



**REPORT TO: WEALTHIER & FAIRER STRATEGIC GROUP**

**SUBJECT: STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**

**BY: CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER**

## **1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The Wealthier & Fairer Strategic Group is asked to note that Strategic Assessments will be submitted to each of the Strategic Theme Groups which will contain evidence-based information from the Single Outcome Agreement and priorities from the previous theme group.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The Wealthier & Fairer Strategic Group is asked to agree to use the Strategic Assessment to assist the theme group to establish and monitor their priorities.**

- 2.2 The Strategic Group is also asked to note that the Strategic Assessment for this theme group will be submitted to the next meeting.**

## **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The new concordat with the Scottish Government saw a change in how the Community Planning Partnership would be funded and consequently a shift towards new governance and accountability within the Partnership. Community Planning is now undertaking a new evidence based priority approach. The Community Planning Board and all theme groups will also adopt this approach.
- 3.2 The Council's Research and Information Officers (RIOs) in conjunction with partners' analysts are carrying out a Strategic Assessment. Based on evidence gathered from all agencies Moray and Grampian wide, it will be designed to support strategic decision making in relation to managing risks, setting priorities and allocating resources. It will aim to assist in not only setting but also achieving the outcomes and objectives of the Strategic Group, Community Planning Partners, The Moray Council and the Scottish Government. The document will detail the current picture in Moray highlighting any emerging pictures and trends.
- 3.3 Each Theme Group has been allocated responsibility for a number of relevant outcomes from the Single Outcome Agreement to be monitored to enable

development of strategic action plans. The Community Planning Board at the meeting on 29 May 2008 will agree the outcomes remitted to the theme group. The proposed outcomes to be remitted to this theme group are:-

### **Wealthier & Fairer**

- i) SOA 1 – We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- ii) SOA 2 – We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.
- iii) SOA 13 – We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity

At this stage - SOA 15 – Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs - has been allocated to the Community Planning Board. This outcome cuts across all the others and has no obvious fit with any one Theme.

- 3.4 A first draft of this Strategic Assessment will be available for review by Theme Lead Officers, Partner Organisations and other stakeholders by Mid June.
- 3.5 Comments on the first draft should be returned to the RIO team by the end of the first week in July so that the final Strategic Assessment will be available for 21<sup>st</sup> August Strategic Group meeting. Any final developments within the SOA will also be undertaken during this process and reflected in the final Strategic Assessments.
- 3.6 Once the Strategic Assessments are agreed the aim of the Theme will be agreed and action plans developed to support the aim. Monitoring against the actions will be submitted to the meetings on a quarterly basis.

## **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

### **(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans**

The evidence provides the framework and monitoring structure for the Wealthier and Fairer Theme. It also supports the Community Planning process for development and improvement. Additionally it enables Partner Plans to be linked into the outcomes for the community and their performance monitored as part of the community planning process

### **(b) Policy and Legal**

Strategic Assessment will supports partnership working.

### **(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)**

The staffing implications of providing evidence based priorities and quarterly monitoring is being considered by the Community Planning Board at their meeting on 29 May 2008.

**(d) Consultations**

The previous Community Planning Steering Group agreed that the Partnership would use evidence based priorities in the future with quarterly monitoring to ensure that delivery against those priorities.

**5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The Wealthier and Fairer Theme Strategic Assessment is being undertaken to provide a framework to monitor its activities and performance and develop action plans for improvement. This report provides a status and programme for this activity.**

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**Background Papers:**

**Ref:**