

**REPORT TO: AUDIT & PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON
27 OCTOBER 2010**

SUBJECT: MORAY PARENTING PLAN

BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The report was requested by Committee to allow scrutiny of the Moray Parenting Plan.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section J (10) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the scrutiny of policies of the Council and their effectiveness in meeting the Action Plans of the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Committee are asked to scrutinise and note the Moray Parenting Plan.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The original Moray Parenting Strategy was considered by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) in its inspection of services to protect children and young people in Moray that reported in February 2009.
- 3.2 The Strategy was subject to three criticisms:-
 - (i) accommodation available which could be developed to deliver parenting programmes in the community;
 - (ii) current parenting strategy in terms of effectiveness and delivery; and
 - (iii) parenting programmes delivered by single agencies that are not reflected in the strategy.
- 3.3 As a consequence the Moray Parenting Steering Group (a multiagency body consisting of Council, Health & Voluntary Sector representatives) has developed a new Moray Parenting Plan under the auspices of the SMARTER Theme Group of the Community Planning Partnership and as part of the Moray HMIE Action Plan.
- 3.4 The Plan was 'signed-off' by the Theme Group at its meeting on 13 October 2010. [Copy attached at **APPENDIX 1**]
- 3.5 The Single Outcome Agreement National Outcome 8 'to improve the life chances for children, young people and families at risk' and the Local Outcome 'child protection services in Moray will improve' incorporate the developments in the new Parenting Plan.
- 3.6 A target of this Local Outcome is a 'positive outcome on child protection re-inspection' and in a follow-through inspection of services by HMIE published on 30 September 2010 the report noted that 'overall, good progress had been

made in responding to the main points for action in the original inspection report'.

- 3.7 The 2010-12 Moray Parenting Plan is available on the Members' Portal. It seeks to combine Moraywide Improvement Objectives to be managed by the Parenting Steering Group and actions that are the responsibility of Locality Management Groups at Area School Group (ASG) level.
- 3.8 The Improvement Objectives are set-out below. The ASG actions relate to Improvement Objective 5.
- (i) Assess the use made of 'universal pre-5 services' by families where children are vulnerable (as defined by child protection registration, looked-after or involved with social work on a voluntary basis).
 - (ii) Complete a directory of community provision where vulnerable pre-5 children and their families can have their needs assessed and be worked with.
 - (iii) In conjunction with LMGs establish clarity as to availability of parenting support in each locality including access arrangements.
 - (iv) Oversee and ensure the delivery of targeted parenting training programmes for staff.
 - (v) Implement locally agreed parenting actions through Locality Management Groups (as described in the 2010/12 Integrated Children's Services Plan)
 - (vi) Fully analyse the information collected through the audit of local provision.
- 3.9 A Business Planning Cycle that includes a review of the Improvement Objectives (commencing November 2010) can be found in Section 12 of the Parenting Plan. Work is ongoing in relation to the Improvement Objectives.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- (a) **Single Outcome Agreement/ Service Improvement Plan**
The relationship of the Moray Parenting Plan to the Single Outcome Agreement is referred to in Sections 3.5 & 3.6 of this report. The Service Improvement Plan for the Children & Families Division of the Community Services Department seeks, amongst other objectives, to 'improve collaborative working'. This objective includes an action to 'establish and implement a new Parenting Plan'.
- (b) **Policy and Legal**
There are no policy & legal issues associated with this report.
- (c) **Financial implications**
There are no financial implications relating to this report.

(d) Risk Implications

The risks associated with not establishing and implementing a parenting plan are related to two key Local Outcomes in the Single Outcome Agreement ie. 'more young children in Moray will thrive' and 'life chances for children, young people and families at risk will improve'.

(e) Staffing Implications

This report has no such implications.

(f) Property

This report has no such implications.

(g) Equalities

The Moray Parenting Plan has not been equalities impact assessed and this matter will be addressed at the next meeting of the Moray Parenting Steering Group. The screening process should be carried out in partnership with other agencies given the multiagency nature of the Parenting Plan.

(h) Consultations

The multiagency Moray Parenting Group has been involved in preparing the plan and it has been considered for implementation by the SMARTER Theme Group of the Community Planning Partnership

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The Moray Parenting Plan 2010-12 seeks to improve outcomes for children and families in Moray by targeting improvements to parenting services.

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Background Papers: HB766693
Ref: HB844294