

Edinburgh & West Lothian Network Meeting

Date: 1st September 2017 Venue: Cyrenians, Bathgate

In attendance: Lisa Haggerty (Community Action Blackburn), Robin Lever, Ken Brown (Livingston Parish Church), Cat Young (NHS Lothian), Richard Fish (Cyrenians OPAL), Emma Watson (Carers of West Lothian), Cllr Moira Shemilt, Cllr Harry Cartmill & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Katrina Hamilton (Trust Housing), Joanna Anderson (Planning Economic Dev & Regeneration), Cllr Andrew McGuire, Cllr John McGinty & Aileen Carson (Horizon Housing Association)

GWT update:

United Nations International Day of Older Persons and **Grandparent's Day** both take place on the 1st of October. This year we are looking to share stories, memories and photos with grandparents as part of our campaign to challenge stereotypes and ageism. Please send us photos with/of your grandparents with a short story about their life or how they have helped/supported you. It doesn't need to be only a biological grandparent, it can be anyone who has played a role as a grandparent in your life including from intergenerational projects. You can send the photos and stories to our Facebook messenger or e-mail our communications intern Kate at kate@generationsworkingtogether.org

Channel 4 documentary (1&2nd Aug 2017) - #oldpeopleshomes4yo

Pre-schoolers share their classroom with pensioners for six weeks. What impact does this intergenerational experiment have on the health and happiness of the older group? If you missed #OldPeoplesHome4yo, you can still catch up here @Channel4.
<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/old-peoples-home-for-4-year-olds>

GWT has successfully secured funding to recruit a full time IG Development Officer for Perth & Kinross who will work closely in two schools, Perth Grammar School and The Community School of Auchterarder focusing on raising attainment levels for literacy and numeracy. Schools have contributed to this post through their Pupil Equity Funding (PEF). Other funders include Voluntary Action Fund and The Gannochy Trust. PEF is an individual fund given to schools to help increase attainment in literacy and numeracy

Alison explained the relationship between GWT and the Education Department in Perth & Kinross. The Head of **Education** has fully backed intergenerational work asking all schools (Primary & Secondary) to connect with older people, creating intergenerational projects. Schools have also been asked to connect with local care homes.

Results and resources from the project will be shared with other schools across Scotland.

GWT is keen to talk with schools in other areas that would be interested in developing intergenerational opportunities with a specific focus on raising attainment around numeracy and literacy in the next academic year.

Year of Young People 2018 aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally.

Objectives

- Provide a platform for young people to have their views heard and acted upon
- Showcase the amazing talents of young people through events and media
- **Develop better understanding, co-operation and respect between generations**
- Recognise the impact of teachers, youth workers and other supporting adults on young people's lives
- Provide opportunities for young people to express themselves through culture, sport and other activities

<http://yoyp2018.scot/>

GWT Conference - Wednesday 7th March 2018, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers (CPD Accredited)

Please check out the GWT website for more details:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/training/>

International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning (ICIL) – 20 students participated in the first online training course, which GWT delivered in partnership with University of Granada, Spain. The course has been a big success and the tutors are now busy reviewing feedback and making improvements to the materials. GWT plan to run the 6-week course starting on Tuesday 7th November and finishing on Monday 18th December 2017. There will be an approximate cost of £100 per person for the course, which takes approximately 50 hours to complete. The course includes tutor support. Further details will be available around September time.

Voting members

GWT became a charity two years ago and is now a membership organisation. Each network has been allocated two places for members to come along and vote on important GWT issues at the annual AGM. Robin lever is happy to be the voting member for West Lothian Network the other space will be offered to the new coordinator. The AGM will be held during the lunchtime slot at our conference on the 7th March 2018 in Glasgow.

Research Partnership Invitation: School-Based Intergenerational Engagement – see handout Louise connecting with 2-3 West Lothian Primary Schools. Lisa is going to contact Louise to find out which schools are getting involved.

Network coordinator vacancy – Cat Young would be interested in hearing more about the coordinator post. Alison to get in touch with further details.

GWT Conference - date and venue confirmed – Wednesday 7th March 2018, Technology & Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

Isolation & Loneliness

The Scottish Government has committed to producing a National Strategy to tackle social Isolation and Loneliness (Scottish Government) – a draft strategy consultation is due out shortly.

Tools for measuring isolation and loneliness

Alison mentioned a toolkit that projects can use to measure the impact their projects have on reducing isolation and loneliness. There are four scales to choose from including both positive and

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negative wording. The Befriending project has used one of the loneliness measurement scales however the questions didn't really work for them. The Rickter scale could also be used in conjunction with the loneliness measurement tool.

<http://www.socialimpactscotland.org.uk/understanding-social-impact/methods-and-tools/the-rickter-scale/>

Sharing and networking

- Ken reported that he was involved in a community asset transfer of the Carmondean Community Centre, which only had a 33% occupancy rate. Ken mentioned that they were keen if it went through to develop a well-being hub, a function area and possibly a community café.
- Lisa is trying to create more opportunities for older people to go into primary schools to develop intergenerational connections
- Cllr Moira Shemilt would be interested in fellow councillors hearing more about the work of GWT with other local authority areas (Perth & Kinross & Fife). Moira and Harry will discuss with council. Alison offered to come along and give a presentation to the full council.
- Cllr Moira Shemilt mentioned that she would now after today's meeting consider in her charity work looking to add criteria into the job description of a new officer to include intergenerational work.
- Alison to contact Georgia Artus to investigate the coordinator role further

Meetings for 2018:

- Thursday 22nd February 2018, 10:00am - 12:00pm at LifeCare Edinburgh, 2 Cheyne Street, Edinburgh, EH4 1JB
- Monday 4th June 2018, 10am – 12noon, The Open Door, 420 Morningside Road, Edinburgh, EH10 5HY
- October 2018 back in West Lothian – venue and date TBC