

**REPORT TO: EDUCATIONAL & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 13  
FEBRUARY 2008**

**SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY  
CHILD (GIRFEC)**

**BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of additional funding that is likely to be made available to the Council to support further implementation of the Getting it Right for Every Child agenda.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section D (23) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the exercising of the function of the Council as a Social Work Authority under Social Work Scotland Act 1968.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 It is recommended that Committee:-**

- (i) note the likely availability of further funding from the North of Scotland Learning Network, which is subject to final approval by the Scottish Government; and**
- (ii) grant delegated authority to the Director of Community Services to allocate the additional £20,000 in line with the terms of the original funding application.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Scottish Government requires that every local authority area move towards implementation of an Integrated Assessment Framework as a crucial element of the Getting it Right for Every Child agenda. Latest guidance from the Scottish Government confirms the expectation that as part of this, every local authority will have in place a single integrated plan for every child referred to the Children's Reporter.
- 3.2 The Agenda is complex, as it requires paperwork and guidance which builds on and incorporates the requirements of systems (sometimes legislative) already in place across a number of professions/agencies. Moray has in place a multi-agency working group involving Education, Social Work, Health, Police, the Voluntary Sector, and other Council services taking forward an agreed action plan.
- 3.3 As part of this, we require someone who can focus on the delivery of staff development and training in ways which provides best support for staff across services and taking forward implementation plans. It has been agreed that there should be locality based awareness raising staff development sessions as soon as is practicable. This will be the first stage of an ongoing staff development programme as it is envisaged that there will be a need for

continuing support for a large number of staff across agencies until the framework is fully embedded into working practices across agencies.

- 3.4 Whilst it is envisaged that there will be an ongoing need for dedicated staff time in supporting implementation over the next two years, to date funding has only been identified until March 2008. However, a bid for further funding amounting to £20,000 has been made to the North of Scotland Learning Network, which if successful, will enable the staffing resource to be continued for a minimum of a further six months from April 2008.
- 3.5 The North of Scotland Learning Network have confirmed that Moray's bid for additional funding is part of an overall funding package submitted to the Scottish Government for approval. It is envisaged that the bid will be successful.

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

**(a) Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan**

The focus of this funding is to take forward key policy proposals that are central to the Community Planning Theme of Investing in Children and Young People.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

The Children & Young People's Partnership is committed to the full development of an Integrated Assessment Framework.

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

The resource implications are outlined in the report.

**(d) Consultations**

The GIRFEC group, a delegated group commissioned by the Children & Young Peoples Partnership Implementation Group, are in agreement with the proposal. Katrina MacGillivray, Senior Personnel Adviser, and Deborah Brands, Principal Accountant have been consulted in the preparation of this report and agree its contents relating to their areas of responsibility.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 **Getting it Right for Every Child contains a number of proposals designed to help deliver high quality children's services that meet the Scottish Government's broad vision for children. This additional**

**funding will help target resources to support ongoing work to improve and unify local services for children.**

Author of Report:

Background Papers:

Ref: