

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

**TUESDAY 1 MARCH 2011**

**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

## **PRESENT**

Councillors S. Cree (Substituting for Councillor E. McGillivray), M. McConachie, R. Shepherd and D. Stewart, Rae Cameron (Grampian Fire & Rescue), Katie Ferguson (Youth Council), Helen Milnes (Voluntary Sector Partnership Moray), Mark Cooper (Grampian Police) and Sean Coady (Substituting for Liz Tait) (NHS).

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager, Director of Community Services, Head of Children & Families, Acting Head of Educational Support, Housing Strategy & Development Manager, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator, Local Authority Liaison Officer, Performance and Strategy Manager (Social Work), Child Protection Performance Improvement Officer, Miss E Armit, Project Officer and Mr D. Westmacott, Acting Committee Service Officer as Clerk to the meeting.

## **APOLOGIES**

Councillors E. McGillivray and D. Ross, Alastair Keddie (The Moray Council) and Liz Tait (NHS Grampian).

### **1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

In the absence of a Chair, Councillor Shepherd agreed to take the position of Chair. There being no-one otherwise minded Councillor Shepherd took the position of Chair.

### **2. MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 12 OCTOBER 2010**

The minute of 12 October 2010 was submitted and approved as an accurate record.

### **3. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2010/11 – QUARTER 2 MONITORING STATEMENTS**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager providing the Group with an update against the Single Outcome Agreement milestones relating to the Safer & Stronger theme as at the end of September 2010.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised the Group that comments from Quarter 3 had been incorporated into the report.

Following consideration the Group agreed to:-

- (i) note the performance against the key actions and the overall progress made against each local outcome;
- (ii) note the progress against the milestones due to be completed by September 2010, for which the Safer and Stronger Group is responsible; and
- (iii) identify to the Community Planning Board resource issues which would prevent delivery of any key actions.

#### **4. STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN (SHIP)**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Housing and Property presenting the Council's Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2011-16, which was submitted to the Scottish Government on 10 December 2010.

Following consideration the Group agreed to note:-

- (i) the Strategic Housing Investment Plan submitted to the Scottish Government;
- (ii) that further reports will be presented to the on the SHIP, as required; and
- (iii) that details of the Council's Affordable Housing Investment (AHIP) allocation for 2011/12 will be presented at a future meeting.

#### **5. ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC PROTECTION FORUM IN MORAY**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services remitting the Group the task of agreeing the proposed remit and membership of the Public Protection Forum as set out in paragraph 4.4 of this report.

The Director of Community Services clarified that, in terms of the organisation chart set out in appendix 1, the although the Public Protection Forum was at a higher hierarchy level, the span of control did not cover the groups mentioned in the report. He also advised that the Forum would report back on an "as and when required" basis.

Following consideration the Strategic Group approved the proposed remit and membership of the Public Protection Forum as set out in paragraph 4.4 of the report and noted that the Public Protection Forum would report back on an "as and when required" basis.

#### **6. GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD (GIRFEC)**

There was submitted a report by the Performance and Strategy Manager appraising the Group on developments with regard to Moray's implementation of the national GIRFEC programme; updating the Group on progress made

towards the outcomes in Moray's Single Outcome Agreement; and seeking the endorsement of the Group for the approach being taken to address critical issues arising from implementation to date.

Following consideration the Group:-

- (i) noted developments with regard to Moray's implementation of the national GIRFEC programme; and
- (ii) endorsed the actions proposed in relation to issues raised which could potentially be barriers to progress in Moray set out in paragraph 5 of the report.

## **7. CHILD PROTECTION SUB COMMITTEE**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Children & Families and Criminal Justice Services providing background information on the structure of child protection in Moray following the establishment of the Moray Child Protection Sub Committee.

Following consideration the Group noted the structure for the management of Child Protection in Moray associated with the Sub Committee.

## **8. COMMUNITY SAFETY – PROGRESS AGAINST PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ACTIVITY UNDETAKE FOR PERIOD OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2010**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager providing the Group with an update of performance against Community Safety performance indicators and providing the Group with an update of activity undertaken by the four Community Safety Groups in relation to tackling Community Safety priorities.

