

REPORT TO: HEALTHIER STRATEGIC THEME GROUP ON 9 APRIL 2009

SUBJECT: FAIRER SCOTLAND FUND PROPOSALS

BY: MORAY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Healthier Strategic Theme Group is invited to consider how it can contribute to the achievement of the Fairer Scotland Fund objectives and put forward proposals on how the fund could be invested.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Healthier Strategic Theme Group considers how it can contribute to the achievement of the Fairer Scotland Fund objectives and puts forward proposals on how the fund could be invested.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the Safer and Stronger Strategic Theme Group meeting, held on 19th February 2009, it was agreed that all the Theme Groups, as well as the Community Engagement Group, would be approached to identify how they could contribute to the achievement of the Fairer Scotland Fund objectives.
- 3.2 The Fairer Scotland Fund submission was presented last year by the Moray Community Planning Partnership (MCP) to the Scottish Government and outlines the MCP's approach to the use of the Fund in tackling poverty and deprivation in Moray. It seeks to address how the Fund could be used to assist in regenerating our most disadvantaged communities, improving the life chances of individuals and groups experiencing poverty and disadvantage and improving employability, particularly for young people and other hard-to-reach groups.
- 3.3 The Fund is intended to be used as a catalyst to influence service planning and delivery and direct mainstream resources to best effect in tackling poverty and disadvantage. It has been agreed that the Fund should not be promoted as a grant scheme or bidding process. Rather it would use the Partnership structure to allow the process to be linked into the Partnership's priorities in the Single Outcome Agreement and objectives around social inclusion. This also takes account of the 'cross-cutting' nature of the process of tackling poverty and disadvantage.
- 3.4 The Social Inclusion Coordinating Group has developed criteria, on which all proposals for funding should be based. These are set out in the guidelines produced to inform the process. An outline proposal form is also available. All parties interested in investment from the fund can obtain copies of the guidance and the outline proposal from the Fairer Scotland Fund Manager or the Strategic Theme group. Guidance notes are also available to download from Your Moray Website.

- 3.5 All outline proposals for the first round of investment of the Fund should be submitted to Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Fund Manager by Friday 17th April. The Social Inclusion Coordinating Group will then assess all proposals received, including seeking further information if required, before presenting its recommendations to the next Community Planning Board on 7th May 2009.
- 3.6 If the outline proposal is approved as relevant and fitting with the key priorities for the Fairer Scotland Fund the second step in this process will be for the applicant to complete a full detailed application. Guidance on this for applicants will be issued at full application stage.
- 3.7 Further ideas and proposals for the use of the Fund may be submitted thereafter as part of a rolling programme. The next deadline for submissions will Monday 10th August to be presented to the Board on Thursday 27th August. Further information on the second round of ideas will follow in due course.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans

The Fairer Scotland Fund is aligned to the Single Outcome Agreement and will enable investment in actions to achieve the priorities outlined in the SOA.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Fairer Scotland Fund has been established to assist tackling poverty and deprivation across Scotland, as part of the Concordat between the Scottish Government and Local Authorities.

(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)

There are no such implications arising directly from this report.

(d) Consultations

The Safer and Stronger Strategic Group has been consulted and agreed to all the Theme Groups being invited to consider and submit proposals for using investment from the Fairer Scotland Fund.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Healthier Strategic Theme Group is invited to consider how it can contribute to the achievement of the Fairer Scotland Fund objectives and put forward proposals on how the fund could be invested.**

Author of Report: Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Manager

Background Papers: Fairer Scotland Fund Submission