

**REPORT TO: WEALTHIER & FAIRER STRATEGIC GROUP – 10th JUNE 2010**

**SUBJECT: SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2009/10 – QUARTER 4  
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 March 2010.

## **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 March 2010, relating to the Wealthier and Fairer theme;
- (ii) note that exception comments are made against the milestones below 75% complete, at the end of the fourth 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 fourth quarter; and
- (iv) note that comments are made within section 4.8 against Key Actions below 75% complete in meeting 2009/10 targets.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Progress has been updated against all the 2009/10 milestones.

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 503 milestones in total. Milestone updates were requested for those that were due to be completed by the end of each reporting quarter (statistics provided in table 4.2 below).

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.

## **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 110 milestones in total, all of which were due to be completed by the end of quarter four, March 2010.
- 4.2 As at the end of March 2010, out of the 10 Wealthier and Fairer key actions 4 have been reported as 100% complete, while 4 actions have progressed between 75-99% complete. The remaining 2 key actions have slipped below 75% complete and exception comments are provided in section 4.8.
- 4.3 The following table provides a summary of performance against the 110 milestones due to be completed by March 2010.

| Key Action   | Number of milestones DUE for completion | Progress 0 - 24% | Progress 25 - 49% | Progress 50 – 74% | Progress 75 – 100% |
|--|---|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Business Gateway                                       | 12                                      | -                | -                 | -                 | 12                 |
| Business parks and industrial units                    | 12                                      | -                | -                 | 2                 | 10                 |
| Account Management Programme                           | 5                                       | -                | -                 | -                 | 5                  |
| Moray Towns Partnership                                | 17                                      | -                | 1                 | 1                 | 15                 |
| Reduce the number of road accidents in Moray           | 10                                      | -                | -                 | -                 | 10                 |
| Elgin Traffic Management Plan                          | 9                                       | 2                | -                 | 1                 | 6                  |
| Evidence base to support investment in the A96 and A95 | 7                                       | -                | -                 | -                 | 7                  |
| Rural Development Strategy                             | 17                                      | -                | -                 | -                 | 17                 |
| Moray Life Sciences Centre                             | 5                                       | 3                | -                 | 1                 | 1                  |
| Apprentice Scheme                                      | 16                                      | 1                | 1                 | 1                 | 13                 |
| Total  | 110                                     | 6 (5%)           | 2 (2%)            | 6 (5%)            | 96 (88%)           |

- 4.4 The table above provides the rate of progress that has been made against all of the Wealthier and Fairer milestones due to be completed during 2009/10. As a guide, it can be assumed that milestones should be between 75-100% complete. 84 of the 110 (77%) milestones have been reported as completed, while a further 12 (11%) have progressed to between 75-99% complete. The remaining 14 (12%) have slipped below 75% complete and exception comments have been provided in section 4.5 below. Updates against all milestones are included in **Appendix 1**.

4.5 Milestone exceptions -

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- 4.5.1 Business parks and industrial units – Buckie Business Park; conclude conditional missives in purchasing of land for development (50%)  
 Delay in associated planning decisions have resulted in reconfiguration of the proposed site. Planning application to TESCO approved 29/09/09. HIE now progressing discussions with landowner and due diligence. Milestone carried forward to year 2010/11.
- 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 (40%)  
 The Map boards are currently being designed and are due to be installed by the end of May 2010.
- 4.5.3 Moray Towns Partnership – Lossiemouth – development of Buckie Community Radio: extension of the Speyside Way to Buckie; promoting Buckie as a terminus/start of 'The Speyside Way' (70%)  
 Progress is continuing to be made with developing the Buckie Community Radio project including volunteers and location search. Orders have been placed for necessary equipment to extend the Speyside Way walk.
- 4.5.4 Elgin Traffic Management Plan – Award tender for Edgar Road extension/Access to High School  
 Proposed works at High School have been deferred therefore the decision was taken to review the requirements for Edgar Road extension, the need for an access to future affordable housing and the requirement for a possible Western Distributor Road (WDR). On hold pending report on the WDR and the need for an access to affordable housing.
- 4.5.5 Elgin Traffic Management Plan – Develop the Elgin car parking strategy  
 Deferred as the strategy was seen as less of a priority than the other parts of the project due for completion using 2009/10 funding. A pilot study will be carried out in 2010/11 and an assessment made whether to proceed to full scale study and strategy thereafter.
- 4.5.6 Elgin Traffic Management Plan – Report on the development of the Western Distributor Road Options A&B (50%)  
 Consultants are working on the option appraisal. Workshop with consultants and officers was delayed twice due to bad weather. This took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> March. Reports to service committee are likely in August and December 2010 and seeking approval to progress to consultation, with a report on route preference in March 2011.
- 4.5.7 Development of a Moray Life Sciences Centre  
 - Appointment of Project Manager and Design Team (50%)  
 - Design Development RIBA Stage D (0%)  
 - Technical Design RIBA Stage E (0%)  
 - Commence Pre-Construction RIBA Stage F-H (0%)  
 Position of Project Manager and Design Team members have been advertised and tenders received, it is hoped that the Project Team should be in place by June 2010. Decision has been taken not to proceed to the next stages of the development until funding secured from all partners. £3m of ERDF funding has been secured, and Moray College and HIE have committed their share of the £9.75m cost. NHS Grampian £3.5m

