

Fairer Scotland Fund National Outcome 5

Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.

Local Context

Most children in Moray have a good start in life and go on to enjoy success in their early adult lives, but childhood in Moray is not without its challenges. The combination of low average incomes and the higher costs associated with rurality has a significant impact on a number of young people. While Moray is below the national average in relation to child poverty there is a high rate of dental decay which is compounded by difficulties which the area has in attracting dentists.

In August 2004 there were 2,700 children who were living in poverty in Moray, equivalent to 16% of the population, which is below the national average. Moray also has a below average of lone parent households with dependent children 3.5% (6.9% for Scotland). Moray has 262 school pupils in the 11-20% most deprived decile of the SIMD 2007.

Recently there have been increasing numbers of Polish and Portuguese families coming to the area for economic reasons, and there has been an increase of 15% in pupils from ethnic minority groups. There are 559 pupils in Moray from minority ethnic groups which is 4.3% compared to 8.6% nationally. There are 246 pupils whose main home language is neither English, Gaelic, Scots Doric nor Sign Language, which is less than the national average. Moray has 35 languages and 185 pupils with English as a second language. The top 5 languages being Polish, German, Portuguese, Punjabi and Cantonese.

There is a 100% uptake of pre-school education for 3 year olds which is slightly better than national and comparator group. For 4 years olds there is a 99% uptake which is the national average but slightly below the comparator group.

Moray has 25.4 per 1,000 population rate assessed and/or declared as having a disability compared to 15.8 per 1,000 population nationally. Primary pupils with Additional Support Needs (Record of Needs, Co-ordinated Support Plan and/or Individual Education Plan) are in line with the national average (4.9% in Moray and 4.8 nationally). Moray has a slightly higher number of secondary pupils with Additional Support Needs at 4.8% compared to 4.3% nationally.

Since 2003 the MIDAS programme offered 59 pre-school co-ordinated support to children with complex needs. In 2007 there are currently 11 pre-school children receiving support, 10 have "graduated" from the programme and 6 new referrals have been received.

In 2007, Moray Childcare Partnership provided holiday play scheme provision for 15 children aged 5-12 with complex additional needs who attended daily. 14 children with additional support needs were supported to take part in leisure activities.

	Local outcomes	Relevant Indicators	Frequency / Type / Source	Baseline (2006/07)	Local Targets & Timescales
	Children's early years development, learning and care experiences will improve	L4. Reduction in childhood poverty	Department of Work and Pensions, Information Directorate	At August 2004, there were 2700 children that met the criteria. This was 16% of the relevant population. The Scottish average was 22%	There will be a reduction in the number of children experiencing childhood poverty
		Number of Pupils whose main home language is neither English, Gaelic, Scots Doric nor Sign Language receiving support.	Statistical Bulletin Pupils in Scotland 2007 – Published in Feb 2008 – Table 5.8 P48 www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/213387/0056683.pdf	Moray figures – of the 13,002 pupils in publicly funded schools there are 246 pupils (1.9%) languages in Moray Schools is 35. Scottish figures – of the 692,215 pupils in Publicly funded schools there are 23,640 pupils (3.4%). Number of languages in Scottish Schools is 138.	English language acquired to a level enabling all pupils to access the curriculum freely.
	Improve the healthy development of young children and their families, particularly those at most risk by recognising needs early and providing appropriate support	M Pre-school Education Children attending pre-school education	Scottish Government Statistics Notice – Placing Request in Local Authority Schools	3 Year Olds Moray 100% Comparators 96% National 96% 4 Year Olds Moray 99% Comparators 102% National 99%	All parents requesting pre school education will be provided with a place for their child
		N16. Increase healthy life expectancy at birth in the most deprived areas	Scottish Government – Publications/2007 Scottish Government – Publications/2006	Baseline 2005/06 gives Women – 59 years Men – 57.3 years	Increase healthy life expectancy at birth in the most deprived areas
		L11. Proportion of live singleton births of low birth weight	Scottish Executive – Communities and Living Site – Pls to be established	No Moray figures. Figures over Scotland static since mid 1980s at around 2.5% of births.	Reduce the proportion of live singleton births of low birth weight

	The risk of exclusion will be reduced by caring for and supporting Children	Primary Pupils with Additional Support Needs, 2007	Pupils in Scotland 2007 – Scottish Government Statistics Notice	Record of Needs 53 Co-ordinated Support Plan 56 Individualised Educational Programme 237 In Moray, 346 primary pupils have RoN, CSP and/or IEP, 4.9% of all primary pupils (vs 4.8% Scottish average)	Through the provision of additional support all pupils have access to an appropriate curriculum.
		Secondary Pupils with Additional Support Needs, 2007	Pupils in Scotland 2007 – Scottish Government Statistics Notice	Record of Needs 153 Co-ordinated Support Plan 34 Individualised Educational Programme 100 In Moray, 287 secondary pupils have RoN, CSP and/or IEP, 4.8% of all secondary pupils (vs 4.3% Scottish average)	Ensure all children with additional support needs have access to appropriate support
		No of children in MIDAS programme	Children & Young People's Partnership, 17 May 2007	11 pre-school children receiving support, 10 have "graduated" from the programme 6 new referrals have been received.	All children referred to the MIDAS programme will have their needs fully assessed.

	Required Actions/commitment by local partners for these outcomes	Project
	Early Years' development, learning and care experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review bi-lingual support provision to take account of increased enrolment of non-English speakers (TMC) • Develop the early Intervention element of More Choices More Chances Strategy (CPP) • Continue and develop the Moray Surestart Programme directed at the under 5s.
	Improve the healthy development of young children and their families, particularly those at most risk by recognising needs early and providing appropriate support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Mobile information Bus (CPP FSF) • Develop dental facilities in Moray(NHS) • Implement Childsmile programme (NHS) • Undertake review of Youth Initiatives (TMC)
	The risk of exclusion will be reduced by caring for and supporting Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop integrated work to ensure effective integrated assessment framework is in place and utilised to deliver integrated services for children and young people • Strengthen provision in specific areas (autism, challenging behaviour) (TMC) • Establishment of Locality Teams (TMC)
	Scottish Government required Action to support delivery of Local Outcome	