

**REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD ON 4 MARCH 2010**

**SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP ON STRATEGIC THEME GROUPS**

**BY: CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to consider two requests for membership on the five strategic theme groups; nominating a representative for the Board for the launch of the Voluntary Sector structure; and ensuring representatives on the groups are fulfilling their roles.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to agree to:**

**(i) One representative from the Voluntary Sector at each of the five strategic theme groups**

**(ii) Two representatives (but only one voting seat) from the Youth Council at each of the five strategic theme groups.**

**2.2 The Board is also asked to nominate a representative from the group to speak at the launch of the Voluntary Sector's revised structure.**

**2.3 Partners are asked to ensure their group representatives are available to attend the meeting and report authors or nominated representatives are available to speak to submitted report.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Voluntary Sector Representative - At the Community Planning Board meetings of 5 February and 7 May, it was agreed that the voluntary sector would revise their structure to be in line with the Community Planning structure. The consultation with the sector is now completed and MVSO have asked for one representative from the Voluntary Sector to be part of each of the five strategic theme groups.

3.2 MVSO already have a representative on the Board, Community Engagement Group and Healthier Strategic Group. Overtime, an appropriate Voluntary Sector representative will be nominated by the Voluntary Sector Partnership Moray (VSPM) to take on the role.

- 3.3 The new structure will be launched by MVSO and VSPM on 14 April. A representative from the Community Planning Board is asked to speak on behalf of the Board supporting the new structure at the launch.
- 3.4 Youth Representative - At the meeting of the Smarter Strategic Group on 17 December a verbal report was given on the youth representative appointment. It was requested that a youth representative along with another representative for support be appointed on each of the five strategic theme groups. This was agreed provided this was approved by the Board and remitted to Karen Delaney to work with the Youth Council to find suitable appointments.
- 3.5 The Youth Council has requested that a representative from each of the strategic theme groups give a small presentation to the Youth Council about their particular theme, their priorities and key actions. This way the young people can make an informed choice about which groups individual members of the Youth Council would wish to be involved with.
- 3.6 Representatives from the theme groups have been invited to the next meeting of the Youth Council on 8 March 2010.
- 3.7 Attendance at Meetings - At the scheduled meeting of Wealthier and Fairer in December, the meeting was cancelled due to a limited number of partners' representatives at the meeting i.e two partners, Moray Council and Moray College. At the recent meeting of Greener Group in January again there was a shortage of partners at the meeting i.e three partners, Moray Council, NHS and Forestry Commission.
- 3.8 Whilst it is appreciated that all partners' staff are very busy at this time and servicing Community Planning Partnership groups can be resource intensive, full representation at these meetings as agreed cannot be achieved without the commitment of the partners to ensure that representatives are available for meetings.
- 3.9 Further it is recognised that the workload to support Community Planning Partnership is extensive. A report on the operational groups is contained on the agenda and should be considered in light of overall resource requirements.
- 3.10 In addition another report is presented to these meetings on the potential merger of Community Planning Partnership and Council Committee meeting which can address some resourcing issues.
- 3.11 In addition over the last cycle three reports were deferred due to the lack of attendance of the author or a partner representative being available to attend the meeting to speak to the report. These reports include one at Healthier in October and two at the Wealthier and Fairer re-scheduled meeting in January.

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

**(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan**

Adjustments to the membership and monitoring of representatives at the group is in keeping with local priority on efficiencies and the national priority 15 in which “our public services are high quality continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people’s needs”.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

There is no policy or legal requirement to have representatives for the Voluntary Sector or Youth Council on the groups.

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

There are no additional resources required. However, it should be noted that representatives for both organisations will be most likely volunteers.

**(d) Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with Eileen Bush and Karen Delaney whose comments are incorporated within the body of the report in relation to the additional representatives consultations have also taken place with statutory partners on supporting the strategic groups and their comments have been incorporated into the report.

#### **5.0 CONCLUSION**

**5.1 It is important that the Community Planning structures continually evolve its membership to ensure it is representative of the partners involved. It is also important that the Board monitors the workings of the strategic groups to ensure that the Community Planning Partnership can deliver against its agreed priorities.**

Author of Report: Bridget Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager  
Background Papers:  
Ref: BM/jg/731594