



annual report

expertise • engagement • regeneration

Chairperson's Report

In our ninth full year of Community Links Scotland (CLS) providing regeneration services to community groups and Registered Social Landlords, we again faced the uncertainty and reduced one year wider role funding from the Scottish Government. Despite this, last year saw CLS work with 30 individual RSLs and 15 associated community groups and in doing so helped facilitate almost £2million in project funding for these 45 groups – a fantastic achievement given the availability of grant funding nationally.

I am struck again this year at the variety of projects staff are asked to work on; from community woodlands to community farms, projects for young people leaving care to those fathers who need some extra support. Whether it be funding for cheerleaders or Women's Aid, I am confident that RSLs, community groups and CLS are making a positive difference to the lives of people across Scotland.

CLS have again helped individuals and groups achieve their ambitions. It was particularly rewarding to see the opening of the 3 Villages Hall in Arrochar and the new Centre 81 Youth and Community Centre both open in 2010/11, after very long and hard work by those groups and staff at CLS.

This wonderful job is down to our very experienced and innovative staff team who continue to work tirelessly throughout Scotland and with an increasingly diverse portfolio of projects.

No report on our achievements would be complete without thanking my fellow Board members who demonstrate a clear vision for CLS, together with a determination to sustain and develop CLS for the long term. In particular I would like to thank June Todd who stood down this year after many years of sterling work.

Director's Report

2010/11 saw our ninth year of providing regeneration services to Registered Social Landlords and community groups across the central belt and west of Scotland. Work in the last year was carried out on community buildings with very small communities on Mull to large villages such as Neilston, to large housing estates in Dumbarton up to buildings located in Cadder in north central Glasgow. Elsewhere training and employment projects were being successful in areas as diverse as Oban, Greenock and Drumchapel while community action plans and options studies were carried out in the Rosneath Peninsula, Giffnock and Paisley.

It has not simply been in the geography of our activity that CLS's work has covered a broad spectrum. Our work in 2010/11 continued to be varied and valued by our clients as it provides a service from project start until project completion. Within this work, CLS provided an enormous variety of support from identifying and attracting start up funding for clients, through business plans and consultation studies, feasibility study analysis, large scale funding bids to securing and maintaining projects through ongoing revenue funding streams.

The progress made in the last year could only have been possible with the work of a very dedicated staff team and the support and guidance of an effective understanding Board of Management. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those concerned and all those organisations who have worked in partnership with us throughout 2010/11.

Management Board

Community Links Scotland is a Company Limited by Guarantee and not having share capital Company No. 229753 and a recognised Charitable Company No. SC032934. Directors are elected from client RSL organisations.

Board of Directors 2010 - 11

Sandra Loney	Paisley South Housing Association (Chair)
Jim Weir	Paisley South Housing Association (Vice Chair)
Laurie Mackay	Dalmuir Park Housing Association (Treasurer)
Ann McGowan	Knowes Housing Association
Sephton MacQuire	Dunbritton Housing Association
Claire Boyd	Barrhead Housing Association
Meg Harrison	Faifley Housing Association
June Todd	Co-opted
Terry Smalls	Co-opted

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMUNITIES Geilston Hall Cardross



CLS Clients

Registered Social Landlords

Argyll & Bute	Argyll Community Housing Association West Highland Housing Association
East Dunbartonshire	Antonine Housing Association Hillhead Housing Association 2000 Ltd
East Renfrewshire	Arklet Housing Association Barrhead Housing Association
Edinburgh	Muirhouse Housing Association
Glasgow	Cernach Housing Association Drumchapel Housing Co-operative Limited Kendoon Housing Association Kingsridge Cleddans Housing Association Loretto Housing Association Pineview Housing Association Tenant Managed Homes
Inverclyde	Cloch Housing Association Larkfield Housing Association Oaktree Housing Association River Clyde Homes
Renfrewshire	Bridgewater Housing Association Ferguslie Park Housing Association Linstone Housing Association Paisley South Housing Association Williamsburgh Housing Association
West Dunbartonshire	Bellsmyre Housing Association Clydebank Housing Association Dalmuir Park Housing Association Dunbritton Housing Association Faifley Housing Association Knowes Housing Association Trafalgar Housing Association

Community & Voluntary Groups

Arrochar & Tarbet Community Development Trust	Mill of Haldane Core Group
Bellsmyre Community Advice Group	Neilston Development Trust
Cairndow Community Crèche	Oban Youth & Community Centre
Castlehill & Westcliff Community Group	Rosneath & Clynder Community Development Trust
Dumbarton District Women's Aid	Rosneath Peninsula West Community Development Trust
Harestanes Community Association	Route 81
Kirkmichael Sports and Recreation Association	Wellbank Village Hall Group
Knowetop Farm	Woodhall Community Association
Lorn & Oban Recycling Initiative	

