

**REPORT TO:** COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD ON 5 FEBRUARY 2009

**SUBJECT:** VOLUNTARY SECTOR FUNDING FOR INTERMEDIARY ORGANISATIONS POST 2011.

**BY:** MVS0

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 The Community Planning Board is invited to note the way local intermediary voluntary sector organisations such as the Council of Voluntary Service (MVS0) Volunteer Centres (The Volunteer Centre Moray) are funded by the Scottish Government from 1 April 2011.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 **It is recommended that the Board notes for it's interest the changes to the way local intermediary voluntary organisations are to be funded by the Scottish Government from 2011.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 The introduction in November 2007 of the Concordat between Scottish Government and local authorities, has brought a new impetus to joint working between the local third sector infrastructure organisations. The Concordat, and the associated development of Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs), places responsibility for decisions on local delivery clearly at the local level. The effective contribution of the third sector to the delivery and design of local services will require a local infrastructure to support connection and communication with Community Planning and council infrastructure.

3.2 It is the Scottish Government view that the two main third sector networks, those of the Councils of Voluntary Service and the Volunteer Centres, do not currently provide an effective response to this need and it is proposed that the current three year funding period is used to transform local infrastructure provision.

- 3.3 There is currently an uncoordinated set of third sector networks surrounding local authorities from which more could be secured if they shared goals and structures – if more went into ‘doing than being’. Across Scotland as a whole, there are:
- 57 Councils of Voluntary Service
  - 32 Volunteer Centres
  - 31 Local Social Economy Partnerships, and
  - 18 Social Enterprise networks.
- 3.4 By the end of the current funding period (2008-11), it is expected that there will be a coherent, and fit for purpose, local infrastructure that meets the needs of local authorities, CPPs and the third sector, which has been developed in partnership. The uplift in funding for the 2008-11 period was intended to facilitate this process. The Scottish Government has no preconceived ideas about the form of this interface, other than that it must be agreed in partnership locally. The purpose of the interface is to enable the SOA to be informed by the knowledge and experience of the third sector and for the third sector to demonstrate how it could deliver SOA outcomes.
- 3.5 Clearly the future funding position is subject to the Spending Review, the outcome of which will not be known for a year or so, but it is anticipated that the Scottish Government will continue to fund the sector. Current organisations will not, however, be funded after 2011 in their present form. Instead, the national allocation of resources will be allocated according to a rational formula (still to be developed) to the 32 CPP areas – and any distribution below that at a local level is to be determined locally.
- 3.6 It is hoped that any changes at a local level will be implemented at an earlier date than the end of March 2011, in order to give the new form time to bed in. Should this happen, a single pot of funding to the interface at the CPP level could be introduced before April 2011 if desired.
- 3.7 Currently MVSO & The Volunteer Centre Moray have entered into formal discussions to agree on a model that meets the needs of service users and supports delivery of the outcomes detailed in the Single Outcome Agreement. The Community Planning Board will be updated on progress as appropriate.

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

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

The voluntary sector plays a key role in the development of the community plan. It is a delivery agent across all areas of the plan and community planning themes.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

There are no Policy and resource implications arising from this report at this stage.

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

There are no immediate resource implications arising from this report.

**(d) Consultations**

MVSO and The Volunteer Centre Moray have met with The Scottish Government to discuss the implications of this paper.


**5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The Government has reviewed the way local intermediary voluntary organisations are funded across Scotland from 2011 and the Board is asked to note the current position in Moray.**

**Author of Report: Eileen Bush**

**Background Papers:**

**Ref:**

**Signature** 

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