



# Scottish Social Services Learning Network West E-bulletin

Website: [www.west.learningnetworks.org.uk](http://www.west.learningnetworks.org.uk)



scottish social services  
learning network  
west

## Welcome to our December Ebulletin

Welcome to our 12th and final ebulletin of the year. This month's edition is packed full of up and coming events most of which are free. Learning Network West continues to promote shared training and learning opportunities across all three sectors. With a combination of our Local Learning Network meetings and our partnership working, we aim to keep you up to date with the latest events, conferences, consultations and reports. If you wish to advertise any forthcoming events, training or meetings please contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

## What's Happening in Learning Network West?

### LEARN- Local Learning Network Meeting

**Monday 10th January, 1.45pm, PlatForum, Burleigh Street, Govan,** (LEARN is Local Learning Network for people who use services and carers). There will be a opportunity to discuss the forthcoming "Our Future Your Future" event on 27th January. If you wish to attend this meeting please click on link <http://west.learningnetworks.org.uk/show.php?id=1030>

### West Dunbartonshire Local Practitioners Learning Network

**Tuesday 11th January, 9.30am, The Carman Centre, Renton,** why not come along and join us at our next meeting, discussions will take place around our recent "Paths to Partnership" event held on 3rd November 2010. [Click here](#) to book a place.

### Continuous Learning Framework (CLF) Gathering Group

**Wednesday 12th January 2011, 10:30 – 12:30, Location: Paisley - Learning Network Offices**  
This meeting is an opportunity to share ideas with others about the many ways the CLF can be of use. There will be a chance to Network after the meeting and a light lunch will be provided. If you wish to attend the next gathering group please contact [Shirley.gibson@sssc.uk.com](mailto:Shirley.gibson@sssc.uk.com) or phone 01382 207170.

### Continuous Learning Framework (CLF) Information Session

**Wednesday 12th January 2011, 13:15 – 15:15, Location: Paisley - Learning Network Offices**  
Continuous Learning Framework Information Session - This is an opportunity for you/your organisation to find out how the Framework can be used within your own setting and how you can move forward with this. Why not come along. A light lunch will be provided prior to this session commencing. To book a place contact [Shirley.gibson@sssc.uk.com](mailto:Shirley.gibson@sssc.uk.com) or phone 01382 207170.

### Renfrewshire Local Learning Network

**Tuesday 18th January, 9.30am Learning West Offices.** If you wish to attend [click here](#) or contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

### East Renfrewshire Local Practitioners Learning Network

**Tuesday 18th January, 1.30pm, venue to be confirmed.** If you wish to attend [click here](#) or contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.co.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.co.uk).

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## What's Happening in Learning Network West?, Cont'd

### Glasgow Local Learning Network Meeting

**Monday 24th January 2011, Mitchell Library, 1pm.** If you wish to attend our next meeting [click here](#) or contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

### Personalisation Event, Inverclyde Local Learning Network

**Tuesday 25th January 2011, Waterfront Complex, Greenock.** Inverclyde's Local Learning Network in partnership with The Richmond Fellowship Scotland would like to invite you to this **FREE** event to share practice, participate in themed conversations and contribute to discussion around Personalisation, Telecare/Assistive Technology and Self-directed support. To book a place and to download the programme of the day [click here](#).

### Our Future Your Future

**27th January 2011, The Mitchell Library Glasgow -** In partnership with LEARN, a Local Learning Network for people who use services and carers across the Glasgow area, Scottish Social Services Learning Network *West* invites you to attend a conference to explore the joint hopes of people who use services, carers and social workers of the future. Our future Your future 2011 will bring interested individuals together to share experiences and learn through themed conversations and guest speakers; there will also be a marketplace for invited organisations to share their information and news. [Click here](#) to book a place and to view programme of the day. Alternatively email [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk) or call 0141 848 8574.

### Argyll and Bute Local Learning Network Meeting

**Friday 28th January 2011, The George Hotel, Inverary.** If you wish to attend [click here](#) or contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

### Lanarkshires Local Learning Network Meeting

**Thursday 3rd February 2011, 9,30am, Whitehill Neighbourhood Centre, Hamilton.** If you wish to attend [click here](#) or contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk)

### Ayrshires and Dumfries & Galloway

Friday 4th February 2011, 11am , Cumnock Town Hall . If you wish to attend [click here](#) or contact [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

## The Facilitative Manager, 2/3 February and 3/4 March 2011, Paisley

Learning Network *West* would like to invite members of your Management Team to participate in Kinharvie Institute's Facilitative Manager; a two day programme for managers seeking to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence as an effective manager. This programme will support those who wish to apply a more facilitative approach to managing others. For additional information [click here](#).

The two dates we are offering are [2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> February](#) and [3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2011](#) – both programmes will be held in our offices in Paisley. Full attendance is required on both days; upon completion of both days, a certificate of participation will be awarded.

