



## **Intergenerational Forum: Intergenerational England Report Launch June 2025 Forum summary**

### **Quick recap**

The meeting focused on Intergenerational England's work connecting generations and promoting intergenerational approaches across various sectors including housing, health, and workforce. The organization presented their campaign "Talking Generations" and outlined key principles and action areas for building a more intergenerational society, while highlighting research on the benefits of intergenerational mixing. The discussion covered practical strategies for promoting intergenerational engagement, addressing various challenges such as funding limitations and safeguarding concerns, and explored future plans for collaboration and research in this field.

### **Summary**

#### **Intergenerational England: Building Connections**

The presentation discusses the work of Intergenerational England, an organization focused on connecting generations and promoting intergenerational approaches. Charlotte and Emily outline the organization's origins, core principles, and key focus areas including housing, health, and workforce. They highlight research showing the benefits of intergenerational mixing and present six main areas of action, including leading together across generations, investing in connection, and reframing age. The speakers propose five concrete actions to build a more intergenerational society, such as championing an intergenerational bill in Parliament, launching a national fund, and embedding intergenerational thinking in healthcare and housing design. They emphasize the importance of starting local conversations to promote this approach.

#### **Intergenerational Conversations Campaign Launch**

Emily and Charlotte present their campaign "Talking Generations," which aims to challenge the status quo through intergenerational conversations. They show a video highlighting the concept of an intergenerational England, emphasizing inclusion and unity across all generations. The presenters then introduce three discussion questions for breakout groups, focusing on the meaning of intergenerational connections, barriers to connecting generations, and commitments to embed intergenerational thinking more deeply in organizations and communities.

### **Intergenerational Engagement Strategies Discussion**

The group discusses various strategies for promoting intergenerational engagement and addressing barriers. Oliver suggests creating stickers, banners, and organizing events like soup nights or coffee mornings to raise awareness and build community strength. Charlie reports on their group's discussion, highlighting challenges such as funding limitations, safeguarding issues, transportation barriers, and age-segregated activities. The group also explores potential solutions, including embedding intergenerational thinking in existing practices, considering all age groups in project planning, and using activities like music, exercise, art, and food to bring diverse groups together.

### **Intergenerational Work Challenges and Solutions**

The group discusses various challenges and opportunities in intergenerational work. Funding is identified as a major issue, with participants highlighting the need for sustainable, long-term support beyond short-term project funding. The importance of intersectionality in intergenerational work is emphasized, recognizing that participants bring diverse identities and experiences. Other challenges mentioned include safeguarding, staffing shortages in schools and care homes, and transportation issues. Participants also share ideas for spreading awareness about intergenerational work, such as presentations, advisory groups, and integrating it into activities like forest schooling and dance groups.

### **Intergenerational Practices Research Findings**

Emily and Charlotte present findings from their research on intergenerational practices, highlighting common themes such as funding issues and safeguarding considerations. They discuss their work on developing concepts and definitions of intergenerational activities, including a sliding scale of engagement. Linda raises the challenge of connecting schools with communities, and Charlotte mentions ongoing work with Ofsted to embed intergenerational learning in the curriculum. Peter emphasizes the importance of long-term thinking and addressing larger societal issues through intergenerational programs. The group discusses future plans for collaboration and meetings.