CASE STUDY GARELOCHHEAD CENTRE 81



In March 2007, the former Garelochhead Outdoor Education Centre was closed down by its former owners, East Dunbartonshire Council and put on the market. Route 81 and Community Links Scotland secured in excess of £1.5million from BIG Lottery, Scottish Rural Development Programme, Climate Challenge Fund, C.A.R.E.S., Scottish Power Green Energy Trust and the Scottish Government. In April 2009, CLS helped Route 81 purchase the Centre and began the process of refurbishing it.

A tripartite vision began to crystallise of the many functions which the building might have in serving the needs of local young people, of the wider community and of residential visitors using it on a commercial basis as an outdoor activities centre. CLS have carried out the project management on this job from liaising with the design team, attending site meetings and most importantly assisting Route 81 with mechanisms to draw down the various funding strands which are committed to funding only elements of the total contract value.

CENTRE 81 Garelochhead



CLS Client Projects

Addictions Sub-Group • Argyll and Bute Advice Network • Argyll Voluntary Action • Banking on Neilston • Beardmore Planting • Bellsmyre Community Advice Centre • Bellsmyre Digital • Bellsmyre Estate Caretakers • Bellsmyre Youth Worker • Bowmore Links • Bus Tours • Centre 81 Whitecreek • Clachan Glen • Youthbuild • Clydebank Welfare Rights Service • Faifley Community Day • Dalmeir Park Community Development Officer • Hillhead Community Food Initiative • Barrhead Community Learning & Events Coordinator • Arklet Community Learning Centre • DRUMCOG Community Safety Sub-Group • Faifley Community Training • Dalmeir Park Community Transport • Barrhead Creative Inclusion • FLAIR Credit Munch • Credit Union Project Hillhead • Dalmeir Canoe Project • Dalmeir Care Centre • Dalmeir in Bloom • Dalmeir Out of School Care Group • Dumbarton Welfare Rights Service • Dunterlie Family Support Project • DRUMCOG Employment Sub-Group • Environmental Solutions 3 • ERCET • Hillhead Fab Pad • FLAIR Financial Advice Project • DRUMCOG Financial Inclusion Sub-Group • FLAIR Minor Environmental Improvements Employability • FLAIR New Tenancy Sustainment Project • Fuel Poverty (FLAIR, Arklet, Antonine, Hillhead) • FLAIR Furniture Recycling • Garelochhead Trust • Arklet Getting on with Art • Glenshellach Woodlike • Harestanes • Haven Project • Healthy Hearts • Hope to Oban Young Mums • IHAF Creating Cohesive Communities • IHAF Fab Pad • IHAF Tenancy Support • IHAF Youth Outreach Project • It's Your Mess, Bin It • Johnstone Castle Community Learning • Jump to It • Kilmahue Woodland

• Knowes Employability • Landscaping Employability Project • Leven Street • Linstone Tenancy Support • LORI • Maple Drive Employability Construction • MICT Allotments • Moving On, Inverclyde • New Heating for Community Centre • Oak Tree HA – Advice 4 All • Our Place • Positive Alternatives • PSHA Barterholm Road • PSHA Barterholm Road • RCH - Belville Street • RCH - Grand Central Savings • RCH - Heat with Rent • RCH - Inverclyde Green Team • RCH - Woodhall Play Area • Renfrewshire Credit Union Partnership Project • Renfrewshire Foyer Project • Roots to Confidence • Rosneath Trust • Soccer Sixes Tournament/Soccer Sponsorship • Stained Glass Project • Streetlinks • Taking Stock Day • Tenancy Intervention • Tenancy Support Service • Tiree Electric Cars • Twilight Basketball • Welfare Rights Service • Westcliff and Castlehill • WHHA Energy Savings Advice • Working Rite • DRUMCOG Youth Sub-Group • Almondvale • Arklet Breaking Barriers • Arklet Increasing Provision • Arklet HA Community Facility • Arrochar Village Hall support • Clachan Glen • CLS Employability Options Study • Constructive Communities 2 • Constructive Communities/Employability • Drumchapel Tenant Handbook • Dumbarton Welfare Rights Outreach Service • Gartmore Association • Homestart Helensburgh • Inverclyde Green Team • Knowetop Farm • Larkfield HA Funding Applications • Leven Street • Lynnside Gardens Oban • Methlin Park • Muirhouse Options Study • Mull & Iona PCC • Our Place - Bellsmyre • Roots to Confidence • Route 81 • RPWCDT - Community Action Plan • Scottish Housing Connections Web Site • Williamsburgh East End F.S. • Woodhall Business Plan

