

THE MORAY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING OF SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP
THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 2009
COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillor J Hamilton (Chair)	The Moray Council
Councillor L Bell	The Moray Council
Councillor A McKay	The Moray Council
Councillor M Shand	The Moray Council
Chief Inspector Hugh Mackie (substituting for Superintendent S Milton)	Grampian Police
Mrs T Gervaise (substituting for Mr S Coady)	NHS Grampian
Susan Chalmers	Skills Development Scotland
Anne Lindsay	Moray College
Councillor A Wright (Ex-Officio)	The Moray Council

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor J Divers, Mr A Keddie, Chief Executive, the Moray Council, Superintendent S Milton, Grampian Police and Mr S Coady, NHS Grampian.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs B Mustard, The Corporate Policy Unit Manager, Mr R Donald, the Acting Head of Educational Support Services, Mr J Carney, the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice, Mr A Jamieson, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator, Ms J Taylor, Fairer Scotland Manager, Mr G Jarvis, Community Learning and Development Manager, Mrs K Delaney, Community Learning & Development, Youth Work, Mrs D Skene, Project Officer and Mrs S Kennedy as Clerk to the meeting.

1. MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

The Minute of the meeting dated 24 September 2009 was submitted and approved as accurate subject to amending Inspector H Mackie's title to Chief Inspector.

MATTERS ARISING

With regard to the Sederunt it was noted that Superintendent S Milton's name should be on the Sederunt instead of Chief Inspector H Mackie.

With regard to the Moray Youth Council Member, Mrs K Delaney advised the meeting that the Youth Council would like to be represented on each strategic group however; they were of the view that they did not want come to a meeting they had no knowledge of. In the interim it was agreed that Jenny Devlin's name would be removed from the Sederunt until such time as the Youth Council had decided who would be the appropriate member. It was further noted that Mrs B Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager in liaison with Mrs K Delaney, Community Learning and Development Youth Worker, would submit the Youth Council's decision to the Community Planning Board for approval. It was also agreed by the Group that it would be appropriate for the Youth Council member to bring along a colleague to the meeting.

With regard to AOCB, the Chair expressed concern on the use of AOCB at the meetings and sought agreement from the Smarter Strategic Group that AOCB remained on the Agenda and was only used to form the Agenda for the next meeting. The Smarter Strategic Group was in agreement with this decision.

2. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2009/10 - QUARTER 1 & 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 (SOA) Milestones relating to the Smarter theme as at the end of September 2009.

With regard to concerns expressed by the Group relating to paragraphs 4.2, 4.4, 4.44 and 4.45, Mr R Donald the Acting Head of Educational Support Services advised that it was important that these milestones were not removed as history should be recorded and it was equally important to see whether the milestones were achieving or not.

With regard to page 11 of the report re flexible funding, Mrs S Chalmers, Skills Development Scotland explained that this funding meets the needs of individuals through the 16+ group and needs to be flexible.

With regard to paragraph 4.6 of the report Mr J Carney, Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice advised that work was ongoing to see if GIRFEC could continue, however he was optimistic that this could be achieved.

Mrs B Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager, advised the Group that the Local delivery milestones would be revisited in April 2010.

The Chair expressed concern with regard to page 17 of the report and sought clarification of the process for advertising and filling of vacancies.

Thereafter, the Group agreed:

- (i) to note the update of performance regarding the milestones, due to be completed by September 2009, relating to the Smarter theme that are laid down in the Single Outcome Agreement 2009/10;
- (ii) to comment on the statistical information reported in its support of the qualitative milestone updates and its overall value and use to the Group:
- (iii) not to remove Domestic Abuse actions; and
- (iv) that Mrs Mustard would clarify the position with regard to item 2 page 17 of the report relating to the advertising and filling of Domestic Abuse Support Workers Posts funded by the Fairer Scotland Fund.

3. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING OPERATIONAL GROUPS

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager providing the Group with an updated list of their Operational Groups and recommendations arising from the Community Planning Board in relation to all operational groups.

