



REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD, 5 FEBRUARY, 2009

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING MORAY'S ALCOHOL AND DRUG PARTNERSHIP

BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The Board is asked to consider the proposed development of an Alcohol and Drug Partnership for Moray.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Board is asked to consider the proposed structural and reporting arrangements for an Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) in Moray;

2.2 The Board is asked to remit the Community Engagement Group to consult on the proposals; and

2.3 The Chair of the Moray Drug and Alcohol Action Team is asked to undertake targeted consultation with key stakeholders involved in the commissioning and delivery of drug and alcohol services on the detail of the proposed arrangements and to report the findings along with recommendations to the Healthier Strategic Group on 9th April for final consideration.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Members of the Healthier Strategic Group considered a report on the Moray Drug and Alcohol Action Team (MDAAT) on 2 October 2008, which outlined the background to the current structure and funding of this statutory body. It was agreed that the Community Planning lead for drug and alcohol misuse will be with the Healthier Theme. It was also recognised however that although there are links between the MDAAT and the priorities of the Community Safety Partnership, it has been agreed that the latter will link to the Safer and Stronger Strategic Group as its focus is primarily on enforcement in relation to drug & alcohol misuse rather than health improvement.

3.2 In July 2007, a Stocktake Review on the performance of Alcohol and Drug Action teams (ADATs) and their capabilities to deliver future priorities was published. The Stocktake team concluded that a partnership approach, as demonstrated by ADATs, remained essential to effective action and that although many ADATs had done excellent work, there were some ADATs that had some serious shortcomings.

3.3 Having considered the Stocktake Report and discussed the issues it raised with the Chairs of ADATs in September 2007, Ministers set up the Delivery Reform Group to develop and propose arrangements for delivery which as far as possible ensure that:-

- All elements of the system are clear about their role, responsibilities and relationships with each other, to allow appropriate accountability to be addressed;
- Local strategic priorities are developed and implemented effectively, reflecting both national priorities and local circumstances;
- Decisions on the mix of treatment and rehabilitation services are based on evidence including how effective they are at meeting identified needs;
- Resources are used efficiently and effectively, and that local partners can demonstrate to Government that this is the case; and
- Any local delivery structure is run in a professional and business-like fashion, with proper information management that can underpin accountability and reporting to Government and local communities.

3.4 The Delivery Reform Group has a specific remit to:-

- Develop and propose an outcomes-based framework for assessing and managing performance at a local level;
- Develop and propose a clear statement of the strategic functions which need to be carried out at a local level to deliver national alcohol and drugs strategy;
- Develop and propose robust accountability arrangements between central government and partner organisations, consistent with the new relationship with local government under the terms of the Concordat agreed in November 2007; and
- Consider the need for a national support function and, if supported, develop proposals for its role, structure and responsibilities.

3.5 Whilst a report detailing the emerging implications of these developments in terms of delivery arrangements will be prepared for a future meeting of the Healthier Strategic Group, what is evident is that the one model being proposed is an Alcohol and Drug Partnership linked in to local Community Planning Partnerships. It is clear that Community Planning Partnerships need to be signed up to national alcohol and drug strategies and will be held to account for how they consider and tackle alcohol and drug issues within their locality. The connections between substance misuse and other aspects of Community Planning are viewed as crucial in terms of agencies developing a coherent and targeted approach to the challenges posed by substance misuse. The Single

Outcome Agreement process is viewed as critical in ensuring that the necessary strategic connections are made. Ministers will meet with the Chairs of ADATs on the 10th February when it is anticipated that this strategic direction of travel will be confirmed.

- 3.6 It is proposed that the current structure of Strategic Group, Implementation Group and Forum be replaced by a small group of strategic managers forming the Moray Alcohol and Drug Partnership (MADP) reporting to the Healthier Strategic Group and supported by three Sub-Groups and a Forum that will progress the detail of key areas of activity. The proposed structure, along with remit and membership, is set out for the Board's consideration in **APPENDIX 1**.
- 3.7 The proposed arrangements will ensure robust strategic links between the Healthier Strategic Group, the Safer and Stronger Strategic Group, the Community Safety Partnership and the Northern Community Justice Authority. Membership of the proposed structure will also ensure that Moray benefits from and contributes towards the Grampian-wide Forum comprising of the three Chairs of ADATs, their development officers and the Director of Public Health for NHS Grampian.

4. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

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

The Community Planning Board has agreed that Outcome 6 within the Single Outcome Agreement will be addressed by the Healthier Strategic Group. Substance misuse is a main outcome within this priority.

(b) **Policy and Legal**

The MDAT is a statutory body, established by the Scottish Executive and inherited by the Scottish Government. There are three Alcohol and Drug Action Teams (ADATs) in Grampian and each ADAT reports directly to the Scottish Government. The view currently held across Grampian is that there should remain an Alcohol and Drug Partnership for each of the three local authority areas but Grampian wide meetings will continue to take place to address issues common to all three areas.

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

There are no resource implications arising directly out of this report.

(d) **Consultations**

Alastair Keddle, Chief Executive of Moray Council; Adrian Moar, Partnership Development Officer; Bridget Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager; Alan Smailes, Superintendent Grampian Police, Moray; Andrew Fowlie, General Manager Moray Community Health & Social Care Partnership; Mike Perera, Integrated Manager for Mental Health Services; Rodrick Burns, Chief Legal Officer and John Campbell, Drug and Alcohol Development Officer have been consulted and are in agreement with this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The MDAAT has played a crucial role in addressing issues around drug and alcohol misuse within Moray. The proposed alcohol and drug partnership will make a significant contribution to the achievement of relevant local outcomes within the Single Outcome Agreement under the Healthier Theme.

Author of Report:

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Background Papers:

Ref: Held with the author



Signature: _____

Date: 2 February 2009

Designation: Director of Community Services

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