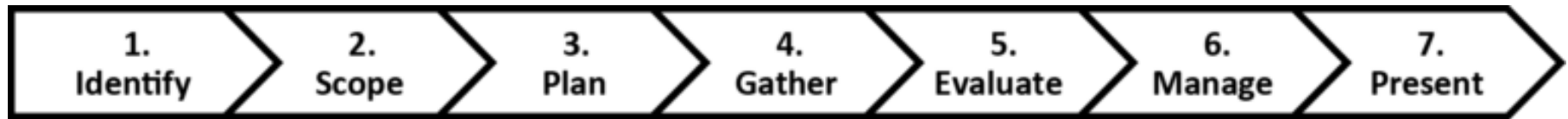


Information Literacy for Democratic Engagement

- **Principal Investigator: Peter Cruickshank**
- **Researcher: Bruce Ryan**

Seven Pillars of Information literacy



SCONUL. (2011)

Why is information literacy important for CCs?

In Bruce's experience...

- 'ascertain, co-ordinate and express' community opinions
 - ★ ([Local Government \(Scotland\) Act, 1973](#))
- process and present information from LAs etc
- minute-writing
- information sharing: CC websites, social media etc

IL-DEM project (2016-2017)

- CCllrs use a range of practices to gather and share information.
- They generally understand ‘ascertain, co-ordinate and express’
- *Range of formal and **informal** sources to understand their roles*
 - *Should this be in the advice given to community councillors?*
- Also tasked with sharing information from authorities to citizens.
- Mixture of digital and traditional channels
 - ★ **Facebook** is where the interaction is
 - ★ Non-digital channels (eg newsletters, local networking, local press)
- *Information skills are ‘critically important’*
 - ★ *‘Information is a currency’ that should be ‘spent’ to benefit citizens*
 - *Implies training needs?*
 - *Missed opportunity for libraries?*

LIL-DEM project (2017)

- Thank you for publicising: <https://survey.napier.ac.uk/n/LILDEM.aspx>
- Assessing sources of information & information literacy
- Report due May 2017
- 957 responses (at 09:40, 20 March), covering 316 CCs out of 1139 active CCs

LA	active CCs answer ing	%	LA	active CCs answer ing	%	LA	active CCs answer ing	%
Aberdeen	16	64%	Midlothian	5	31%	North Lanarkshire	2	6%
Edinburgh	26	58%	South Lanarkshire	14	31%	Shetland Islands	1	6%
Dumfries and Galloway	37	43%	Argyll and Bute	18	30%	Glasgow	2	4%
Moray	10	40%	East Ayrshire	11	29%	Angus	0	0%
Perth & Kinross	16	39%	Inverclyde	2	29%	Eilean Siar	0	0%
Dundee	3	38%	West Dunbartonshire	2	25%	East Dunbartonshire	0	0%
Aberdeenshire	27	35%	Highland	43	25%	East Lothian	0	0%
North Ayrshire	7	35%	South Ayrshire	5	19%	Falkirk	0	0%
Renfrewshire	7	33%	East Renfrewshire	0	13%	Orkney Islands	0	0%
Fife	30	32%	Clackmannanshire	2	11%	Stirling	0	0%
Scottish Borders	27	32%	West Lothian	3	9%			

LIL-DEM project (2017) – some initial findings

- Usefulness for gathering information about local issues
 1. Other members of same CC
 2. LA councillors
 3. Residents
 4. LA staff – this includes you!
 5. Other community bodies
 6. Members of other CCs
 7. Public libraries
- Most information work is co-operative.
- Most wished-for training needs
 - General skills: using social media for communicating with residents
 - Specialist skills: planning

Thank you!

And please follow us at

<https://community-knect.net/>

and

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