Rae Cameron stated that he was currently reviewing the Business Plan in relation to changes in Grampian Fire & Rescue Service risk areas. Rae also advised that Grampian Fire & Rescue Service would provide funding for transportation to the "Safe Drive, Stay Alive" event for 2011/12, however there were no guarantees on funding for the 2013/14 event.

Following consideration the Group noted the performance against Community Safety performance indicators and also noted the activity undertaken in relation to Community Safety.

## **9. COMPLETE RESEARCH ON DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON EQUALITY GROUP AND ANY IMPACT ON DISADVANTAGE**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager updating the group on progress with research on demographic information on equality groups and any impact on disadvantage.

## **10. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT REPORT – PROMOTING POSITIVE OUTCOMES: WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the Group to consider the recently published Scottish Government Report 'Promoting Positive Outcomes – Working Together to Prevent Antisocial Behaviour in Scotland' Annual Report to Scottish Parliament and how The Moray Council is addressing the aims and recommendations within the publication both nationally and locally.

Following consideration the Group noted:-

- (i) the new national approach being promoted and areas of good practice highlighted within the Promoting Positive Outcomes – Annual Report; and
- (ii) the measures The Moray Council have instigated since the introduction of the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 to prevent antisocial behaviour.

## **11. BEST VALUE REPORT ON GRAMPIAN POLICE AND GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD**

In reference to the Best Value Report on Grampian Police and Grampian Joint Police Board, the Group noted Superintendent Mark Cooper's oral update on the findings of the report.

## **12. SAFER STREETS CAMPAIGN**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager highlighting the actions taken in relation to the Safer Streets Campaign which took place between 3 December 2010 and 1 January 2011.

The Group noted that funding for the campaign from the Scottish Government was not yet known but an application for funding had been submitted to the Moray Alcohol & Drug Partnership.

Following consideration the Group noted the actions taken by the campaign to reduce alcohol fuelled street disorder.

## **13. GREEN DOG WALKER INITIATIVE - EVALUATION**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the Group to note the results of the evaluation undertaken for the Green Dog Walkers (GDW) scheme for the first six months and the noted improvements to date.

Following consideration the Group agreed to:-

- (i) note the results of the evaluation over the first six month pilot period of the Green Dog Walker scheme;
- (ii) note the progress made to date in tackling dog fouling in Moray;
- (iii) note the positive evaluation in Moray and agreed to continue the scheme; and
- (iv) seek funding to continue and expand the Green Dog Walker scheme.

#### **14. SINGLE EQUALITY SCHEME – EASY READ VERSION**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the Group to note the Easy Read version of the Council's Single Equality Scheme and to consider use of this communication method for other documents produced by partners to ensure equality of access to information.

Following consideration the Group agree to:-

- (i) note the Council's Easy to Read version of the Single Equality Scheme; and
- (ii) recommend the easy to read communication method for partner documents to remove communication barriers.

#### **15. A CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE IN SCOTLAND**

In reference to the consultation on the future of the Fire & Rescue Service in Scotland, the Group noted Rae Cameron's oral update on the current status of the consultation and agreed:-

- (i) to submit a report to the meeting of Policy & Resources Committee on 15 March 2011 recommending that the Council submit a response to the consultation;
- (ii) to advise partners that they were to submit responses individually; and
- (iii) that Rae Cameron would circulate the Grampian Fire & Rescue Service's response to the consultation.

#### **16. STATEMENT OF OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

The Group noted the Statement of Outstanding Business.

#### **17. PRE-PLANNED AGENDAS**

The Group agreed to call reports for the following items to the next meeting of the Safer & Stronger Strategic Group on 14 April 2011:-

- Fairer Scotland Fund Evaluation;

- Review of the support of GREC and seek funding for them to deliver required services in Moray if appropriate;
- Annual report on the progress made against suite of performance indicators and outcomes agreed in relation to road accidents in Moray; and
- Evaluation of domestic abuse campaign