

REPORT TO: SMARTER STRATEGIC GROUP – 17 DECEMBER 2009

**SUBJECT: SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2009/10 – QUARTER 1 & 2
MONITORING STATEMENTS**

BY: CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The reason for the report is to:-

(a) Provide the Group with an update against the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) Milestones relating to the Smarter theme as at the end of September 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Group is requested to scrutinise and note the update of performance regarding the milestones, due to be completed by September 2009, relating to the Smarter theme that are laid down in the Single Outcome Agreement 2009/10.

2.2 The Group is asked to consider and comment on the statistical information reported in its support of the qualitative milestone updates and its overall value and use to the Group.

2.3 The Group is asked to approve the removal of 2 Domestic Abuse milestones which will not be completed for 2009/10. Detail is provided in paragraphs 4.4.4 and 4.4.5.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Progress has been updated against those actions that were due to be completed by the end of Quarter 2, September 2009.

3.2 The monitoring reports are an important aspect to demonstrate to Government that the community planning partnerships have contributed to the delivery against the local and national outcomes. It is challenging to ensure the right balance is achieved in furnishing the Group with the information needed for them to ensure that local outcomes are delivered against keeping the analysis relevant and the report to a reasonable volume.

3.3 Overall, throughout the five Theme Groups, there are 486 milestones in total. However milestone updates are currently requested against only those that are due for completion in the reporting quarter. It is appreciated that this report does not inform the Group of progress made or more importantly slippage against milestones due in future quarters. Following comments received as part of the consultation process, update requests in future quarters will provide lead officers with the opportunity to comment on good

progress but more essentially identify slippage on milestones due in future quarters, allowing the Group to agree corrective actions.

- 3.4 Covalent is the performance management software used by the Moray Council. The software is used to produce a performance report for this Group. Progress made against SOA key actions are reported on a percentage progress basis, although progress will continue to be monitored in the remaining quarters.

4. SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE - PROGRESS AGAINST SMARTER SOA KEY ACTIONS (2009/10)

- 4.1 The Smarter Strategic Group is responsible for seven Local Outcomes;

-Two under National Outcome 3,
“We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation”

-Two under National Outcome 4,
“Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens”

-One under National Outcome 5,
“Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed”

-Two under National Outcome 8,
“We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk”.

The seven Local Outcomes have 12 underlying Key Actions, which have 146 Milestones in total, 67 of which are due to be completed by quarter 2, September 2009.

4.2 The following table provides a summary of performance against the sixty-seven milestones which were due to be completed by September 2009.

Key Action	Number of milestones DUE for completion by Qtr 4, Mar 2010	Number of milestones DUE for completion by Qtr 2, Sept 2009	Progress 0 - 25%	Progress 26 - 50%	Progress 51 – 75%	Progress 76 – 100%
Development and Implementation of a Lifelong learning strategy	7	3				3
Implement 16+ Learning Choices Action Plan	10	5				5
Attainment and achievement agenda	9	5				5
Wider achievements	5	2				2
More Choices, More Chances	23	11	2			9
Parenting strategy	9	6	1			5
Early years framework	8	4				4
Getting it right for every child	18	7				7
Corporate Parenting Strategy	13	5				5
Youth Justice Strategy	11	4				4
Multi-agency Action Plan	19	8				8
Domestic abuse	14	7	2	1		4
Total	146	67	5 (8%)	1 (1%)		61 (91%)

4.3 The table above provides the rate of progress being made in meeting the milestones due for completion by September 2009. 61 of 67 (91%) milestones are either complete or showing good progress. Comments on the 6 other milestones, falling somewhat short of completion, are provided below. Progress against these milestones will continue to be monitored in the remaining reporting quarters. Updates against all milestones are included in **Appendix 1**.

