

**WEALTHIER & FAIRER STRATEGIC GROUP MEETING – 19 FEBRUARY 2009**

**ACTION SHEET**

ITEM NO.	TITLE OF REPORT	DECISION	ACTION BY
	Membership of the Group	Present: Councillors J Russell (Chair), S Cree, G McDonald , P Paul, A Wright and Mike Devenney, Moray College  Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Martin Johnson and Ian Fraser, HIE Moray, Jim Johnston, Moray Chamber of Commerce.	Clerk
1.	Minute of Meeting dated 13 November 2008	Following consideration the Group agreed to approve the Minute as an accurate record.	Clerk
2.	Wealthier & Fairer Group Priorities	During discussion of this item Mike Devenney entered the meeting.  Following consideration the Group agreed that priority status for 2009/10 be recommended for those items contained within the report marked with a (P) namely:  (a) Account Management with Growth Business (b) Business Gateway (c) Moray Towns Partnership (d) Buckie Regeneration (e) Moray's Connectedness.	P&DM
	Press Cuttings	The Chair circulated an article from the Press and Journal in regard to the oil industry, highlighting the fact that oil related businesses did not have to be based in Aberdeen and Mike Devenney highlighted another press cutting with regard to the success of an art student at Moray College.	
3.	Single Outcome Agreement, Quarter 3 Updates	Following discussion the Group agreed that the Planning & Development Manager would look into closer alignment of the indicators with the new Single Outcome Agreement and submit a report to the next meeting of this group.	CPUM
4.	Single Outcome Agreement (2009-10) - Progress Update	Following consideration the Group noted that the final draft of the Single Outcome Agreement for 2009/10 would be submitted to the meeting of the Moray Council on the 25 February 2008, and thereafter to the Scottish Government by the end of February. Negotiations with the Scottish Government would follow thereafter with the SOA 2009/10 being signed off by the end of May.	CPUM
5.	HIE Moray 7 Point Plan	In the absence of a representative from HIE Moray the Planning and Development Manager agreed to liaise with HIE following the meeting to request a written update on their 7 Point Plan and circulate to members of this group	P&DM/ HIE
6.	Business Seminar	Following discussion the group noted:  (a) that the seminar on Connectivity had been constructive and well attended; (b) that a meeting had been arranged with the Transport Minister for 12/03/09 to discuss the way forward on the Elgin By-Pass, A96 and A95 and will be attended by the Convener, Councillor Russell and two Officers; (c) that a meeting had been arranged with Richard Lochhead, MSP to meet with the By-Pass Committee; and (d) that a letter had been sent by the Transportation Manager to the Minister seeking a technical response to his questions which would be reported to the next meeting of this group.	P&DM

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7.	Tourism Strategy/Year of Homecoming	<p>The Planning and Development Manager updated the group on 'The Year of Homecoming' and the development of tourism in Moray. He stated that the Moray Council had already allocated £10,000 of funding to the 'Year of Homecoming Project' which would hopefully be match funded, by European LEADER and other sources. However they were still seeking agreement by the LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) and also seeking agreement for a programme application process and form to be drawn up.</p> <p>Following discussions the Group agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that the Planning and Development Manager investigate placing an advert in the local paper within the next two weeks inviting interest;</li> <li>(b) that the applications be dealt with in two tranches of 4 weeks and 4 weeks to ensure that the applications are processed quickly; and</li> <li>(c) that the Community Planning &amp; Development Manager arrange an extraordinary meeting of the LAG seeking approval to proceed with the applications; and</li> </ul>	P&DM
8.	Date of Next Meeting	The meeting noted that the next meeting of the Group would be held on Thursday 21 May 2009.	Clerk
9(a).	Items for Information – Action Sheet from meeting of the Community Planning Board dated 5 February 2009	Noted	Clerk
T of	AOCB	<p>The Chair intimated to the Group that the Elgin Burns Club is planning holding a Son et Lumiere Tam o' Shanter event, at Elgin Cathedral as part of the Homecoming programme and were seeking financial assistance.</p> <p>The Chair raised concerns in regard to Tourism and in particular about the Moray Official Guide, a booklet produced and funded by others giving free advertising for Moray. He intimated that he had been on the receiving end of irate calls from the public regarding incorrect information contained within the guide.</p> <p>The Group agreed that this Council's involvement in this Guide be stopped and that the matter be referred to the Tourism Group with any recommendations being referred to the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee.</p>	P&DM

Key: P&DM – Planning & Development Manager, The Moray Council  
CPUM – Corporate Policy Unit Manager, The Moray Council  
HIE – Ian Fraser, HIE Moray