

## **THE MORAY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTE OF MEETING OF SAFER AND STRONGER STRATEGIC GROUP**

**THURSDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2008**

**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors E McGillivray, M McConnachie, D Ross, R Shepherd, D Stewart, L Tait, NHS Grampian and Superintendent A Smailes, Grampian Police

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

B Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager, A Jamieson, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator, Sergeant A Moar, Partnership Development Officer, R Anderson, Community Planning Officer, G Holland, Transportation Manager, I Bruce, Environmental Protection Manager, J Ferguson, Community Planning & Development Manager, J Stewart, Chief Housing Officer, P Fidgett, Project Development Officer and C Carswell, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

#### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Councillor Wright.

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Dave Thewliss, Grampian Fire & Rescue.

#### **1. MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 21 AUGUST 2008**

Councillor Stewart proposed, seconded by Superintendent Smailes that the minute was a true record of the previous meeting.

Councillor McGillivray advised that he would like to see progress sheets from co-ordinating groups as this would enable everyone to keep abreast of what was happening in all areas.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that there were interviews for a warden at the end of the month and the contracts have been resolved.

#### **2. ACTIONS FROM COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD MEETING DATED 30 OCTOBER 2008 – PROTOCOL FOR ADDRESSING CROSS CUTTING ISSUES**

Following consideration the group noted the protocol for addressing cross cutting issues.

### 3. SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Community Planning & Development Manager seeking to establish a co-ordinating group to implement and co-ordinate the Social Inclusion Strategy and the development of the Fairer Scotland Fund.

Councillor McGillivray advised that this group have the responsibility for the Fairer Scotland Fund and taking forward the Social Inclusion Strategy. The group agreed that John Ferguson would write to all organisations to ask for representatives to sit on the co-ordinating group.

Further to a question from Councillor Stewart, the Community Planning & Development Manager advised that Moray would receive £1.2 million over 3 years and that 3 members of staff would be employed.

Following consideration the group agreed:-

- (i) to take responsibility for overseeing and promoting the Social Inclusion Strategy;
- (ii) to take responsibility for the development of the Fairer Scotland Fund on behalf of the partnership; and
- (iii) to establish a co-ordinating group to take forward the Social Inclusion Strategy and the Fairer Scotland Fund.

### 4. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2008-09 – QUARTER 1 UPDATES

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager providing the group with an update of performance against the Single Outcome Agreement Performance Indicators relating to the Safer & Stronger theme and advising the group on the progress made against the Single Outcome Agreement required actions relating to the Safer & Stronger theme.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that this was the first time monitoring had been done and had been unsure how the performance indicators would influence the actions. She advised that this was a starting point on where the group are, what the group need to do and was a reminder of what the group were committed to. She further advised that during the next Single Outcome Agreement there was a need to have a tree structure and performance indicators in place to support any changes to actions.

Superintendent Smailes advised that he felt contextual information required to be seen in order that the performance indicators were more easily understood and that this would require a lot of work.

The Project Development Officer advised that he could mirror what symbols were used in committees and could indicate whether this was a positive or

negative. He also confirmed that colour indicators could be displayed on the projection screen during the meeting.

The Chief Housing Officer advised that some of the figures were on an annual basis and were meaningless when reported quarterly.

Following a question from Councillor Ross regarding what was in place instead of Pass Plus as he felt that road safety was still a priority for the Council, Superintendent Smailes advised that training and targeted measures have been put in place. The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator advised that the Fire, Ambulance, Police go into areas to target those drivers which give them concern and talk to the drivers.

Further to a question from Councillor Ross regarding the fact that there was no update for young people supported within the community, the Project Development Officer advised that no-one had come back from the department regarding this information and he would investigate the same.

Following consideration the Group agreed to note the:-

- (i) update of performance regarding the performance indicators relating to the Safer & Stronger theme, as laid down in the Single Outcome Agreement 2008/09; and
- (ii) progress made against the required actions relating to the Safer & Stronger themes, as laid down in the Single Outcome Agreement 2008/09.

## **5. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENTS - GUIDANCE**

There was submitted a copy of the Single Outcome Agreements for the information of the group.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that the Community Planning Board have a special meeting arranged on the 27<sup>th</sup> November and the pace of development was extremely quick and some theme groups may not have an opportunity to have an input and for this she apologised. Following the meeting there would be draft priorities drawn up and a reduction in the number of outcomes and performance indicators to meet with the targets.

Following consideration the group agreed to note the Single Outcome Agreement Guidance.

## **6. SAFER STRATEGY 2008-2011 (DRAFT)**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager inviting the group to comment on the draft Safer Strategy 2008-11.

Councillor McGillivray advised that he would like to see the Local Housing Strategy Group and Homelessness Strategy Group shown on the diagram on page 4 of the report. Councillor Ross advised that he felt that this would not be useful and thought that the diagram was good as it was.

Following discussion, the Group agreed the draft Safer Strategy 2008-11 and that a separate page be drawn up to show the wider picture and contacts for the groups.

## **7. NORTH EAST SCOTLAND ROAD CASUALTY REDUCTION STRATEGY - CONSULTATION**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the Group to comment on the Draft Road Safety Casualty Reduction Strategy for North East Scotland as part of the current consultation.

