



**REPORT TO: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP ON 3 JULY 2008**

**SUBJECT: THE MORAY COMPACT**

**BY: CHIEF OFFICER, MVSO**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The reason for this report is to invite the Group to note the existence and purpose of the Moray Compact and agree amendments made to it, including clarification of MVSO's role in relation to perceived breaches of the Compact.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 It is recommended that the Group:**

- notes the existence and purpose of the Moray Compact
- agrees a number of amendments made to it in the light of the new Community Planning structures
- agrees amendments to the Compact that refer to MVSO's role in relation to possible breaches of the Compact, either by partner or Voluntary Sector organisations
- invites the partners to appoint nominated representatives to deal with any issues arising out of the Compact, pertaining to their organisation
- agrees to receive an annual report, produced by MVSO, on the operation of the Compact and of any reported breaches.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Moray Compact was launched in October 2006 and is an agreement between the Moray Community Planning Partnership (MCP) and the Voluntary Sector in Moray.
- 3.2 The Compact was drawn up over a two-year period by a Task Group of the MCP, made up of representatives of partner organisations and the Voluntary Sector.
- 3.3 The Compact sets out how both will work together in partnership for the wider public good. It is not a legal document, but is based on a mutual understanding of the distinctive values and roles of the MCP and the Voluntary Sector. It should be noted that for the purposes of the

document, the Voluntary Sector in Moray includes all voluntary organisations and volunteers working in any area of activity.

- 3.4 It has recently been necessary to make a number of amendments to the Compact to take account of the new Community Planning structures and the Single Outcome Agreement with the Scottish Government. The amended version of the Compact is attached in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.5 The original version of the document made reference to the role of MVSO in monitoring the operation of the Compact on behalf of the MCPP and the Voluntary Sector. It also stated that MVSO would be the main point of contact for enquiries about the Compact and for the reporting of any perceived breaches of it.
- 3.6 The precise nature of MVSO's monitoring role, particularly in relation to dealing with perceived breaches of the Compact, was not clearly set in the original document. Therefore it is proposed that the amended version of the document incorporate further clarification on this. The suggested wording (set out on page 6) is as follows:

"Where a breach is reported by a Voluntary Sector organisation, MVSO will deal with the situation as follows:

- (i) MVSO will meet with representatives of the organisation concerned to clarify the nature of the perceived breach and the necessity of taking the matter further.
- (ii) If it is agreed that the matter should be taken further, MVSO will approach the nominated representative of the partner organisation, deemed to have breached the Compact, with a view to it resolving the matter.
- (iii) If the matter is unable to be resolved at this stage to the satisfaction of both parties, MVSO will then refer it to the Community Engagement Group, which will determine any further action to be taken.

Where a breach is reported by a partner organisation, MVSO will deal with the situation as follows:

- (i) MVSO will meet with a representative (or representatives) of the partner organisation concerned to clarify the nature of the perceived breach.
- (ii) MVSO will then approach the Chief Officer of the Voluntary Sector organisation, deemed to have breached the Compact, with a view to resolving the matter.
- (iii) If the matter is unable to be resolved at this stage to the satisfaction of both parties, MVSO will then refer it to the Community Engagement Group, which will determine any further action to be taken."

- 3.7 In order to facilitate the process of dealing with issues around the operation of the Compact, including any reported breaches, it is

proposed that each partner is invited to nominate an appointed representative to take on this role.

- 3.8 It is also proposed that MVSO submits an annual report to this Group on the operation of the Compact, including any reported breaches of it.

#### 4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) **Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans**

In 2009/10 the Voluntary Sector, through MVSO representing the interests of the Sector at Board level, will be involved in the process of setting priorities within the new Single Outcome Agreement. This will raise the profile of the Voluntary Sector within the MCP and increase the relevance and importance of the Moray Compact in setting out clear principles and practices governing the relationship between each.

(b) **Policy and Legal**

There are no legal implications, as the Compact is not a legally binding document

(c) **Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)**

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

(d) **Consultations**

The original version of the Moray Compact was agreed by the Community Planning Steering Group in June 2006 and was the subject of extensive consultation within the MCP and the Voluntary Sector.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 **Given the increasing profile of the Voluntary Sector within Community Planning arrangements, it is important that there is clear awareness and understanding amongst the MCP and the Voluntary Sector of the amended Moray Compact document.**

Author of Report: Roy Anderson, Community Planning Officer

Background Papers: The Moray Compact (amended version)

Ref:

Signature E Bush Date 23rd June 2008

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