

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies



Overview

Key Area Four is about the role of Community Development practitioners in supporting different communities, groups, public bodies and voluntary organisations to understand each other. The purpose is to encourage all concerned to build positive relationships and working agreements to achieve their common aims. The standards reflect the different perspectives and ways that Community Development practitioners can engage with communities and other bodies to encourage partnership or collaborative working within and between sectors. They may be acting on behalf of groups, voluntary organisations or public bodies or from within communities.

This standard is about how Community Development practitioners enable community groups to understand public bodies and make informed decisions about whether and how to work together on common agendas.

This standard is relevant to all Community Development practitioners who support the community groups in this process. They will be expected to respond to the needs of communities, and draw support from and use personal reflection to identify if the other standards within Key Area Four are relevant to their responsibilities and work remit.

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 enable communities to understand local and national democratic and political processes and where power and influence reside
- P2 provide information about the range and remit of public bodies and voluntary organisations operating in the locality or area of interest to a community group
- P3 enable communities and groups to understand the boundaries to public bodies' power and resources and the implications this has for partnership working
- P4 support constructive relationships between elected members, officers, organisation representatives, community groups and individuals
- P5 provide information to individuals and groups about local opportunities for engaging with public bodies to change the design and delivery of services or to achieve agreed aims, through partnership or collaborative work
- P6 support groups to examine government initiatives and the potential opportunities they create for communities to influence decision-makers
- P7 support groups to acquire information about multi-agency/interdisciplinary work arrangements relevant to communities and groups
- P8 provide information to groups about seeking/finding relevant contacts in public bodies and their remits and positions
- P9 support groups to identify the roles needed and the skills required to engage with public bodies and professionals

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

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

The rationale and context

- K1 the relationship between representative and participatory democracy, democratic decision-making and participatory practice
- K2 the concept of political literacy, rights and responsibilities associated with governance, and policies and practices relating to citizenship
- K3 the complexity and diversity of local and national government initiatives and policies, partnerships, regulators, and advisory and accountable bodies that community groups may be expected to relate to or meet the requirements of
- K4 the contribution that diverse communities and autonomous groups make to improving localities and services
- K5 the differences and linkages between the concepts of Community Development, community empowerment, community involvement, community engagement, community capacity building and other key ideas which are present in government policies and initiatives
- K6 the differences and linkages between concepts such as cohesion, inclusion and exclusion, and social capital, and the positive contribution that people make to collaborative working
- K7 the differences between information giving, consultation, participation, working together and joint decision-making as approaches to engaging with communities

Powers of public bodies and the duties and obligations they have to communities

- K8 how public bodies are regulated and managed
- K9 how the different levels and layers of local, national and international government decision-making can affect communities
- K10 the responsibilities and development needs of community members involved in decision-making as part of local governance and devolved structures
- K11 the duties and responsibilities public bodies have to communities
- K12 how Community Development practitioners can work with public bodies to promote accessible ways for them to carry out their responsibilities to engage with communities

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies

Factors which support effective partnership working

- K13 the range of partnership organisations that make, or contribute to, decisions that affect the communities they work with/within and how the decisions or recommendations they make can be influenced
- K14 the diversity of groups and communities within a specified locality
- K15 forms of injustice, discrimination and social exclusion that operate globally, nationally and locally which impact on the lives of individuals and communities
- K16 how power and power relationships and power differentials impact on community based strategies and approaches for creating inclusive partnerships
- K17 the historical and current social, political and economic context of the communities being engaged with
- K18 current and historical initiatives designed to increase community involvement, engagement and empowerment within a specified locality and how to access supporting sources of information, advice and resources
- K19 different levels of representation and accountability in joint working between groups, communities and other bodies
- K20 what motivates people to engage actively with community initiatives
- K21 barriers to involvement in community initiatives and ways of overcoming them
- K22 multi-agency approaches to and models of collaborative working and the implications for community engagement/involvement
- K23 resource and support implications for engaging with the wide spectrum of potential stakeholders
- K24 the life cycle of partnerships, their limitations and the factors that can cause vulnerability and lack of sustainability

Techniques and methods

- K25 inclusive and participatory techniques for partners to negotiate, agree, review and evaluate common aims, objectives, policy development and planning to achieve shared goals
- K26 models of advocacy which are inclusive and support the empowerment of communities
- K27 techniques and approaches for service providers to be accountable to communities
- K28 exit strategies for positive endings when working on initiatives or projects with set life span
- K29 organisational systems and inclusive processes to support strategic collaborative work across networks and partnerships
- K30 methods which facilitate collective learning opportunities for effective collaborative work

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies

- K31 techniques and frameworks for the monitoring, review and evaluation of collaborative work
- K32 communication systems which provide accessible formats and processes to inform and support collaborative work and the dissemination of outcomes

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies

Additional Information

Values

Key Area Four 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. groups critically examine opportunities to increase their influence and challenge discriminatory practice
2. groups recognise and challenge power imbalances
3. groups work collectively and have the confidence to engage in dialogue with public bodies
4. groups develop the skills and knowledge to engage effectively
5. groups review their knowledge of how public bodies work

LSICD13 (SQA Unit Code - FX61 04)

Promote and support effective relationships between communities and public bodies

Developed by	Learning and Skills Improvement Service
Version number	3
Date approved	September 2009
Indicative review date	September 2011
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Lifelong Learning UK
Original URN	N CD13
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Health and Social Care; Public Service Professionals
Suite	Community Development (2009)
Key words	community development, community development practitioner, community development practice, community development value, community relationships, community body, public body, community group, community agenda, community collaboration