

**Meeting Report – Inverness, Black Isle, Loch Ness & Nairn
Intergenerational Network**

Date: 27th March 2012

Venue: Isleburgh Complex, Inverness

Attending: Alison Clyde (Generations Working Together (GWT)), Wanda MacKay (Youth Development Officer), Stuart Davidson (Highland Youth Convenor), Cllr Jaci Douglas (Highland Council-Children's Champion) Nicola Stevenson (Highland Youth Voice), Michael White (Alzheimer Scotland), PC Rosanna MacSween, (Youth Development Officer), CDT Lauren Barron (Youth Development, Northern Constabulary), Mike Wallace (Highland Senior Citizens) & Carrie Shanks (Community Safety - Northern Constabulary)

Apologies: Lynn Fraser (Inverness College)

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

GWT History - GWT was created in 2007 and is the Scottish Centre for Intergenerational Practice. GWT work with public, private and voluntary sector organisations, to gather and share best practice, provide information and support, and develop new opportunities for intergenerational working in communities.

The Scottish Government recently agreed to continue to fund GWT for the next three years (31st March 2015).

The **development of local networks** of organisations, groups and individuals interested in furthering IG work is a key component in GWT's strategy. Each local network is organised to meet local needs, and are led by Alison Clyde, National Development Officer and a local coordinator. We are seeking a local coordinator for this network and are able to offer free training from GWT, expenses paid for all travel to GWT meetings, training and events including our yearly conference.

GWT are also working with the **National Forum on Ageing** – futures group and together are creating a **Local Authority Framework**. The guidelines show how Local Authorities can embed IG work into policy and practice, which can contribute towards achieving national outcomes and local indicators. GWT are now interested in hearing from local authorities who would like to develop this framework for their local area during 2012.

Action: Alison to send copy of guidelines to Cllr Jaci Douglas who will forward onto councillors and officers asking that its content be considered.

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 01)

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

Group activity – Each group were given the opportunity to plan out an intergenerational activity looking at the benefits and outcomes for the younger & older people plus the local community.

It was agreed that at the next meeting the network would look at mapping what was already happening within the local area. Presentations were requested showing existing IG projects (possibly Wanda, Donald and Stuart).

Training for Trainers course

This course will be of interest to those who are keen to embed intergenerational approaches within their programmes of work. Courses are being planned throughout Scotland. For further details check out the GWT website at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

Information on the following topics was circulated:

Go for Gold Challenge

European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (2012)

Photo & video competition

Young start funding

YPI – Youth Philanthropy Initiative Scotland (Wood Family Trust)

GWT local network leaflet

GWT National Network leaflet

You can follow GWT on:

Facebook www.facebook.com/GenerationsWorkingTogether

Twitter <https://twitter.com/#!/GenerationsWT>

You Tube <http://www.youtube.com/user/GenerationsWT>

Date of next meeting: Monday 27th August 2012, 1.30pm – 4pm, Cromarty - Venue TBC