

## Biography

### Jennifer Irvine - Caithness

#### Background

Based in Wick, Jennifer Irvine holds the position of Regional Development Officer for Business Gateway in Caithness. Prior to joining Business Gateway Jennifer spent 13 years as the Caithness Fund Development Adviser for the Highland Council and then four years as a Business Adviser at Highland Opportunity Ltd, so she is well versed in giving business advice! In her earlier career Jennifer spend a number of years with the Northern Constabulary, where she was employed in the Police Control Rooms in Wick and Stromness, Orkney.

#### The role of Regional Development Officer

Jennifer joined Business Gateway as a Regional Development Officer in 2009. The role was a natural choice for her as she had such extensive experience in similar roles and was keen to continue supporting young businesses in the Caithness area.

#### Areas of expertise

Jennifer has a good grounding in all areas of business but considers herself to be an expert in loan fund management. This experience enables her to knowledgeably advise clients on their loan fund applications. Jennifer also holds the position of Aftercare Adviser for The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust and this is a role which perfectly complements her position at Business Gateway.

#### Jennifer's top business resource

Jennifer is a member of the Caithness Chamber of Commerce which, she says, "*offers great networking opportunities within the local business community*". She also supports a number of other local organisations, such as the Caithness Community Website ([www.caithness.org](http://www.caithness.org)) as "*they are a great source of really useful local information*".