ARROCHAR 3 Villages Hall Royal Visit



ARKLET HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Community Learning Centre

CLS worked with Arklet HA and MAST architects to initially identify a site or location suitable for a community learning centre for this part of East Renfrewshire. Once a site was identified CLS worked with Arklet and the Glasgow United Reform Church to identify how a series of buildings and spaces could be developed into a campus of buildings providing cross cultural meeting spaces and revenue generating income streams.



ROSNEATH & CLYNDER COMMUNITY TRUST

Clachan Glen

Community Links Scotland initially secured funding to cover woodland surveys, essential tree felling, planning permissions and the production of a Woodland Management Plan. Over the last year we have continued to support the Trust to implement the early phases of this plan. Activities have included path improvements, bridge installation, perimeter improvements, bulb and tree planting, pond restoration and burn bank reinforcement with hot soup and rolls and barbecues helping to swell the numbers on volunteer days.



WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Constructive Communities 2

CLS worked with the funders and Argyll & Bute Employability Project to complete a second year of this successful scheme. Twenty-five village halls throughout Argyll & Bute received improvement works, from painting to disabled access, carried out by various squads of trainees. In addition to these improvements, CLS carried out 6 outline business plans in Kilinver and Kilmelford, Jura, Easdale, Cardross, Aros and Pennyghael in Mull.



RIVER CLYDE HOMES

Green Team

The Green Team is a multi-level partnership involving a range of RSLs and organisations in Inverclyde. The Inverclyde Community Development Trust, who work with 18 to 25 year old, long-term unemployed from local area, provide the training. The Trust also have an arts graduate who works with the local, primary and high schools and also older residents from the area to produce the heritage paintings for a gallery wall.



CASE STUDY

ROSNEATH PENINSULA WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Community Action Plan

CLS carried out a community action plan covering the majority of the Rosneath Peninsula to look at possibilities of improving provision of services in the local community.

During the consultation process lasting over 6 months, more than 600 individuals and community groups were engaged with more than 500 attending drop-in days, public meetings and prioritisation events.

Following several postal surveys of local residents, community groups and businesses, six main areas of possible project developments were selected.

Focussing on local health and welfare, community and recreation, employment and tourism, business and housing, environment and transport, the Trust worked the options down to 19 individual projects which will now be taken forward by themselves and/or in conjunction with appropriate agencies.

The resulting 166-page document presents the Trust with detailed analysis of the consultation and advice and recommendations on how to use the community action plan to further their aims and ambitions.

RPWCDT Community Action Plan Consultation Day



CLS Client Project Funding

Year	Scottish Government, Wider Role (£)	%	Community Planning/ SED /RSLs (£)	%	Europe/ LEADER/ Trusts/ Lottery (£)	%	TOTAL (£)
2002-03	76,000	33	51,000	22	101,000	45	228,000
2003-04	160,090	11	80,878	6	1,212,937	83	1,456,155
2004-05	476,234	55	62,164	7	324,544	38	862,942
2005-06	1,060,192	72	114,250	8	297,537	20	1,461,979
2006-07	574,488	40	87,271	6	758,660	54	1,420,419
2007-08	635,958	29	50,870	2	1,500,249	69	2,187,077
2008-09	769,906	37	90,795	5	1,197,238	58	2,057,939
2009-10	1,060,028	39	62,187	2	1,610,174	59	2,732,389
2010-11	983,839				892,850		1,876,689
TOTAL	5,796,735				7,895,189		14,283,589

CASE STUDY DRUMCOG Working Rite Project

DRUMCOGS in Drumchapel, supported by CLS, undertook an initiative to improve youth employment in the area. Construction and related fields were chosen to provide the best opportunity to gain future apprenticeships with Working Rite selected as training partners. The project paired local 16 – 18 year olds with employers for a six month period. 10 trainees were taken on with 4 moving into full time jobs.



Streetlinks

Streetlinks is a detached outreach project within Community Links Scotland whose primary aim is to identify and address the needs of 12-20 year old young people who are not currently accessing services or are in need of support. Streetlinks aim to identify young people and work with them in areas where they feel secure and where they regularly meet, predominantly working out on the streets and impart relevant information and signpost young people to partner agencies.

