

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 2 MARCH 2010

**SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING MORAY COUNCIL'S HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT ROLE**

BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out the background to the creation of a senior post to lead on the Council's responsibilities in relation to Health Improvement and seeks approval to draw down the funding earmarked for this purpose.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee to authorise control, and review as necessary, the establishment of all categories of staff of the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that Policy & Resources Committee approves the filling of the post of Strategic Programme Manager (Health Improvement).**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council requires to fulfil its statutory role in relation to Health Improvement under the Public Health etc (Scotland) Act 2008 [parts 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 & 1.7 of the act refer] and a delegated authority report to create a senior post to lead in the planning, implementation and evaluation of our Health Improvement Strategy and Policy was approved by Personnel on 21 July 2009.
- 3.2 Previously, a joint funded post with NHS Grampian had been in place with the post holder undertaking a range of low level activities to support this agenda. However, following this staff members departure, a review of Health Improvement activity identified that although a range of responsibilities fall on staff across the Council, and in particular Educational Services and Community Services, no single member of staff leads in the development of the Council's role as a Health Improvement Organisation. It has been acknowledged by the Service Development Group and the Corporate Management Team that a post holder is required to lead in the development of a strategic direction and organisational priorities in relation to this agenda.
- 3.3 The draw down of £50,000 to fund this post was considered at Policy & Resources Committee on 17 November 2009 but the Committee rejected the request on the basis that, in line with the joint funded basis of the previous post, an approach should be made to NHS Grampian. NHS Grampian have confirmed that they are not in a position to contribute to the creation of this particular post. Committee should note that this post significantly differs to the previous post in that it is strategic in nature and focuses primarily on the

Council's responsibilities in relation to being a Health Improvement Organisation and that NHS Grampian has confirmed an acceptable 'in kind' contribution to support the post's role, remit and responsibility.

- 3.4 It has been agreed that the post, which has been established and graded, be managed by the Director of Community Services. Specifically the major tasks associated with this post will be to:
- (i) take a joint lead role with Community Planning Partners in the overall planning, development, design and delivery of the Moray Health & Wellbeing Strategy;
 - (ii) Lead in the development of Moray Council's role as a Health Improvement organisation; and
 - (iii) Act as the local authority's designated lead in undertaking research and audit to establish our evidence base for justifying the Council's strategic direction and organisational priorities in relation to the Health Improvement Agenda.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan

This report assists in the delivery of the local outcome "An increased number of people in Moray will be active in improving their own health" contained within national outcome 6 - we live longer, healthy lives. The report also assists in delivering the local outcome "Agencies will work together and individually to improve services" contained within national outcome 15. This post will also enable and support the Council to deliver "Health Works" (review of the 2004 *Healthy Working Lives* Strategy).

(b) Policy and Legal

This post holder will ensure the Council meets its statutory role with regard to Health Improvement as outlined in para 3.1 above.

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

The Council agreed funding for this post as part of the annual budget, though to date it has not been possible to find a suitable applicant. Without this post, the Council will be left vulnerable to external inspection in relation to a number of related strands of policy/service development. The proposed post has been graded at Grade 10 at a cost of £49,425 including on costs.

(d) Consultations

Consultation has taken place with the following officers who all agree the content of this report:

The Chief Executive
Corporate Policy Unit Manager
General Manager of The Moray Community Health & Social Care Partnership
Public Health Lead of The Moray Community Health & Social Care Partnership
Chief Financial Officer
Acting Principal Solicitor (Litigation and Licensing)
Senior Personnel Adviser

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This report sets out why a senior post has been established to take forward the Council's Health Improvement responsibilities and seeks approval to draw down the allocated funding.**

Author of Report: Sandy Riddell – Director of Community Services
Background Papers: With author
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