

REPORT TO: WEALTHIER & FAIRER STRATEGIC GROUP – 18 MARCH 2010

**SUBJECT: SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2009/10 – QUARTER 3
MONITORING STATEMENTS**

BY: CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The reason for the report is to provide the Group with an update against the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) milestones relating to the Wealthier & Fairer theme as at the end of December 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Group:

- (i) scrutinise and note the update of performance regarding the milestones due to be completed by December 2009, relating to the Wealthier and Fairer theme;
- (ii) note that exception comments are made against the milestones between 0 and 49% complete, at the end of the third quarter, within section 4.5 of the report;
- (iii) scrutinise and note the progress of each Key Action and the overall progress made against each Local Outcome at the end of the third quarter; and
- (iv) note that comments are made within section 4.8 against Key Actions identified as being at risk of not achieving 2009/10 target.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Progress has been updated against those milestones that were due to be completed by the end of the third quarter, December 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. Milestone updates were requested for those that were due to be completed by the end of the reporting quarter (statistics provided in table 4.2 below). Lead officers were also asked to provide quarter four updates where appropriate, allowing the opportunity for comments to be made on good progress but more essentially to identify possible slippage with Key Actions, and allowing the Group to discuss and agree corrective action.

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 quarter.

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

4.1 The Wealthier and Fairer Strategic Group are responsible for four Local Outcomes; three under National Outcome 1, 'We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe' and one under National Outcome 2, 'We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people'. The four Local Outcomes have 10 underlying Key Actions, which have 109 Milestones in total, 82 of which are due to be completed by the end of quarter three, December 2009.

4.2 As at December 2009, 77% of milestones due to be completed have been. Of the milestones which have not been completed within the timescale 5% show no progress made to date while the remaining 18% have progressed. Further analysis shows that 91% of quarter one, 83% of quarter two and 60% of quarter three milestones have been completed. It is anticipated that the majority of outstanding milestones will be completed in quarter four. As with quarter two milestones, the number completed increased from 69% at the end of the quarter two to 83% at the end of quarter three. However, there is a risk that with only 60% of quarter three milestones completed at the end of December 2009 that not all outstanding milestones will be completed by the end of quarter four. Within the summary report below key actions and milestones have been included where it has been identified that there may be a risk of these not being completed within timescales.

4.3 The following table provides a summary of performance against the 82 milestones which were due to be completed by December 2009.

Key Action	Number of milestones DUE for completion by Qtr 4, Mar 2010	Number of milestones DUE for completion by Qtr 3, Dec 2009	Progress 0 - 24%	Progress 25 - 49%	Progress 50 - 74%	Progress 75 - 100%
Business Gateway	12	9	-	-	-	9
Business parks and industrial units	12	9	-	1	1	7
Account Management Programme	5	3	-	-	-	3
Moray Towns Partnership	16	13	-	2	2	9
Reduce the number of road accidents in Moray	10	7	-	-	-	7
Elgin Traffic Management Plan	9	6	-	-	1	5
Evidence base to support	7	6	2	-	-	4

investment in the A96 and A95						
Rural Development Strategy	17	13	-	-	-	13
Moray Life Sciences Centre	5	4	2	-	-	1
Apprentice Scheme	16	12	-	1	-	11
Total	109	82	4 (5%)	4 (5%)	5 (6%)	69 (84%)

4.4 The table above provides the rate of progress being made in meeting the milestones due for completion by December 2009. As a guide, it can be assumed that milestones should be between 50-100% complete. 74 of the 82 (90%) milestones due to be completed are either complete or well progressed. Comments on the 8 other milestones, falling somewhat short of completion, are provided below. Progress against these milestones will continue to be monitored in the remaining reporting quarter. Updates against all milestones are included in **Appendix 1**.

4.5 Milestone exceptions -

4.5.1 Business parks and industrial units – Buckie Business Park; report on the continued discussions on purchasing land for development with conditional missives – Q1 (25%)
Discussions on purchasing land have been delayed following the outcome of associated planning decisions. The proposed plot of land has been amended, and planning permission will be submitted as early as possible – May 2010.

4.5.2 Moray Towns Partnership – Lossiemouth – installation of 3 map boards to show walks between East and West Beach, improving tourist facilities and information – Q3 (30%)
One Town Centre map board is to be installed in James Square, currently slow progress is being made. It is anticipated that all map boards will be installed by 31 March 2010.

4.5.3 Moray Towns Partnership – Keith – promotion of Farmers / Continental Market and improvements and decorations on Mid Street. Both schemes to attract shoppers and visitors to Keith – Q3 (30%)
Project delayed as it was anticipated that the project would form part of the Keith Regeneration bid, however this was unsuccessful and works now returned as part of the Moray Towns Partnership Key Action. Contractor currently being appointed to carry out Art work, it is anticipated that the project will be completed by 31 March 2010.

