

Meeting Report – East Renfrewshire Intergenerational Network Meeting

Date: Friday 25th May 2012

Venue: Voluntary Action, Barrhead

In attendance: Alison Clyde (National Development Officer, GWT), Will Moffat (Senior Practitioner, Social Work), Alan Stevenson (Voluntary Action, East Renfrewshire), Edmund McKay (Commissioning & Contract Officer, East Renfrewshire), Vivienne Middleton (CLD Worker), Shirley Ashe (Voluntary Action), Ali Thomson (Voluntary Action), Raymond Weir (Inclusion Manager Barrhead High), Anne MacDonald (Volunteering Manager, Neilston Dev, Trust).

Apologies: Marie Hedges, Val Crookston & Carolyn Russell

Notes: The notes below are a general summary on the key topics/themes discussed at this meeting.

Generations Working Together (GWT) Update

GWT began in 2007 and is the Scottish Centre for Intergenerational Practice and works with public, private and voluntary sector organisations, to gather and share best practice, provide information and support and develop new opportunities for Intergenerational (IG) working in the communities.

The **development of local networks** of organisations, groups and individuals interested in furthering IG work is a key component in the Centre's strategy. There are now 20 networks set up throughout Scotland, currently meeting 2-4 times per year.

Each local network is organised to meet local needs. It is led and supported by Alison Clyde, National Development Officer and local coordinators. We are **seeking to recruit a volunteer** coordinator who would like to help coordinate the Renfrewshire network. Local coordinators will have access to free training from the centre, expenses paid for all travel to GWT meetings, training and events including our annual conference.

Action: Alan Stevenson agreed to take up the role of local coordinator temporarily.

Intergenerational Training Courses - Training for Trainers: Courses are being delivered May/June in Oban, Dumfries & Galloway, Scottish Borders, Edinburgh and East Renfrewshire. For more information check out the website at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

Guidelines: Bringing Together Local Authorities and IP in a Scottish policy Context
These guidelines, which bring together Local Authorities and Intergenerational Practice into a Scottish policy context are complete and will be launched at the Scottish Parliament on Thursday 28th June.

Action: For more details and/or to attend the launch please contact Alison at alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

GWT recently launched a Photo & video competition – closing date 28th September 2012 - 1st prize £150 2nd £75. For more information check out the website.

Activity 1 - What is intergenerational practice? – Definition

Intergenerational practice aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities, which promote greater understanding and respect between generations, and contributes to building more cohesive communities. Intergenerational practice is inclusive, building on the positive resources that the young and old have to offer each other and those around them

(Definition of Intergenerational Practice: Beth Johnson Foundation, April 2001)

Groups were asked to look at the ‘what is and what isn’t’ intergenerational activities cards to help clarify intergenerational work that has mutual benefit to both parties.

Common themes arising from intergenerational programmes and activities include:

- Community Safety
- Enterprise & employment
- Family & early Years
- Health & well-being
- Learning & teaching
- Regeneration
- Volunteering & community
- Arts/culture & heritage
- Natural & built environment

Other information

GWT are looking to work closely with **Education Scotland** to develop a strategy on how to integrate IP within the C4E and with **NHS Health Scotland** to develop a briefing paper showing a clear relationship on how IP can contribute to a healthier Scotland.

There are now opportunities for community groups etc to work with **Young Scott** to discuss their Truth about You Project, which aims to challenge negative perceptions of young people in Glasgow. Young Scott is looking to roll programmes out to other areas in Scotland.

For further details contact: Allan Lindsay on 0131 313 2488 or email truthaboutyouth@youngscot.org

Alzheimer Scotland – Football Reminiscence Project/Sporting Memories Network – for further information contact Michael White michael@sportingmemoriesnetwork.com or 07906 239582

Generations@school project – As of 1st March, schools in Europe are being encouraged to foster intergenerational dialogue by inviting older people to meet young pupils around the date of the European Day of Solidarity between Generations on April 29th in order to share experience, fears and hopes for the future and reflect together on how to create a better society for all generations. A resource kit - aimed mainly at primary schools - has been developed to help teachers organise such debates as part of their curriculum. This activity is easy to organise and there will be an award scheme where the most innovative projects will be selected. For more information email: generationsatschool@paueducation.com

Youth Philanthropy Initiative Scotland – raises awareness among young people about philanthropy. Launched in Toronto and managed in Scotland by the Wood Family Trust. Aims

to develop the next generation of responsible citizens and effective contributors raise awareness of the work of local charities and channel funds to them effectively, to develop the skills and confidence of young people through the hands on experience of philanthropy. For more information contact Jonathan Christies, YPI Coordinator 01224 532541

www.GoYPI.org

Young Start Funding from the Big Lottery – has an intergenerational strand available for up to £50,000 for two years. Contact 0141 242 1500 for further information or check out the website at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/youngstartfund

Activity 2

Intergenerational projects already existing in East Renfrewshire included:

- Knitting mania – Alan Stevenson/Ali Thomson (teaching children to knit)
- Pulse Radio – Raymond Weir (kids & adults working together, fund raising, producing & presenting radio programmes)
- Granny Attic
- Songs @ Old Peoples homes
- Intergenerational choir
- Cowdenhall – old mill – reminiscence project (www.neilstontrust.co.uk)
- St Josephs – showing older people computer skills and mobile phones
- IT equipment used by older people shown to young people & explain how it works
- Cosgrove Jewish Care – support young & old people together (contact Lauren Jarvis, Cosgrove Volunteer Coordinator)

Future plans include

- Arklet Housing – Intergeneration BME /Barrhead Housing – Intergenerational work
- Twinning of Primary Schools with sheltered housing - Quiz competition for each local network – finally having a national competition inviting all local networks to enter a team (mixed teams of 4 & 4) (Alan Stevenson)

Further partners:

- Third sector, social work, schools & sheltered housing to be more involved

What do we want from the local network

- To share resources/avoid duplication and work together
- For the new GWT website to give local network on their own local network page to link to other resources and departments in the area
- Members agreed to bring ideas along to next meeting – what they'd like to drive forward (dragons den)

Date of next meeting: September in Voluntary Action Office, Barrhead - date TBC

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