

Meeting Report – Orkney Intergenerational Network

Date: 18th April 2012

Venue: Voluntary Action Orkney, Kirkwall

Attending: Alison Clyde (Generations Working Together (GWT)), Fraser Devine (Voluntary Action Orkney/GWT Local Coordinator), Kerry Spence (Orkney Council), Linsey Drever (Adult Befriending Service Coordinator), John Clancy (Adult Befriending Support Worker) & Ruth Ross (Police)

Apologies: Jeremy Richardson (The Blide Trust) & Gary Amos (Library and Archive Manager)

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. Fraser Devine is our local coordinator for this network

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 Kerry when ready

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

Training for Trainers course - Thursday 19th April, Voluntary Action, Orkney, 10 – 4.30pm

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

General discussion & feedback

- Barriers to working in sheltered housing – Linsey agreed to write up barriers and how her project has moved on (families now run events every 2 weeks). Alison to email Linsey with existing case study for Linsey to update
- Kerry agreed to write up a case study for the place names project
- Alison/Fraser to contact alcohol project team & falls prevention team re examples of other Scottish case studies
- Kerry to contact education and maybe organise training for teachers, raising awareness of the benefits of Intergenerational working linking with Curriculum for Excellence
- Local network members discussed organising an intergenerational event for ‘Making a Difference Day’ in October. To be placed on next agenda in September
- Members in attendance agreed to spread the word regarding the network and raise awareness of the benefits of intergenerational working in the community.
- It was agreed that Alison would visit Orkney twice a year for local network meetings and that other meetings & events organised for the network would be led by Fraser our local coordinator.
- Alison to try and meet up with some councillors during her next visit to promote the Guidelines document.

Information on the following topics was circulated:

Go for Gold Challenge, European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (2012), 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: Thursday 27th September, 10.30am – 12.30pm in the Voluntary Action Orkney, Anchor Building, 6 Bridge St, Kirkwall, KW15 1HR