The programme will be offered to Social Service managers across the West of Scotland; priority will be given to organisations who are part of a Local Learning Network or have previously supported Learning Network activity.

Please note, the Facilitative Manager is free and a light lunch will be provided.

Book a place by clicking on the relevant dates above or email Caty McColgan at [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk)

## Leadership Master Classes, Scottish Youth Theatre, Glasgow

We all know that there are challenging times ahead and that we will need to be innovative to rise to these challenges. We also know that effective leadership results in the best delivery and performance for people who use services, their carers and all of us working in the social services sector. Developing leadership at all levels in the sector is vital if we are to find solutions to some of the problems we encounter - it can't be seen as something additional that we would like to do.

Learning Network [West](#) invites you to participate in a number of Master Classes covering key topic areas (as below) that we think might help you rise to the challenges we are all facing and better prepare you for the challenges that lie ahead.

**Topics for our forthcoming Master classes** and when they will be delivered are as follows:

2nd February 2010	Thinking Differently	Scottish Youth Theatre
1st March 2010	Leading in Challenging Times	Scottish Youth Theatre
Date to be confirmed	Professional Nourishment	Scottish Youth Theatre

If you find our Master Classes are meeting your needs - we may offer more!

[Click here](#) for the "Thinking Differently" programme of the day. If you wish to book a place contact Caty McColgan on 0141 848 8574 or email [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk)

## News/Consultations/Publications/Reports

**Skills for Care and Development Annual Report**—Skills for Care and Development, the Sector Skills Council for people working in the social care, children and young people's sector in the UK, has published its Annual Report. [Click here](#) to read further .

**Important information for employers and managers of housing support services and care at home update:** SSSC has recently recorded a SlideCast to help you find out all you need to know about registration and to help support your managers to register. [Click here](#) to view.

**National Practitioners Conference 2010 evaluation**—The 2010 National Practitioner Conference, held in the Carnegie Conference Centre in September, was hailed a success, receiving lots of positive comments and being rated as 'excellent' or 'good' by some delegates. As well as presentations focusing on using an evidence base to improve practice and the PR campaign for social work, participants had the opportunity to get involved in a number of short conversations spanning topics from personalisation to scrutiny bodies. Audio recordings of the day's presentations are available at: [www.iriss.org.uk](http://www.iriss.org.uk). Slides of the presentations and copies of Graham Ogilvie's drawings will also be available there shortly.

**Carers and Telehealthcare Training Toolkit**—Carers Scotland in partnership with the Joint Improvement Team have produced a comprehensive flexible training toolkit aimed at health and social care professionals and carers organisations to facilitate a range of carer awareness and training sessions on the benefits of telehealth care. This contains all the resources needed for a variety of training sessions on the benefit of telehealthcare for carers, if you require a copy of the CD please contact [anne.conlin@carerscotland.org](mailto:anne.conlin@carerscotland.org) or phone 0141 445 3070.

**The new edition of the SCLD news is now available**— [click here](#) to download.

**Care about Rights an online training tool**—The Scottish Human Rights Commission have been working to develop **Care about Rights** into an online training tool to complement the training sessions which have already taken place across Scotland. The Commission have launched their web-based version of the training to coincide with the International Human rights day on the 10th December 2010. They will be speaking to various stakeholder and local media where sessions have already taken place, and communicating the online launch to MSP's. [Click here](#) for further information.

**SAMH**—The latest edition of "The Point" magazine can now be downloaded. [Click here](#) to read further.

## Early Years Framework putting theory into practice A one day seminar in partnership with Action for Children, 23rd February 2011, Glasgow

This valuable seminar will offer ways to implement the Early Years Framework innovatively, but within budget.

Those attending will be given an overview of issues connected to early years intervention, and the chance to discuss the details of research undertaken by Action for Children. There will also be parallel sessions, offering simple but effective approaches to put this into practice.

The seminar will: provide examples of how different services are implementing the Early Years Framework

- show managers how they can work within restrictive budgets, while providing effective services and achieving better outcomes for children
- give delegates an opportunity to discuss the challenges in implementing the early years framework and how these can be overcome.

For further information visit the Children in Scotland website or [click here](#).

## Post-registration Training and Learning workshop– how to get the most out of it, 7th February 2011, Paisley

This half day workshop will take place on 7th February 2011, 1.30pm to 4.30pm in Learning Network **West** offices.

Arrangements for post-registration and learning (PRTL) were put in place after the SSSC developed its continuing professional development strategy for the social services workforce in 2004. In their first year newly qualified social workers need to meet the SSSC's PRTL requirements. This workshop will look at the early experience of employers and social workers in working towards the requirements and call on the findings of an independent evaluation of PRTL.

The objectives for the workshop are:

- To explore the role of PRTL in ongoing professional development
- To examine the findings from the independent evaluation of PRTL in Scotland

To identify how employers, L&D staff and individual social workers can develop positive approaches to PRTL for the benefit of service development. If you wish to attend [click here](#) or contact Caty McColgan on 0141 848 8574 or email [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

## Evaluating Learning and Development Activity workshop, 23rd February, Paisley

This full day workshop will take place on 23rd February 2011 in the Learning Network **West** Offices, Paisley.

The need to do more with less is at the forefront of the minds of all who work in the public sector at present. It is crucial, then, that all social services activity earns its keep in value for money. Inevitably this will include evaluating learning and development (L&D) activity - but this evaluation needs to go beyond seeking feedback on how the learning activity is received. How best can this be done so that the true impact of L&D is sought? This workshop will focus on evaluation methodology with practical examples for participants to take away and try out.

The objectives for the workshop are:

- To explore the role of evaluation in planning learning and development activity
- To examine research evidence on evaluating learning and development
- To identify a range of methods for evaluation

If you wish to attend this workshop [click here](#) or contact Caty McColgan on 0141 848 8574 or email [caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk).

## Training Facility—Learning Network West, Paisley

Learning Network West's Training facility offers extremely competitive rates for anyone who wishes to run a course or event.

When you book our training room you also have access to 2 break out rooms completely free of charge.

What makes us different from most organisations is that we include the use of a laptop, projector, sound system and flipcharts free of charge. We can offer free parking and are only a 10 minute walk away from the local train station.

If you are thinking of having a training event why not come along a view our premises. We will try to negotiate the best rate possible given the current financial restrictions across all organisations.

For further information contact [Denise.Alexander@westlearn.org.uk](mailto:Denise.Alexander@westlearn.org.uk) or call 0141 848 1500.

## Localism: What next for the relationship between local government and the third sector? 18th January, Apex Hotel, Edinburgh

Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) are holding this one day conference on 18th January 2011.

With the Holyrood elections looming in May 2011, and Local Authority elections shortly after in 2012 this is a critical time for local government and the third sector. SCVO has invited speakers from all the main political parties to come together at this conference and share their views on what's next for localism.

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, John Swinney MSP, will make his first official address to the sector since announcing the Scottish Budget.

Officials and Councillors from Local Government will also present alongside representatives from leading third sector organisations.

Speakers will include:

- John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth;
- Colin Mair, Improvement Service;
- John Downie, SCVO;
- Peter McColl, SCVO;
- Derek Mackay, CoSLA;
- Michael McMahon MSP, Scottish Labour Party; Derek Brownlee MSP, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party;
- and Alison Greig of ROAR

To view a programme of the day and to book a place [click here](#).

## Understanding and Implementing the new Child Protection Guidelines Tuesday 18th January—Hilton Edinburgh, Grosvenor

On 1st June 2010 the Scottish Government, working in collaboration with practitioners in the field, issued the new draft National Child Protection Guidance for consultation conducting a whole scale revision of Protecting Children – A Shared Responsibility: Guidance on Inter-Agency Co-operation. Updating the current guidance documents, originally published more than ten years ago in 1998, the new guidance has been designed to recognise changing knowledge and exposure to risk, expectations of protection as well as the new and updated policy context of Children's Services.

Why not go along and examine and discuss these changes to the Children's Services policy landscape, developing and progressing better outcomes for Scotland's most vulnerable children.

To find out more and to book a place click on link provided: <http://childprotection.holyrood.com/about>

## The Part-Time Forum, Thursday 13 January 2011, 10am to 4:30pm, Radisson Blu Hotel, Glasgow

Organised by University of the West of Scotland and The Open University in Scotland, The Part-Time Forum is an annual conference which provides a platform for discussion of the key issues related to part-time learning.

Now more than ever before, Scotland needs a strong and vibrant part-time sector with a diversity of provision that can re-skill and up-skill the workforce, and enable more people, whatever their circumstances and experience, to benefit from the opportunities offered by higher education.

Technological innovations are transforming how people interact and how they want to learn. Technology gives learning providers new ways of enhancing the student experience and enabling people to develop and apply new technological skills in the workplace.

With higher education facing unprecedented challenges ahead, The Part-Time Forum provides an ideal opportunity to debate and explore new ways of thinking on how to make part-time learning more effective for Scotland.

The 2011 Part-Time Forum will bring together some of the key people associated with part-time learning – key stakeholders, learning providers, employers, trades unions and, most of all, students. Using state-of-the-art technology, delegates will be able to participate in interactive discussions throughout the day and ensure their views are heard.

Keynote speakers from business, higher education and government.  
Chaired by Ruth Wishart Journalist and Broadcaster.

Click on link below to book a place, for fees and programme of the day.  
<http://www.parttimeforum2011.com/content/view/38/43/>

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**Changes ahead for the Learning Networks:** the Scottish Government is changing the way it funds the functions that the Learning Networks carry out.

From April 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, the Government will be transferring some funding to the Scottish Social Services Council to take forward these functions. Much planning is now underway to decide what this will look like.

Watch this space for further developments and how you can influence this.

