

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 13
FEBRUARY 2008**

SUBJECT: CELEBRATING SUCCESS

BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to share with Committee some of the successes and positive developments within Community Services in recent months.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section D (23) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the functions of the Council as a Social Work Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee notes the successes and positive developments that Community Services have achieved in recent months.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As part of the process of keeping the Committee up to date on the wider activity of the service and as a means of celebrating success in that context, it is intended to present reports to Committee on events, activities and initiatives undertaken by or on behalf of the Community Services Department.
- 3.2 This information has been collated for the committee's information at **APPENDIX 1** to this report.
- 3.3 The items included in reports to Committee will also be communicated within the Department through regular staff newsletters.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

None

(b) Policy and Legal

None

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

None

(d) Consultations

None

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 It is recommended that the committee notes the successes and positive developments within Community Services in recent months.**

Author of Report: Sandy Riddell, Director of Community Services
Background Papers:
Ref:

Social Work Awards Ceremony

On 21st September 2007 the Social Work Awards ceremony took place in the Gallery at Elgin Library. All members of staff who completed certificated care related qualifications from 2006 to July 2007 were invited to attend and 47 people came along to receive certificates presented by Councillors Bell and Hamilton. Sandy Riddell thanked people for the commitment and hard work put into achieving these awards, recognised the significant contribution this makes to the quality of services delivered in Moray, and also to retaining a well motivated and informed workforce.

From 2006 to July 2007:

- 13 people achieved SVQ2 in Care
- 27 people achieved SVQ2 in Health and Social Care
- 6 people achieved SVQ3 in Promoting Independence
- 7 people achieved SVQ 3 in Health and Social Care
- 9 people achieved HNC Social Care
- 1 person achieved SVQ 4 in Care
- 1 person achieved SVQ 4 in Health and Social Care
- 1 person achieved Registered Managers Award
- 2 people achieved the Open University Certificate in Managing Care
- 4 people achieved A1 Assessors Award
- 4 people achieved PQ1 (post qualifying award in social work)
- 3 people achieved SSSC Practice Teaching Award

This represents almost 10% of the social work workforce having achieved certificated qualifications in a nineteen month period, a considerable undertaking for a small authority!

Joyce Lorimer
Social Work Training Manager

'Moray Parenting Month'

The Moray Parenting Strategy was warmly welcomed at its launch in April 2007 by a large professional audience. The strategy was created to encourage & develop early intervention in parental challenges and provide a range of targeted support for parents in crisis.

The launch of the strategy was extended for the public by celebrating Moray's first "**Parenting Month**" in October. All agencies across Moray having involvement with children, young people and their parents were invited to highlight their services or take the opportunity to initiate a new project to support parents.



During the summer holidays a competition was run in partnership with Morays libraries, for children to design a logo for Moray "**Parenting Month**". The winning entry gave not only a logo but also the slogan which encapsulated the very essence of positive parenting,

"Life is for living, Parents are for loving".

The logo was then used for all publicity, including appearing on hundreds of very popular cotton bags, which now carry the message of positive parenting throughout Moray. In the Autumn, agencies and various groups co-operated to hold four large information events in Keith, Forres, Elgin and Aberlour. As part of "**Parenting Month**", Libraries held many events aimed at parents & children. Health Visitors, Social Work and Parents, were also involved in the planning & running of a series of activities.

Feedback from participating professionals and parents was very positive. It showed that Moray "**Parenting Month**" was seen as an opportunity to place parenting within an educational and creative framework, providing enjoyment and information for the whole family. This initiative was hugely supported by Children & Family Services, Libraries and The Northern Scot, who carried a half page feature.

Events of this nature clearly have the potential to help families, increase support and improve the quality of life for young people in Moray. Already looking ahead for 2008 plans include the possibility of a Parenting week in the Autumn.

Christiane Braun
Parenting Development Worker
National Parenting Development Project/Aberlour Childcare Trust

MOVE - Movement for Learning & Life

5 years ago Moray starting using MOVE – a programme designed to specifically teach children with complex disabilities and health needs the functional motor skills needed for adult life from funding and support from "The For Morays Children Group". Although fundamentally a school based curriculum and teaching approach, the MOVE programme is delivered by the team around the child and utilises the expertise of education, therapy services, carers and especially the family to address the needs of students.

Training in the MOVE programme has been both multi-agency and child centred with staff from schools, playgroups, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, speech and language therapy as well as respite carers and parents.

APPENDIX 1

The MOVE programme is in operation in 10 school, nursery and playgroup sites across Moray with over 150 trained MOVE practitioners, 2 MOVE trainers and 1 MOVE Consultant.

In November the Moray MOVE Policy was adopted by Moray Council Educational Services and NHS Grampian (Moray CSHCP). With the commitment to continue to offer and develop MOVE and its philosophy and ethos to promote best practice by focusing on the child's needs and goals, joint working practices and social inclusion.

In 2008 Moray is to be awarded the first ever National Region of Excellence Award from MOVE Europe part of The Disability Partnership (Princes Trust) in recognition of both the success of MOVE in an inclusive education system and for our best practice in cross agency working.

Moray's status in the entire UK is unrivalled in that every child that would benefit from MOVE in Moray is using it and making progress.

Elizabeth Gray
Paediatric Physiotherapy Team Leader
Dr Gray's Hospital