



REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD ON 07 AUGUST 2008

SUBJECT: YOUTH STRATEGY REVIEW

BY: MORAY COUNCIL, CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The reason for this report is to ask the Board to note the outcomes of the recent review of progress with the Moray Youth Strategy and agree to a further meeting later in the year between Partnership representatives and Moray Youth Council members.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Board note the outcome of the recent review of progress in addressing the key objectives within the Moray Youth Strategy.**
- 2.2 **It is also recommended that the Board agree to a further meeting being arranged later in the year involving representatives of the Partnership and members of the Moray Youth Council and that Elected Members also be invited to participate in this meeting.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In November 2006 the Moray Youth Strategy was launched by the Community Planning Partnership following a series of consultations with young people in Moray. The aim of the strategy was to improve the quality of life of all young people in Moray (aged between 12 and 25) over the next five years. This was to be achieved through addressing a number of key objectives under 8 identified themes.
- 3.2 Since the launch of the strategy some notable progress has been made in addressing these objectives. A summary of progress under the 8 themes is set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.3 It has always been recognised that the key to the success of the youth strategy was putting young people at its centre. The development of the Moray Youth Council over the last two years has enabled this to happen.

- 3.4 On 26 June 2008 a meeting took place in the Council Chamber involving representatives of the Partnership and members of Moray Youth Council. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the Youth Council members to comment on the progress achieved in addressing the objectives of the Strategy and question partner representatives directly on issues they would like to see addressed.
- 3.5 The questions posed by the young people and the responses of the Partnership representatives are recorded at the end of each section of the progress report in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.6 At the end of the meeting there was an undertaking given by the Chair that the actions agreed in response to the questions would be addressed by the relevant partner organisations.
- 3.7 Given the positive feedback from those present at the meeting, it was agreed to recommend to the Board that a further meeting be held in six months involving Partnership representatives and Moray Youth Council members and that Elected Members also be invited to participate in this meeting.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans

The Moray Youth Strategy covers all the themes of the Community Plan. It is therefore important to ensure that issues highlighted within the Youth Strategy are clearly referenced to priorities within all Partnership Plans and that these Plans take account of the content of the Youth Strategy and the voice of young people, which informs that content. It is also important that objectives addressed within the Strategy contribute to national and local outcomes within the Single Outcome Agreement.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy or legal implications arising directly out of this report.

(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)

The current resource implications of implementing the Youth Strategy are highlighted within the Strategy.

Future financial and staffing resources should be in line with the development of the Scottish Government's Youth Framework. Work is underway on the Framework, for which there is no absolute deadline, although the Government's aim is to agree an approach with key partners, including COSLA this year.

It is expected the Youth Framework will strongly reflect the relevant outcomes relating to young people in the National Performance Framework; Curriculum for Excellence's four capacities outcome and

the 2009-10 Single Outcome Agreements to be agreed between the Scottish Government and Community Planning Partners / local authorities.

The major risk of not implementing key objectives within the Strategy is the potential to alienate young people and make them less likely to engage in future dialogue and compromise their ability to influence local decisions and to provide the support that young people need to fulfil their potential.

(d) Consultations

The Council's Youth Champion has been consulted and concurs with the content of this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to note the outcomes of the recent review of progress with the Moray Youth Strategy and agree to a further meeting later in the year between Partnership representatives and Moray Youth Council members.

Author of Report: Roy Anderson, Community Planning Officer

Background Papers: Youth Strategy Review – Update of Progress
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