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**REPORT TO: WEALTHIER AND FAIRER STRATEGIC GROUP:
10 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**SUBJECT: (A) EUROPEAN FUNDING APPLICATIONS
(B) ELGIN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)**

**BY: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, THE MORAY
COUNCIL**

Attached are two reports which were approved by the Economic, Development & Infrastructure, and the Policy & Resources Committees, in August.

The **European Funding Applications** report details three projects being taken forward by the Council as "lead authority" in which the College, as a Community Planning Partner, and the Government, through Fairer Scotland Funding, are major participants, namely:-

- A Sports and Arts Learning Centre at Elgin High School
- An Assisted Recruitment Scheme
- A Loan Fund for business support

The Loan Fund will operate throughout the East of Scotland, utilising combined contributions from 7 local authorities, and European programmes. Moray Council is using its Business Gateway funding recently transferred from Highlands & Islands Enterprise, to participate in this £3m venture.

The report also refers to an earlier Community Planning Partnership project "Glenlivet Mountain Bike Trails". It is now finalising a funding package to secure European monies.

The **Elgin BID**: The College, Grampian Police, Chamber of Commerce and Highlands & Islands Enterprise as Community Planning partners are actively involved in this project. It is being promoted through a Board and is dependent on a 'yes' vote by the business community in Elgin Town Centre, to be run in October/November.

The Group is asked to note these projects, the commitments to funding them, and their intentions to meet Community Planning, and Single Outcome Agreement objectives in Moray.

Author of Report: Donald Lunan, Planning & Development Manager
Background Papers:
Ref: DL/JC