

LSICD08 (SQA Unit Code - FX52 04)

Analyse and disseminate findings from community research



Overview

Key Area Two concerns the gathering of information about the communities the Community Development practitioner engages with. This includes knowing who to contact and why, as well as the basics for developing a community profile. It covers preparing community profiles, community research and consultation.

This standard takes forward the previous one on setting up and collecting information. It concerns the collation and use of the data, including feeding back the findings and agreed recommendations to all those who need to know and all those who contributed.

This standard is relevant to all Community Development practitioners.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 work with groups to review the quality and quantity of the information gathered and identify any gaps
- P2 propose ways to collate the information into understandable formats
- P3 support groups to accurately interpret the information that has been gathered and analysed
- P4 support the communication of the initial findings to the wider community and all relevant agencies for comment
- P5 ensure the findings are reviewed and revised in light of feedback
- P6 encourage a variety of approaches to presenting the data clearly and accurately and in appropriate forms for different audiences
- P7 facilitate discussion and agreement on the recommendations of the research for all those who were involved in the process, whether as researchers and/or contributors
- P8 facilitate participatory approaches to agree realistic, evidence-based priorities using the information gathered

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

The following knowledge and understanding statements relate to the four standards within Key Area Two. It is not necessarily the case that every Key Area Two knowledge statement relates to every standard, but it is likely that a knowledge statement relates to more than one standard.

The context

- K1 the impacts of wider social, economic and environmental changes on communities
- K2 the diversity of communities and the impact of this on Community development within and between communities
- K3 the impact of relevant legislation and policies on communities
- K4 the role and the contribution of Community Development practitioners who work with communities
- K5 a Community Development approach to identifying community priorities and concerns

Making contact

- K6 different methods and styles of engaging with people, organisations and groups in communities, particularly those who experience marginalisation
- K7 the roles and functions of informal networks and inter-organisational forums in providing a wide range of contacts that can be developed and supported to benefit communities
- K8 the importance of taking time to build relationships and foster trust and respect

Community research and data collection

- K9 participatory methods and approaches for designing and implementing community research
- K10 how to access key sources of existing data about particular communities
- K11 accepted ways of checking data for accuracy, reliability and sufficiency
- K12 the legal framework for data collection and handling confidential and sensitive Information
- K13 participative and inclusive methods to encourage communities/groups to identify and express their own needs, interests and concerns
- K14 where to obtain the resources for community led approaches to profiling, consultation and research
- K15 techniques, for collating and interpreting information, which support collective decision making and priority setting
- K16 methods for recording and reviewing information

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Involving people and organisations

- K17 how to identify possible partners and assess their potential for collaboration in community consultations and research
- K18 participative planning techniques for involving people with different perspectives and support needs
- K19 techniques for encouraging the sensitive exploration of diversity to identify and combat discrimination and prejudice within groups
- K20 the skills required to undertake community research and how to support community members to develop these skills
- K21 methods of feeding back consultation and research results to the wider community and relevant agencies
- K22 approaches and methods to use in evaluating research or consultative processes

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Additional Information

Values

Key Area Two is underpinned by the five Community Development key values of: Equality and Anti-discrimination, Social Justice, Collective Action, Community Empowerment and Working and Learning Together.

The following examples correspond to each of the key values:

1. information on the results is presented in different formats to ensure accessibility
2. the results take account of the current political, economic, environmental and social situation of the community
3. the community determines recommendations for future actions
4. the community retains ownership of the results and conclusions
5. reflection on the experience of participating in research and consultation processes is organised

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