4.4 Exceptions -

- 4.4.1 More young people will develop to be successful adults – More Choices, More Chances; EAG Strategy Group to draft Employability Strategy – Q2 (0%)
There has been no progress made to date on this action.
- 4.4.2 More young people will develop to be successful adults – More Choices, More Chances; Funding application submitted through 16+ group for flexible pot of funding to enhance interventions – Q2 (0%)
No application has been submitted to the Fairer Scotland Fund to date. A 16+ development officer post has been recently recruited with a start date of 2nd November. Work is ongoing to increase the development of 16+ interventions. Part of this remit includes the identification of interventions and appropriate funding streams – this will be developed in partnership with the Employability Action Group.
- 4.4.3 More young children in Moray will thrive – Parenting strategy; Agreement of communication strategy – Q2 (0%)
Work is in progress to agree a communication strategy. This will be considered in the context of the Early Years Framework during quarter 3.
- 4.4.4 Child Protection services in Moray will improve – Domestic Abuse; Sub-group to be formed with the task for organising the Domestic Abuse Conference in Q3 – Q1 (0%)
The Domestic Abuse conference planned for quarter 3 will no longer take place due to the withdrawal of funding.
It is requested that the milestone be removed from the Key Action as it will not be completed for 2009/10.
- 4.4.5 Child Protection services in Moray will improve – Domestic Abuse; Set date and plan for Q3 domestic abuse conference. Organise key speakers/ formulate list of delegates/ invites delegates – Q2 (0%)
The Domestic Abuse conference planned for quarter 3 will no longer take place due to the withdrawal of funding.
It is requested that the milestone be removed from the Key Action as it will not be completed for 2009/10.
- 4.4.6 Child Protection services in Moray will improve – Domestic Abuse; The Service Level Agreement is to be completed in relation to the two Domestic Abuse Family Support Workers funded by the Fairer Scotland Fund. The posts will also be advertised – Q2 (50%)
The SLA is now complete and posts will be advertised in January 2010.

4.5 Percentage progress provided at the lowest level milestones due for completion by September 2009 contributes to the percentage progress against associated Key Actions as at September 2009 and thereafter percentage progress against Local Outcomes as at September 2009 and this is presented in the table below as a basic indicator. It should be noted that this is a simplistic calculation, it does not include progress against milestones due in future quarters and applies an equal weighting to every milestone in terms of importance.

Local Outcome	Associated Key Actions	Key Action % Complete	Local Outcome % Complete
The community will develop and improve their learning and qualifications	Development and Implementation of a Lifelong learning strategy	41 %	41 %
More young people will remain in learning post-16	Implement 16+ learning action plan	48 %	48 %
More young people will succeed in school	Attainment and achievement agenda	53 %	46%
	Wider achievements	40 %	
More young people will develop to be successful adults	More Choices, More Chances	39 %	39 %
More young children in Moray will thrive	Parenting strategy	55 %	52%
	Early years framework	49 %	
Life Chances for children, young people and families at risk in Moray will improve	Getting it right for every child	44 %	38%
	Corporate Parenting Strategy	35 %	
	Youth Justice Strategy	36 %	
Child Protection services in Moray will improve	Multi-agency Action Plan	41 %	36%
	Domestic abuse	32 %	

4.6 The 'Getting it right for every child' Key Action shows good progress up to the end of quarter 2. However the additional funding proposal submitted through the Fairer Scotland Fund for the continuation of the GIRFEC Coordinator has not been approved. Uncertainty over the future of the Coordinator post may put at risk the fulfilment of the GIRFEC agenda and the achievement of the Local Outcome where 'Life Chances for children, young people and families at risk in Moray will improve'.

5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans

The report sets out a detailed analysis of performance delivered during the year against the actions identified under the Smarter Outcomes in the SOA (2009/10).

(b) Policy and Legal

There is a requirement on all Community Planning Partnerships to monitor performance and report annually to the Scottish Government on delivering against the national outcomes in the SOA.

(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)

Resources for reporting against the SOA 2009-10 will be met by the Council. Resources for delivering against the actions identified within the key actions will be considered by the Community Planning Board.

(d) Consultations

The officers assigned to update key actions have provided the information for the monitoring report.

6. CONCLUSION

- a) **This report demonstrates that 91% of specific milestones due to be completed by September 2009, for which the Smarter Group are responsible for, are either complete or show good progress being made. In assessing risks, in terms of the exceptions reported, and their impact in the overall completion of Local Outcomes, the following inferences can be drawn; EAG Strategy Group will be required to prioritise work on drafting and circulating the Employability Strategy to meet future milestone and key action targets, and funding applications through the 16+ group need to be submitted to avoid missing out on additional funding opportunities and to maximise funding contributions which will enable the achievement of the Local Outcome of 'more young people will develop to be successful adults'. Advertisement, expected in January 2010, and appointment of the two Domestic Abuse Family Support Workers as part of the Domestic Abuse Project will allow work to start in developing and delivering the project, delays could put the fulfilment of the Domestic Abuse Key Action in doubt and will affect the achievement of the Local Outcome where 'child protection service in Moray will improve'.**

The remaining exceptions pose no significant risk in the overall completion of Local Outcomes.

**Author of Report: Bridget Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager
Research and Information Officers, Moray Council**

Background Papers: Held by Author

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