

Board Report
Go Deep Board meeting
August 2025



Summary of meetings from September 2024- 31st August 2025

External Activities

This year we continued as partners in the Just Transitions Community Project, hosted by NESCAN and funded by the Scottish Government. We worked in collaboration with NESCAN staff until June 2025 when the wider JTCProject came to an end.

Collaborative work with NESCAN (Aberdeen city and Aberdeenshire) included:

- Work with NESCAN community worker to support further community involvement to build on learning from the Place plan developed last year in Banchory, Aberdeenshire.
- Delivery of a day long workshop at the first Envirolution event in Aberdeen.
- Activities with YAHYAS (young adults helping young asylum seekers) sharing Go Deep activities to develop confidence and skills in the the young people and the volunteers involved across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. This will continue after the end of the NESCAN project and will be funded by applications for funding made by Yahoos team.
- Participation in the Just Transition Community Project partnership, meetings, planning, and learning processes including collaboration with Aberdeen University researchers.
- Collaboration with Open Source (a partner in the project) to deliver a training for facilitators of deliberative processes, one in Aberdeen and one in Moray with TSI Moray
- A full Go Deep game took place in Seaton (Aberdeen)
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- Delivered activities as part of the team participating the first Aberdeen Envirolution, run by a team from Manchester.

Other Go Deep External Activities

- A Go Deep event took place in collaboration with Fife Climate Action Network for Climate Action Week in Kirkcaldy.
- A very successful event took place in Smethwick urban room in collaboration with a local community organisation who obtained funding to host us. We continue support them to take their learning further.
- Sharing of Go Deep activities with other community groups from across UK to spread our learning and new initiatives.
- Continue collaboration with European Go Deep partners
- Continue to grow the collaboration with YAHYAS building on the success of the work so far and keep building facilitation and leadership skills among the young participants.
- Collaborate with YAHYAS to extend activities to the many young asylum seekers in Peterhead (Aberdeenshire) and to others in the hotel system.

Internal activities

- Go Deep chair person is Elaine Boyd with trustees Becs Barker, Kim Ward joining her. Patricia Black continues to work in Aberdeen and elsewhere on behalf of the trustees.
- Completed the 3rd and final year of the partnership with NESCAN
- Our website has been constructed and launched
- We have applied to various funders but so far have been unsuccessful
- Developing our teamwork and possibilities for collaboration

We continue to

- Search for funding that will allow us to continue working in a collaborative and collective way.
- Work creatively to ensure that people with all kinds of lived experiences can be a meaningful part of a Go Deep Scotland Network.

Reflections:

- We are learning that Go deep is a very flexible set of tools and can enable deep and meaningful community and personal connection and promote change.
- We have a presence in various community forums and continue to promote Go Deep methods as a way to move beyond polarised viewpoints to a deeper understanding of our shared humanity and find this particularly useful when working with people around migration.
- However, the outcomes cannot be predicted or easily measured. Our belief is that working at a deeper level can move us all towards more connection across our differences and promote deeper societal changes.

- We want to continue being a team with many diverse identities that expands and changes over time creating a growing, loose network that sustains and supports each other. This causes difficulties in the current climate where difference is feared and many people are scared to be themselves.
- We appreciate the input from our partners and collaborators and continue to reach out to create a wider more diverse network