

**THE MORAY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTE OF MEETING OF SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP**  
**THURSDAY 1 APRIL 2010**  
**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

**PRESENT**

Councillor L Bell	The Moray Council
Councillor M Shand	The Moray Council
Susan Chalmers	Skills Development Scotland
Nicolle Cordell	Moray Youth Council Representative
Councillor A Wright (Ex-Officio)	The Moray Council

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors J Hamilton (Chair), J Divers, A McKay, Mr A Keddie, Chief Executive, the Moray Council, Mr Sean Coady and Mrs T Gervaise, NHS Grampian, Superintendent S Milton and Chief Inspector Hugh Mackie, Grampian Police and Mrs A Lindsay, Moray College.

**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, Ms Karen Forbes, New Start Development Worker, Councillor A Wright (Ex-Officio), Miss S Flett, Project Officer and Mrs S Kennedy as Clerk to the meeting.

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor M Shand seconded by Mrs S Chalmers proposed that Councillor Bell take the chair.

**2. WELCOME**

The Chair on behalf of the Group welcomed Nicolle Cordell, Moray Youth Council representative to her first meeting.

**3. MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 17 DECEMBER 2009**

The Minute of the meeting dated 17 December 2009 was submitted and approved as accurate subject to Item 3 'Review of Community Planning Operational Groups', (21) replace longlife' with 'lifelong'.

### Matter Arising

The Corporate Policy Unit Manger advised the meeting that in terms of item 5(ii) "Review of Integrated Services" that the reports relating to 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 would no longer be forthcoming.

Mr J Carney, Head of Children and Families advised that he had circulated the Service Plan for the second time and would await any comments.

#### **4. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2009/10 - QUARTER 3 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 December 2009.

The Group noted that the actions at the end of December 2009 were progressing reasonably well and any exception reports would come back in detail to the Group.

Thereafter, the Group noted:

- (i) the update of performance regarding the Smarter milestones due to be completed by December 2009, of which 81% are completed or are well progressed; and
- (ii) the progress of each Key Action and the overall progress made against each Local Outcome at the end of the third quarter.
- (iii) the update of performance regarding the Smarter milestones due to be completed by December 2009, of which 81% are completed or are well progressed.
- (iv) the progress of each Key Action and the overall progress made against each Local Outcome at the end of the third quarter.

#### **3. EXCEPTION REPORTS**

##### **(a) Corporate Parenting**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Acting Head of Educational Support Services noting the actions which were unlikely to be completed in Quarter 4 concentrating on four areas:

- Reason for lack of progress
- Any blockages which are preventing progress
- What actions are to be taken to address the performance
- What are the risks associated with its delay in progress

**(b) Domestic Abuse**

In light of the absence of the Police the Group agreed to defer consideration of this report until the next meeting of this Group.

**4. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

There was submitted a report by Mark Elvines, Education Officer (ASN) on actions which were unlikely to be completed in Quarter 4 following a request by the Community Planning Board on 4 March 2010.

During discussion the group noted the major inaccuracies with regard to paragraph 3.4 of the report relating to data being held by Educational Services and by Children and Families relating to Looked After Children and requested that action be taken to rectify the problem.

Thereafter, the Group agreed to note:

- (i) the delay to a comprehensive tracking system for Looked-after Children and the reasons for the delay and remedial action undertaken; and
- (ii) that action be taken to rectify the inaccuracies detailed in paragraph 3.4 of the report with regard to the shared data for Looked after Children.

**5. SMARTER OPERATIONAL GROUPS**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice asking the Group to undertake a further review of the Smarter Theme Operational Groups.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manger advised the Group that the Community Planning Board was seeking commitment that the number of groups would be reduced and sought agreement in principle to liaise with Officers, to set up criteria for the management of groups.

Mr J Carney urged caution when streamlining groups, and advised that some of the groups e.g. GIRFEC and the Child Protection Sub Group do not have strategic links to Single Outcome Agreements but would impact on them and in light of inspection visits he sought assurance that these areas would be firmed up.

Thereafter, the Group agreed in principle to:

- (i) ask the Lead Officer to write to each Chair of all Smarter Operational Groups asking that they streamline the number of groups and representatives.

- (ii) complete the template on outcomes for each Operational Group;
- (iii) that the Corporate Policy Unit Manager work with Officers with a view to reducing the number of groups;
- (iv) that the Corporate Policy Unit Manager obtain a decision on the number of Council representatives on the Groups; and
- (v) that the Corporate Policy Unit Manager develops criteria for the management of groups to be reported to the Community Planning Board.

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

## **6. COMMUNITY PLANNING WEBSITE**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the Group to consider the progress of the Community Planning Website.

Following consideration the Group agreed to:

- (i) note the progress of the Community Planning Website; and
- (ii) remind partners to check the website and advise the Council's Corporate Policy Unit Manager if the information relative to their organisation is still relevant.

## **7. AOCB**

There were no items raised under AOCB.

## **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The meeting noted that the next meeting of the Group would be held on Thursday 24 June 2010 at 9.30am.

## **9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

There was submitted and noted Action Sheets from the Community Planning Board Meetings dated 10 February and 4 March 2010 respectively.