

THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP

THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2009

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
Hugh Mackie	Grampian Police
Susan Chalmers	Skills Development Scotland
Anne Lindsay	Moray College

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor M Shand and Mr S Coady, NHS Grampian.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs B Mustard, The Corporate Policy Unit Manager, Mr R Anderson, the Community Planning Officer, Mr R Donald, the Acting Head of Educational Support Services, Mr J Carney, the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice and Mrs s Kennedy as Clerk to the meeting.

1. MINUTE OF MEETING DATED

The Minute of the meeting of the Smarter Strategic Group dated 27 November 2008 was submitted and approved.

2. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT MONITORING REPORT (2008/09)

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager inviting the group to consider an analysis of performance in addressing the national and local outcomes over the first year of the SOA 2008/09.

Mrs Mustard, the Corporate Policy Unit Manager updated the group and advised that overall the Smarter Strategic Group had achieved targets of 88% over the last year, with actions being backed up in improvement of performance which bedded in well with the Performance indicators. Information had been easy to access for this theme and overall it had been a good demonstration of effort by the group.

The Chair on behalf of the Group thanked Mrs Mustard for her work and for meeting all the timescales.

Thereafter, the group agreed to:

- (i) approve the analysis of performance against the actions addressing the national and local outcomes over the first year of the SOA;
- (ii) note the current performance against the indicators and that this position will be updated as information becomes available;
- (iii) note the recommendation of improvement in the monitoring of the new SOA 2009/10 based on lessons learned from the conduct of the process during the first year.

3. HMIE JOINT SERVICES FOR CHILDREN INTERIM INSPECTION JUNE 2009

There was submitted a report by the Children Interim Inspection Co-ordinator informing the group of the forth coming Interim Inspection of Joint Services for Children by HMIE and of progress on the HMIE Joint Action Plan.

Mr Carney, the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice updated the group on the current position in regard to the pending follow up visit from HMIE and the progress with the action plan to date

Thereafter, the Group noted the process of the Interim Inspection and the progress made to date on the HMIE Joint Action Plan.

4. CORPORATE PARENTING

There was submitted a report by the Smarter Co-ordinating Group providing the group with an update on the seminar on Corporate Parenting held on Thursday 23 April 2009.

Mr Donald, Head of Educational Support Services advised that it had been a very well attended seminar and that it had been agreed that each member of the Corporate Management Team along with Councillor A McKay would take a Corporate Parenting responsibility for a Looked after Child within Moray. He hoped to be in a position to identify the children at the beginning of July 2009.

The Chair advised that this was an excellent scheme.

Thereafter the Group agreed to note:

- (i) that the Corporate Parenting Seminar took place and was attended by a number of Elected Members and Officers of the Authority;
- (ii) the background to the seminar as set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.5 of the report; and

- (iii) the need for further development of Corporate Parenting within the Authority.

5. SMARTER CO-ORDINATING GROUP

There was submitted a report by the Smarter Co-ordinating Group providing the group with an update on the seminar on Corporate Parenting held on Thursday 23 April 2009.

Mr Donald, Acting Head of Support Services advised the group that he had been appointed as the Chair of the Group and that a report on the work of the group and how it all links into the SOA would be submitted to the next meeting of this group.

During discussion the Group expressed concern about Getting it Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and agreed that a report to look at the future and funding of GIRFEC be submitted to the next meeting of this group.

Thereafter, the Smarter Group agreed:

- (i) to note the update of the work of the Smarter Co-ordinating Group:
- (ii) that Mr Carney, the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice would submit a report to the next meeting of this group on the future and funding of GIRFEC, the work of the Smarter Co-ordinating Group and how it all links into the SOA.

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING WEBSITE

There was submitted a report by the Community Planning Officer asking the Group to assist in taking forward actions by the Community

Mr R Anderson, the Community Planning Officer updated the Committee with regard to the new Community Planning Website which was launched last year and although the site had been well received there were concerns expressed about information not being up to date. He advised that there was a need to formalise the process for information and for the Community Planning Partnership as a whole to take ownership of the website. He sought partner representatives on the co-ordinating group to monitor and provide information someone who would report and cover the breadth of work being undertaken. He further advised that he was preparing a guidance note on who/whom, which should be complete by the end of June 2009. Updates would be provided at each theme group on progress,

Mr R Anderson, Community Planning Officer advised the group that he wanted everything updated before promoting the website.

Thereafter the group agreed to:

- (i) to participate in establishing a network of content providers to provide regularly updated information for the Community Planning website;
- (ii) note that guidance on the content management of the site will be provided by the Community Planning Officer;
- (iii) note that the website will be standing item on all future Theme Group agendas; and
- (iv) actively promote the site as a key source of information about Community Planning in Moray.

7. AOCB

There were no items of AOCB at this meeting.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting noted that the next meeting of the Group would be held on Thursday 24 September 2009.

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There was submitted and noted an Action Sheet from the Community Planning Board Meeting dated 7 May 2009.