Network

PO Box 26792, Glasgow, G4 7AF

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** "There has never been greater need for a network bringing together Community Development practitioners across agencies and sectors".*

Fiona Ballantyne, Former Chair of SCDN

SCDN

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