

**THE MORAY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTE OF MEETING OF SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP**  
**THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2008**  
**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

**PRESENT**

Councillor J Hamilton (Chair)	The Moray Council
Councillor L Bell	The Moray Council
Councillor J Divers	The Moray Council
Councillor A McKay	The Moray Council
Councillor M Shand	The Moray Council
Hugh Mackie	Grampian Police
Susan Chalmers	Skills Development Scotland
Anne Lindsay	Moray College

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Sean Coady, NHS Grampian.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

John Carney, Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice, Richard Donald, Acting Head of Educational Support Services, John Ferguson, Community Planning & Development Officer and Mrs S Kennedy, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

**1. MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 4 SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Minute of the meeting of the Smarter Strategic Group dated 4 September 2008 was submitted and approved subject to the removal of Councillor Divers name from those present and to amend paragraph 1 to read the Community Planning's new Smarter Strategic Group.

**2. ACTIONS FROM COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD MEETING DATED  
30 OCTOBER 2008**

**(a) PROTOCOL TO ADDRESS CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager inviting the Group to note the Protocol for addressing issues, which cut across more than one of the five Community Planning themes.

During discussion concern was expressed that the protocol does not end up in a bureaucratic nightmare.

Thereafter, the Group agreed to note the report.

### **3. TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ROLE AND REMIT OF THE SMARTER GROUP**

Under reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the Meeting of the Smarter Strategic Theme Group dated 4 September 2008, there was submitted a report by the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice providing more detail and clarification of the role and topics of the Group. The report addressed the issues previously discussed at the Smarter Co-ordinating Group dated 12 November 2008.

During discussion concern was expressed that the national indicators did not include the increase in the percentage of "Scottish graduates in positive destinations or the reduction of the number of working age people with severe literacy and numeracy problems" and it was requested that National Graduate Employees and Adult Literacy be included in the National Indicators and the accompanying agreed action in the same section of the report be also adjusted to suit.

Thereafter, the Smarter Strategic Group agreed:

- (i) to note the progress being made by the Co-ordination Group in seeking to describe more clearly the Terms of Reference, Role and Remit of the Smarter Theme Group and the Co-ordination Group itself, and
- (ii) to suggest to the Smarter Co-ordinating Group on the 17 December 2008 that the National Graduate Employees and Adult Literacy be included in the National Indicators and the accompanying agreed action in the same section of the report be also adjusted to suit.

### **4. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager inviting the Group to note the current Strategic Assessment for the Smarter Theme, which will be used to develop Strategic Priorities for the partner organisations to be included in the Single Outcome Agreement 2009-2010.

Prior to consideration of the report the Chair requested that in future this information be provided in colour.

The Community Planning and Development Manager updated the Group and advised that there had been further development since the agreement of the Single Outcome Agreement and data had been gathered by the Partnership which sets the basis for the setting of priorities.

The Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice advised that through the Smarter Co-ordinating Group he had requested that Senior Officers look at Outcomes 3,4,5 and 8 in anticipation of improving the Single Outcome Agreement. It was further agreed that this information would be submitted to the next meeting of the Smarter Co-ordinating Group on the 17 December 2008.

It was also requested that this Group does not lose sight of other work that has been previously carried out which would have a bearing on the Single Outcome Agreement.

Thereafter, the Group agreed to:

- (i) note the current Strategic Assessment for the Smarter Theme, which will be used to develop strategic priorities for the partner organisations to be included in the Single Outcome Agreement 2009-2010; and
- (ii) note that the ongoing work would initially be reported to the Smarter Co-ordinating Group on the 17 December 2008 alongside other work previously carried out which has a bearing on the Single Outcome Agreement.

## **5. INTEGRATED CHILDREN SERVICES PLAN - CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

The Smarter Strategic Group noted the update from the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice in regard to the draft Integrated Children's Services Plan. It was also noted that the Plan had been circulated for consultation and in light of the feedback received the plan had been amended accordingly. The Group further noted that it was proposed to re-issue the plan to Locality Management Groups with a view to the completed version being submitted to the next meeting of the Smarter Strategic Group on the 12 March 2009.

He also extended his thanks to Wendy Jamieson for all her hard work and help in keeping the plan on track.

## **6. NATIONAL OUTCOMES 3, 4, 5 & 8 AND PREPARATION FOR 2009/10 SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

The Smarter Strategic Group noted that this item had been addressed under Agenda item 5 above.

## **7. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT - MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 1**

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 Smarter theme and also updating the Group on the progress being made against the Single Outcome Agreement Required Actions relating to the Smarter theme.

During discussion a request for more information rather than data was sought with the data being translated and analysed in a more meaningful way.

The Group noted that this was the first attempt at gathering information and a detailed report would be submitted to the next meeting of this Group.

Thereafter, the Group agreed to:

- (i) note the update of performance regarding the Performance Indicators relating to the Smarter theme, as laid down in the Single Outcome Agreement 2008/09; and
- (ii) note the progress being made against the required actions relating to the Smarter Theme as detailed in the Single Outcome Agreement 2008/09.

## **8. 'THESE ARE OUR BAIRNS - A GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS ON BEING A GOOD PARENT' - FORWARD PLANNING**

The Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice advised the Group that the Scottish Government had previously issued a report on the concept of Corporate Parenting. From this report it had emerged that it would be helpful to have a seminar in February/March 09 and Officers had contacted other Local Authorities in this regard.

The Chair advised that he had recently attended a meeting of Cosla's Children and Young Peoples' Committee where a presentation had been given by Sharon McAlees from Inverclyde Council on Corporate Parenting and in his opinion, he felt that it would be beneficial to Moray if she was invited along to give a presentation at the Seminar. The Group further noted that a National Conference on Corporate Parenting would also be taking place in the New Year.

Thereafter, the Group noted that a seminar would take place in February/March 09 and that a special invitation may be extended to Sharon McAlees from Inverclyde Council to provide a presentation at the seminar.

## **9. LOCAL INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT & PLANNING**

The Group noted that consultation on the Local Integrated Assessment & Planning had concluded on 14 November 2008 and the document would be updated to meet the 1 April 09 deadline.

## **10.ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

There was submitted and noted an Action Sheet from the Community Planning Board Meeting dated 30 October 2008.