

MEET THE MENTORS

Andy McBain, NatWest

Why do you think the BCO is important?

Why did you join?

I joined the BCO in 2010. The BCO was smaller back then but the big draw was the amazing networking and being able to share outside perspectives and best practice with my direct work colleagues.

Today, the BCO is a lot bigger but the draw and the opportunities for networking, learning, sharing, collaborating and having fun have also got wider, more inclusive and better organised than 2010!

For today's next generation of property and CRE experts it is hugely important to be able to form your personal 'boardroom' from whom you can have great discussion and conversations to support your careers, ambitions and professional scenarios so you gather new perspectives to help you navigate forwards. Having a coach or a mentor outside of your traditional work network can be very positive.

What made you want to become a mentor?

I joined the BCO in 2010 and joined the BCO Scotland committee in 2011 and was asked to look at forming the NextGen Scotland which didn't exist. We had our first meeting with three people! Today there are over 110 members and across Scotland and the UK the NextGen community has a positive influence across research, seminars, events and tours. I started my career as an apprentice and you totally relied on learning from others and without the guidance from coaches, mentors and other experts my career to date wouldn't have been so fulfilling and fun.

What has been your biggest achievement as a mentor?

I've mentored and coached across apprentices, graduates and in sport and seeing anyone find their own way, to find their success and have fun on the journey is very rewarding.



What are you most proud of in your career?

With my BCO hat on; I've really enjoyed seeing NextGen grow across the UK and especially in Scotland where over the last 15 years it has been amazing to witness and support each other and grow the BCO NextGen community.

I'm now very fortunate to be part of the BCO Presidential team and supporting NextGen over the next few years continues to be a key priority.

What is the most useful piece of advice you've received during your career?

Be yourself and find your own leadership style.

To meet our other mentors or find out more about how to apply to the Mentoring Programme, visit the [BCO Website](#)