In addition to carrying out detached streetwork, Streetlinks also carry out a number of youth drop-ins in venues throughout Scotland. These are held throughout the week but are generally on a Friday and Saturday night where preventing risky behaviour is a major issue. Streetlinks have a variety of games and activities that they can take to drop-ins but they also have their own minibus to take young people to facilities as well as a mobile Multi-Use Games Arena (MUGA) and a mobile climbing wall that can be taken to venues where facilities for young people are not present.

Streetlinks Projects

Streetwork (East & West Dunbartonshire, Argyll & Bute, Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde)
• Drop-ins (Bellsmyre, Helensburgh, Castlehill, Bonhill, Drumry, Faifley, Whitecrook Centre 81, Bridgewater, Linstone, Williamsburgh) • KLC 6²⁹ Kirkintilloch • Re-CYCLE (Linwood, Helensburgh)
• Linstone Community Day • Bellsmyre Residential • Twilight Basketball • Midnight League • LEAP Whitecrook • School Break Programmes • Summer Programmes • MUGA (Multi-use Games Arena) • Outreach Programmes • Football Sessions • Sports Sessions

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE Midnight League Football Sessions



In 2010/11 Streetlinks developed and delivered Friday night cross-boundary football and sports sessions - *Midnight League* - in West Dunbartonshire with several initiatives, such as *'No Knives Better Lives'* and *'Sharp Solutions'* and campaigns linking into the programme.

The *'Bank of Scotland Midnight League'* programme was delivered in 6-week blocks and was highly successful with over 130 young people registering for the first block. Young people from all over the authority were able to attend activities in a safe and secure environment supported through Strathclyde Police and other youth providers in the area. Transport and attendance support was provided and the activities were promoted through Streetlinks streetwork and media literature.

Streetlinks Funding

Year	Scottish Government, Wider Role/ FSF	%	Community Planning/ SED /RSLs	%	Europe/ LEADER/ Trusts/Lottery	%	TOTAL
2002-03	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003-04	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2004-05	-	-	-	-	60,000	100	60,000
2005-06	70,000	58	-	-	50,300	42	120,300
2006-07	20,000	20	70,000	68	12,327	12	102,327
2007-08	27,000	18	80,000	55	39,431.61	27	146,431.61
2008-09	185,981.49	58	102,468.57	32	33,031.45	10	321,481.51
2009-10	169,313	58	66,246.15	23	56,131.41	19	291,690.56
2010-11	185,400	60	13,600	4	110,178.39	36	309,178.39
TOTAL	657,694	48%	332,315	25%	361,400	27%	1,351,409

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE Sports Sessions and Mentoring

Whilst on streetwork, Streetlinks staff came into contact with a small group of boys who had territorialism issues and refused to attend drop-ins and other activities due to fear of crime and street violence.

To help tackle this, Streetlinks and EDC - Youth Services worked in partnership to deliver youth sports sessions where young people would feel safe. A let at Kirkintilloch High was secured through Youth Services on Wednesday nights to hire the football pitch to enable the small group of young people to participate. On the first night 29 young people attended with more on the sidelines watching. Streetlinks continued to carry out mentoring sessions at the side of the pitches, including condom distribution and providing information on careers, education and respect.



Staff

COMMUNITY LINKS STAFF

Stephen Singer, Callum Smith, Christine Menhennet, Louise Bacon, Emma McMullen, Suzannah Roberts, Stephen Horsburgh, Ali Smith, Alison Shaw, Jana Moravcova, Michelle Cameron, Susan McMillan

STREETLINKS CORE STAFF

Sharon Mather, Amanda Savage, Janette Devlin, Frances Rothead, Martin Freed, Zoe Lacey, John Agnew, Robert Jenkins, Andy Oliver, Ali Gillies

STREETLINKS TRAINEES

John McEachran, Rebecca McGauley, Brian Burke, Owen Rankin, Michaela Brown, Sean Paul McGonagle, Lucas Ehrhardt, Natalie Lackey, Lindsey Martin, Grace Kennedy, Aimee Stewart, Jason Shanley

STREETLINKS SESSIONAL WORKERS

Joanna Thom, Denise Coyle, Jill Gormley, Michelle Cameron, Michelle Craven, Kimberly Christie, Lorna MacLean, Alison Main, Jennifer McGroggan, Kaz Armet, Stacey Calderwood, Andy Crawford, Gary Larkin, Jenna Miliken, Nia Phillips, Graeme Kerr

STREETLINKS VOLUNTEERS

Approx 20-40 per year

COMMUNITY LINKS SCOTLAND Core Staff 2010 - 11