The Transportation Manager advised that he sat on the North East group and in 1996 there was good collaboration on road safety but links have weakened over the years and this was a good initiation for joint working. He further advised that he also represents HITRANS on the group.

Following a question from Liz Tait, the Transportation Manager advised that NHS Grampian have been invited on to the HITRANS group but have never sent a representative.

Further to a question from Councillor Ross as to why 1994-1998 was chosen, the Transportation Manager advised that these dates were chosen nationally and were not local targets.

Following consideration, the Group agreed to note the draft Road Casualty Reduction Strategy for the North East of Scotland.

## **8. MORAY PUBLIC SPACE CCTV SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager requesting that the group consider a budget allocation for 2010/11 to support the recommendation made to the Moray Council CCTV Working Party on the 12 June 2008 on developing the Moray Public Space CCTV system in areas covered by the original installation and not covered by the recent improvement project.

Councillor McGillivray questioned whether CCTV was a community planning tool or a police tool and was happy to support the development but wondered whether it fitted in to the Safer & Stronger Strategy Group. Superintendent Smailes advised that historically the CCTV system has been held in the Police

office as the cost to change this would be enormous but in other areas the CCTV system is held in a separate building. He further advised that Dr Grays had a weakness as it was an escape route and an area for violence.

Further to a question from Councillor McConnachie, Superintendent Smailes advised that CCTV could also be used for road safety measures.

Further to a question from Councillor Shepherd regarding the costs involved in Gordon Street, the Project Development Officer advised that the costs were regarding the infrastructure for moving the pole, fibres, etc.

Councillor Ross asked whether Cooper Park had been looked at for CCTV and Superintendent Smailes advised that it was such a vast area and that there was CCTV at the Library.

Councillor Ross, seconded by Superintendent Smailes, moved to support the allocation of budget in 2010/11 to develop the system.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that payment of CCTV rests with the Council and this had been set up through the quality of life budget as there was a need to maintain the CCTV system. She advised that the CCTV Working Party had put the issue to this Group so that when the Council consider their budget this could be included as a priority.

Councillor Wright advised that the recommendation regarding the budget was not well worded and asked if, on agreement of Police evidence, this could be seen as a budget pressure and could come through the budget process as this group does not have the money.

Following consideration, the Group agreed:-

- (i) to support the development of the Moray Public Space CCTV system; and
- (ii) to support the allocation of Moray Council budget in 2010/11 to develop the system as outlined in the report.

## **9. TACKLING OF DOG FOULING**

An oral update was given by the Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator regarding the issue of tackling dog fouling. He advised that he had contacted the 32 authorities and he had received 21 replies. Out of the 21 replies, 19 authorities allowed wardens to issue fixed penalties and out of these 17 authorities gave a warning before issuing fixed penalties. He further advised that there had to be two witnesses before a fixed penalty could be issued. Therefore Moray was in line with other authorities as there had to be collaboration with another person before a fixed penalty was issued.

Councillor Ross advised that he saw the three fixed penalties issued as a pitiful number and the Environmental Protection Manager advised that the

public need to be encouraged through education and that there have been an increased number of outlets where dog waste bags are given out.

The Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator advised that the wardens do a lot of campaigns and that there was a feeling of beginning to win the battle although he would agree that there was still a long way to go.

Following consideration the Group agreed to continue with educating the public.

### **10. HATE INCIDENT MONITORING FORM**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the group to adopt the Hate Incident Monitoring Form but with consideration of the recommended points contained in the report.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that this form had been expanded to include other disabilities not focusing purely on race. Superintendent Smailes advised that if there was an allegation then the forms had to be completed and that most were low level.

The Chief Housing Officer suggested that a consultation should take place with the staff on how they use these forms as it needed to be fit for the purpose of those using it at ground level.

Following consideration, the Group agreed that a consultation takes place with those using the form and take back information regarding the perception of the form and to re-look at the word "Hate".

### **11. ACTION SHEET FOR THE COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER 2008**

There was submitted an action sheet from the Community Planning Board Meeting on Thursday 30 October 2008.

Following consideration, the Group agreed to note the action sheet.

### **12. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

Sergeant Adrian Moar introduced himself as the new Partnership Development Officer. He advised the group that there had been a reduction in the monies received from the Scottish Government to £6,600 for the Safer Streets Initiative and that it must be match funded. Therefore, with the groups approval, it had been decided that 4 taxi marshals be appointed to work throughout December including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Hogmanay. Posters have been provided by the Fire Service and cards would be put into licensed premises. If members of public came into the area, they would receive a text message to their mobile phone reminding them of the scheme. Due to the budget constraints it had been agreed not to run buses this year since there had not been a high take up of these last year. There

would also be a youth event at Joannas for third year pupils of all secondary schools.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that the deadline for submission to the Scottish Government of proposals was the 21<sup>st</sup> November with the initiative beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008. Match funding was being provided through existing Safer initiatives to ensure receipt of the Scottish Government allocation.

Further to consideration, the group agreed with the initiative.

Councillor McGillivray advised that Harry Torry would be writing to the group regarding his concerns on litter and the Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that if this was an operational issue this could be picked up by the Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator and the Environmental Protection Manager to work together and bring a proposal back to this group. She further advised that this could then be rolled out to the Smarter Strategic Group in order to get it out to schools.