



**REPORT TO: SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP - 04 JUNE 2009**

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE PARENTING**

**BY: MORAY COUNCIL, ACTING HEAD OF EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES**

## **1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 The SMARTER Co-ordinating Group tasked the Head of Educational Support Services with organising a seminar on Corporate Parenting. This event was planned and implemented by a small group and took place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009. This report provides a record of that seminar.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that the SMARTER Strategic Group notes:

- (i) that the Corporate Parenting Seminar took place and was attended by a number of Elected Members and Officers of the Authority;
- (ii) the background to the seminar as set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.5
- (iii) notes the need for further development of Corporate Parenting within the Authority.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Head of Educational Support Services was tasked with organising a seminar on Corporate Parenting. The event was planned and organised by a group of officers from Education, Social Work and the Voluntary Sector.

3.2 The seminar took place on the afternoon of 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009. It was attended by a number of Elected Members and first and second tier officers. An officer from the Scottish Government and an officer from Renfrewshire also provided input on the day.

- 3.3 The seminar had three purposes:
- (i) to explain the principles of Corporate Parenting to all attendees
  - (ii) to gain information on how another Authority has taken forward Corporate Parenting
  - (iii) to increase Moray's awareness of the broad and shared responsibility for Corporate Parenting.
- 3.4 At the end of the seminar, it was agreed that each member of the Corporate Management Team would take a Corporate Parenting responsibility for a Looked After Child within Moray. Details of the proposal were provided in written form to all attendees at the Seminar.
- 3.5 It was also agreed that a repeat seminar will be organised for June 2010 when the proposal outlined in 3.4 will be evaluated.

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

- (a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans**  
The Corporate Parenting initiative relates to SOA National Outcome 5 – Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
- (b) Policy and Legal**  
Corporate Parenting is one of the key initiatives coming out of the Scottish Government's national programme of Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). There is an obligation on every Local Authority in Scotland to produce and implement a Corporate Parenting Strategy.
- (c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)**  
The main resource implication in terms of the outcome of the seminar is the officer time involved in carrying out their Corporate Parenting responsibility towards the Looked After Children, assigned to them.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The SMARTER Strategic Group is asked to note the work on Corporate Parenting already carried out and consider the recommendations set out in this report.**