4.5.4 Develop an evidence base to support the case for investment in the A96 and A95:
- Carry out outline road survey on A95 – Q3 (0%)
- Estimate volumes of goods from major Moray businesses on A95 – Q3 (0%)
The emphasis on this action is on the A96. Additional funding to provide a better evidence base with more detailed analysis than

previously anticipated for the A96 in Elgin has been obtained from HITRANS and framework consultants can now provide an enhanced submission for Transport Scotland. It is still anticipated that this work should be complete by end March 2010. Consequently milestones set for work on the A95 have not been met or will not be met and the dates for completion have been reviewed.

4.5.5 Development of a Moray Life Sciences Centre:

- Design Development RIBA Stage D – Q3 (0%)
- Technical Design RIBA Stage E – Q3 (0%)

The Business Case has been completed and has been approved by the Board of Management of Moray College and has attracted European Regional Development Funding. Final decisions on whether they are to provide the balance of the funding required are still to be made by HIE and NHS Grampian respectively. HIE's decision should be known by April 2010 subject to review of the business case. Proceeding to the next stages of development will not take place until funding is secured from all partners. Programme of works have subsequently been revised with new milestone due dates:

- Appointment of Project Manager and Design Team (March 2010)
- Design Development RIBA Stage D (May 2010)
- Technical Design RIBA Stage E (August 2010)
- Commence Pre-Construction RIBA Stage F-H (October 2010)

4.5.6 Expand the Apprentice Scheme to all Partners and to include graduates and manual workers – Explore potential of school visits with partners to showcase job/career opportunities in Moray across a range of employers – Q3 (30%)

School visits to showcase job/career opportunities in Moray have begun with a successful visit to Keith Grammar School. A visit to Milnes High School has been planned and the scheduling of visits to the other Moray schools is being planned.

4.6 Percentage progress provided at the lowest level milestones due for completion by December 2009 contributes to the percentage progress against associated Key Actions as at December 2009 and thereafter percentage progress against Local Outcomes as at December 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
1. Maintain the rate of business start ups	Business Gateway	75%	68%
	Business Parks and Industrial Units	61%	
2. Businesses in Moray will grow GVA	Account Management Programme	60%	62%
	Moray Towns Partnership	65%	
3. Moray will benefit from an improved and safer transportation infrastructure	Reduce Road Accidents	70%	62%
	Elgin Traffic Management Plan	61%	
	Evidence base to support investment in the A96 and A95	55%	
5. People in Moray will have access to better paid employment	Rural Development Strategy	75%	58%
	Moray Life Sciences Centre	30%	
	Apprentice Scheme	68%	

4.7 The table provides a guide on the rate of progress being made in meeting the Key Actions set for 2009/10. As a guide, it can be assumed that Key Actions progress should be between 50 -74% at the end of the third quarter.

4.8 Key Actions at risk of not being completed within timescale

4.8.1 **Elgin Traffic Management Plan (61%)**

Jacobs Consultancy has been awarded the contract for providing transportation and design services to assist in the delivery of the Elgin Traffic Management Projects.

Designs have been completed for the Edgar Road / High School access, however works on the access to Elgin High School have been delayed and as such works have not continued at this stage with the planning application being withdrawn. This will be re-visited in the summer as part of works for the South West area as there will be a requirement to provide access to future affordable housing.

4.8.2 **Develop an evidence base to support the case for investment in the A96 and 95 (55%)**

Please refer to comments provided at section 4.5.4 in the report.

4.8.3 **Development of a Moray Life Science Centre (30%)**

Please refer to comments provided at section 4.5.5 in the report.

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 Wealthier & Fairer 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

This report demonstrates that 90% of specific milestones due to be completed by December 2009, for which the Wealthier and Fairer 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;

- **Furtherance of investigations into future funding sources for Phase 2 of the Moray Towns Partnership will influence the achievement of the Local Outcome that ‘businesses in Moray grow GVA’.**
- **Design works have been completed for Edgar Road extension/access to High School however future works on seeking tenders and beginning works have been delayed; and with the re-focusing of resources and works on to the A96 meaning that projected works on the A95 have been delayed, this will impact of the achievement of Local Outcome that ‘Moray will benefit from an improved and safer transport infrastructure’.**
- **Resolution of uncertainties in relation to the scope and funding of the project to develop a Moray Life Science’s Centre is essential in achieving the Local Outcome that ‘people in Moray will have access to better paid employment’.**

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