



## Your Moray

**REPORT TO: GREENER STRATEGIC GROUP - 26 MARCH 2009**

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL FUND AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS**

**BY: HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **1. REASON FOR REPORT**

**1.1** To advise on the current situation regarding the creation of a community environmental fund and proposals to develop further the Your Moray – Your Environment Awards.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1** It is recommended that the Strategic Group

- (i)** notes that the Greener Strategic Group has no budget and the partners are unable to contribute towards a community environmental fund.
- (ii)** invites the new Events and Awareness Raising Operational Group to consider proposals and timescale for a further awareness raising event (in addition to the Business Seminar), incorporating an awards scheme.

### **3. BACKGROUND**

**3.1** A report was submitted to the Greener Group on 18 September regarding the creation of a community environmental fund to be administered by the Group. This was agreed in principle at the meeting, subject to obtaining funding contributions from Community Planning partners and other external organisations. There have been no offers of funding made thus far from either of these sources.

**3.2** The Your Moray – Your Environment Awards were held at Moray College for a second year in November 2008. This event has received financial support from partner organisations, primarily The Moray Council, HIE and SEPA. The Moray Council has taken the lead in organising both of the awards ceremonies held to date.

**3.3** At present no arrangements have been made to host an event this year. In 2007 The Moray Council held a very well attended environmental festival at Elgin Town Hall. At the event there were a number of exhibitors representing various organisations and environmental topics and the awards scheme could be incorporated into an event like this.

- 3.4 It is acknowledged that the Group has already agreed to host a Business Seminar (details of which are included within an item on the agenda) which will require financial and staff resources. For this reason and in view of the short time scales and resources required to deliver an event of this size it may be prudent to postpone the awards ceremony this year. This would allow the Group to concentrate on the business seminar and plan for a larger event next year involving all partners and possibly encompass both events.
- 3.5 It is proposed to remit consideration of the potential and for an awareness raising event, as described in 3.4, and the timescale for delivering it, to the new Events and Awareness Raising Operational Group with a report coming back to the next meeting of the Strategic Group in June.

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

**(a) Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement**

Development of events including the environmental awards and business seminar will raise awareness of environment issues and contribute to the achievement of Single Outcome Agreement priorities in terms of recycling, energy efficiency and supporting economic development.

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

The financial and staffing implications of any proposed events will be reported once details are known.

**(c) Consultations**

The Greener Group partners have been approached about making funding contributions to a community environmental fund.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

##### **5.1 The Greener Group is invited to**

- (i) note that the Greener Strategic Group has no budget and the partners are unable to contribute towards a community environmental fund.**
- (ii) invite the new Events and Awareness Raising Operational Group to consider proposals and timescale for a further awareness raising event (in addition to the Business Seminar), incorporating an awards scheme.**

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Background Papers:

Ref: