

**REPORT TO: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON  
9 JUNE 2010**

**SUBJECT: MORAY PERMANENCE PANEL**

**BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise Committee of the operational arrangements for the Moray Permanence Panel.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section D(2) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to functions under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**It is recommended that Committee note the operational arrangements and change in title for the Moray Permanence Panel.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 At Social Work Committee on 4 March 1996, an Adoption and Fostering Panel was established in Moray to meet the new Council's responsibilities as a fostering and adoption agency (para 4 of the minute refers). On 1 April 1996 separate Adoption and Fostering Panels were created in accordance with the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 1996 and the Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996. The operational arrangements of the Moray Fostering & Adoption Panels were then revised through Children & Young People's Services Committee on 11 June 2008 (para 7 refers).
- 3.2 The Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 and the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 2009 require operational arrangement to be further updated.
- 3.3 The two sets of Regulations require the Moray Council to have a Fostering Panel and an Adoption Panel and the two panels to have their proceedings minuted separately. The two panels can have the same membership and can carry out their fostering and adoption duties at the same meeting. Given the details of the new Regulations it is now more appropriate to name the two Panels 'The Moray Permanence Panel' as a unifying title.
- 3.4 The work of the Adoption & Fostering Panels has been reported to Committee on an annual basis. The 2009 report is available to the June meeting of the Children & Young People's Services Committee.
- 3.5 A copy of the new operational arrangements for The Moray Permanence Panel can be found in the Members' Library and Elected Members' Information Site (Portal).

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Development Plan/ Community Plan/ Service Improvement Plan**

The technical changes referred to in this report have no significant planning implications.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

The policy and legal implications have been referred to earlier in the report.

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

There are no significant resource implications associated with this report.

**(d) Consultations**

This report has been prepared by the Chair of the Moray Fostering and Adoption Panels and Alistair Stobie, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Licensing) who acts as the Panel's Legal Advisor. Panel members were also consulted.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 This report seeks approval for the operational arrangements of the Moray Permanency Panel.**

Author of Report: John Carney  
Background Papers: available from Members' library and portal  
Ref: HB776331