The Group discussed the operational groups one by one and agreed the undernoted:

2	Smarter Co-ordinating Group	Agreed membership
2a	16+ learning	Agreed membership
2b	Adult Literacy Partnership	The new funding officer for Learning Connections is Moira Hamilton. Skills Development back to lead officers for input.
2c	Chief Officers Group for Child Protection	Agreed membership
2d	Community Learning & Development Group	Agreed Skills Development should have a place on this one return to lead officer for input.
2e	Corporate Parenting Group	Dr Helen Green is the Health Representative on this Group.
2f	Early Years Strategy Group	Remove Chris Toon add Susan Dean to membership.
2g	Employability Action group (formerly More Choices : More Chances)	Clarification sought as to who is responsible for this

		group Miss J Taylor confirmed that Fairer Scotland (Formerly More Choices: More Chances) report to CPB – Mrs Mustard to do any amendments.
2h	Health & Wellbeing in School Groups	Remove to Healthier Strategic Group.
2i	Lifelong learning Forum	Ms A Lindsay to update Mrs Mustard with regard to membership.
2j	Local Integration Support Officer Group	Agreed group continues
2k	Parent Steering Group	Remove already included in the Early Years Strategy Group
2l	School-College Strategy Group	Mrs A Lindsay to provide a list of groups which will report to the Longlife Learning Forum to Mrs B Mustard to amend membership
2m	Youth Justice Strategy Group	Agreed remains on list

Mr Carney advised that the Domestic Abuse Group should be included on the list and agreed to pass membership details to Mrs B Mustard.

In response to a concern expressed by the group re the Community Planning Board structure and the confusion surrounding sub-groups Mrs B Mustard agreed to provide a definitive list of who and what the groups are and who they report to and are accountable to.

In response to a question from the Group with regard to performance and improvement Mrs Mustard advised that it was difficult to get groups to report back and this would take time however she advised that everyone was of the view that the Partnership was working and agreed that capturing and demonstration of achievement be included in the Single Outcome Monitoring report.

Thereafter, the Group agreed:

- (i) that any changes to the list of operational groups be forwarded to Mrs Mustard for updating;
- (ii) what groups are still required;
- (iii) that If the groups are still required, to provide the defined outcomes which should be achieved for each operational group with timescales;

- (iv) noted that the formation of any future groups should be approved by the Community Planning Board; and
- (v) that capturing and demonstrating of achievements be included in the Single Outcome Monitoring report.

Councillor Wright left the meeting on the conclusion of this item.

4. COMMUNITY PLANNING WEBSITE

Councillor A McKay entered the meeting during discussion of this item.

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager updating the Group on the status of the Community Planning Website.

In response to a concern expressed by the Chair with regard to out of date information on the website, Mrs B Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that a mechanism was in place and people were working on the website, however the responsibility for keeping the website up to date lay with this Group and any changes should be reported to Mrs B Mustard, as soon as possible. It was agreed that Mrs B Mustard would submit an updated report to the next meeting of this Group.

Thereafter, the Group agreed:

- (i) to note the progress of the Community Planning Website as reported to the Community Engagement Group and their agreement that the website be reported to strategic groups as required, not as a standing item; and
- (ii) that Mrs Mustard would submit an updated report on the Community Planning website to the next meeting of this group.

5. REVIEW OF INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services summarising progress of Moray wide actions within the plan and indicating the next steps.

During discussion the Group agreed to:

- (i) note the progress in Appendix 1 of the report and the intention of the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services and the Acting Head of Educational Support Services to visit Locality Management Groups (LMGs) to review progress of local plans;
- (ii) that Mrs T Gervaise would collate a report on progress for both groups, (Smarter and Healthier) on the increase of new mothers screened for perinatal mental health in the first 8 weeks and the

increase in the percentage of mothers giving birth who are drug and tobacco free to the next meeting of this group;

- (iii) that Mr J Carney would provide a report on educational progress on looked after children to the next meeting of this Group; and
- (iv) that in liaison with the chair that the press receive information on relevant issues.

With reference to the Domestic Abuse Conference and the proposed series of lunchtime meetings to discuss various issues e.g. early years, Community Services Service Plan, HMIE etc the Chair on behalf of the Group thanked Mrs S Chalmers for providing funding to allow the lunch time meetings to continue.

6. INTEGRATED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES PLAN 2010-11

There was submitted a report by the Head of Educational Support Services informing the Group of the approach to be adopted in setting out and creating the Integrated Children and Young People's Service Plan (IC&YPSP) for 2010-11.

Mr R Donald, Acting Head of Educational Support Services updated the Committee on the progress of the work being carried out through the locality management groups operating and developing at a local level to meet needs and to link in with the Single Outcome Agreement. He further advised that a planning template had been devised and agreed by the Smarter Co-ordinating Group and he was confident that this would be ready for the 1st April 2010.

Thereafter, the Group noted the approach to be adopted for the creation of the Integrated Children and Young People's Service Plan for 2010-11.

7. AOCB

There were no items of business raised under AOCB.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting noted that the next meeting of the Group would be held on Thursday 1st April 2010.

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There was submitted and noted an Action Sheet from the Community Planning Board Meeting dated 19 November 2009.