Report

Report to:	**Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee**
Date of Meeting:	**5 December 2016**
Report by:	**Chair of Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group**

Subject:	**Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project – The Future for the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ update the Joint Committee on the recommendation made by the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group to explore an alternative focus for the work of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group for 2017/2018

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Joint Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

(1) that it be noted that existing live project work would continue to be developed and managed, and

(2) that the intention to focus new project work on creating learning and development opportunities for the membership of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group be noted.

3. Background

3.1. The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project was established in 2007. The objectives for the Project were agreed at the outset and have remained the same over the duration of the project to date.

3.2. The overall objective of the Project remains to establish and deliver a number of collaborative approaches to training, learning and development between the Clyde Valley Councils (South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, Glasgow City, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Councils) which will result in:-

- ♦ greater efficiency due to shared working rather than a council-by-council approach
- ♦ reduced duplication of effort
- ♦ the identification, development and sharing of best practice
- ♦ setting, achieving and maintaining the highest standards of service delivery

♦ modernising service delivery by improving practice and making best use of information technology
♦ a consistent approach to training, learning and development
♦ ensuring equality of opportunity for all Clyde Valley employees in accessing appropriate learning and development
♦ developing centres of excellence from which to deliver models suitable for replication nationally

4. Developments

4.1. Each year, the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group reviews the current work plan including existing project work, Clyde Valley initiatives which have become mainstream programmes and potential areas for project development.

4.2. The challenge in identifying new areas of work remains to achieve the balance between addressing joint priorities for development while remaining focused on local and individual council priorities.

4.3. The impact of austerity cuts in council budgets over the past five years has resulted in a change of focus for many public sector organisations including local government organisations. In practical terms, this often means more of an internal focus for development priorities and for allocation of resources.

4.4. In terms of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group, this has created some additional challenges in identifying new project work which has sufficient potential to yield savings for all councils within the partnership and which can justify allocating resources to development.

4.5. Given this scenario, the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group considered a slightly different approach for the Group in 2017/2018. The Group has proposed investigating opportunities for learning and development for the practitioners working in the field including the members of the various Clyde Valley Groups.

4.6. In moving in this direction, the Group recognises that existing project work should continue to be implemented and managed, such that successful outcomes will continue to be realised across the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group's project portfolio.

4.7. In addition, the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group has also proposed that feasibility work should be conducted to investigate the possibilities for taking on additional procurement projects, which would yield savings along the lines of previous successful procurement projects conducted through the Clyde Valley Group.

5. Employee Implications

5.1. Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group would be required to allocate nominated representatives to progress these development events in partnership.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. There are no immediate financial implications.

7. Other Implications

7.1. The limited risks of this collaborative approach to learning and development are mitigated by the content of the Minute of Agreement between participating authorities.

7.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.

8.2. All 8 Clyde Valley Member Councils were invited to participate and submit priorities as part of the consultation exercise.

Gill Bhatti
Chair, Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project Implementation Steering Group

14 November 2016

Previous References
None

List of Background Papers
Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee Minute of Agreement

Contact for Further Information
If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-
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