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### 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 is about making contact and initiating relationships with key people and organisations in a locality or community of interest. It involves gathering relevant existing information and supporting communities to generate new information, in order to better understand the needs and circumstances of communities.

This standard is relevant to all Community Development practitioners.

# LSICD06 (SQA Unit Code - FX5R 04)

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### Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 use different techniques to make contact with relevant people and groups
  - P2 clearly explain own role, areas of responsibility, and those of the organisation they represent
  - P3 collect accurate and up-to-date information on the roles and responsibilities of the people and groups contacted
  - P4 review and evaluate the range of contacts and identify gaps
  - P5 actively seek contacts and links with excluded communities and marginalised groups
  - P6 identify the range of information needed to produce a community profile
  - P7 identify community members, voluntary and statutory agencies who can provide relevant information
  - P8 explain the aim and purpose of the profile being undertaken
  - P9 collect and analyse a range of relevant data, which should include demographic, geographic and economic data, and information on community assets, meeting places, groups/networks and agencies active within the community
  - P10 collect and record the perceptions of individuals and groups about their community
  - P11 prepare a community profile
  - P12 establish processes for periodically reviewing and revising the community profile
  - P13 review own role and purpose in response to community need and environment.

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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 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

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K16 methods for recording and reviewing information

#### **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. contact with people from diverse and marginalised communities is actively pursued
2. environmental, political, cultural, economic and social contexts are built into community profiles
3. community members are involved in the gathering and interpretation of information
4. the views of community members and groups are clearly articulated and represented
5. working relationships based upon respect are developed and maintained

#### Glossary

##### Groups

Groups is used as a generic term and includes organisations and agencies.

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