contribution has still to be confirmed. Revised programme for development as follows:

- Appointment of Project Manager and Design Team (June 2010)
- Design Development RIBA Stage D (September 2010)
- Technical Design RIBA Stage E (to be confirmed)
- Commence Pre-Construction RIBA Stage F-H (to be confirmed)

4.5.8 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%) Successful visit was undertaken at Keith Grammar School, however the focus of future visits to schools is to prepare students for job interviews etc, and not on showcasing job/career opportunities due to current slowdown in the job market.

Discussions have taken place with community partners to expand apprentice scheme, however extreme financial pressures have delayed further progress in rolling out the scheme.

4.5.9 Expand the Apprentice Scheme to all Partners and to include graduates and manual workers – Advertise for 3<sup>rd</sup> group (2010/11) of apprentices – communicating with Careers Scotland and all Moray secondary schools. Encourage applications from all school leavers regardless of academic achievements – (0%)

Programme has been frozen for the immediate future. There are still two groups working within the council and the budget will not support any further apprentices at this time. In the circumstances there will not be any advertising of specific posts in schools but there will continue to be talks delivered to school leavers about careers in local government.

4.5.10 Expand the Apprentice Scheme to all Partners and to include graduates and manual workers – Develop a structure that will appoint trainee/graduates where there has been difficulty in filling professional posts (50%)

Further research being undertaken to explore how development posts in council services are recruited.

4.6 Percentage progress provided at the lowest level milestones contributes to the percentage progress against associated Key Actions and thereafter percentage progress against Local Outcomes at the end of 2009/10 and this is presented in the table below as a basic indicator. It should be noted that this is a simplistic calculation 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                    | 100%                  | 92%                      |
|  | Business Parks and Industrial Units | 85%                   |                          |
| 2. Businesses in Moray                     | Account Management                  | 100%                  | 95%                      |

|  |  |      |     |
|--|--|------|-----|
| will grow GVA  | Programme  |      |     |
|  | Moray Towns Partnership                                | 91%  |     |
| 3. Moray will benefit from an improved and safer transportation infrastructure | Reduce Road Accidents                                  | 100% | 89% |
|  | Elgin Traffic Management Plan                          | 71%  |     |
|  | Evidence base to support investment in the A96 and A95 | 98%  |     |
| 5. People in Moray will have access to better paid employment                  | Rural Development Strategy                             | 100% | 71% |
|  | Moray Life Sciences Centre                             | 30%  |     |
|  | Apprentice Scheme                                      | 85%  |     |

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 and Local Outcomes progress should be between 75-100% complete at the end of 2009/10. Two key actions have slipped below 75% complete and are referred to below, as well as any key actions which have been identified as a risk of not being completed (section 4.8).

#### 4.8 Key Actions exceptions

##### 4.8.1 Elgin Traffic Management Plan **(71%)**

Please refer to paragraphs 4.5.5 and 4.5.6 of the report.

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

Please refer to paragraph 4.5.7 of the report.

##### 4.8.3 Apprentice Scheme **(85%)**

Please refer to paragraphs 4.5.8 – 4.8.10 of 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

- 6.1 This report demonstrates that 77% of the Wealthier and Fairer milestones have been completed during 2009/10, and a further 11% are nearing completion (75-99%). Overall 4 of the 10 Key Actions have been fully completed, while 2 Key Actions have slipped below 75%.**
- 6.2 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;**
- (i) Design works have been completed for Edgar Road extension/access to High School however future works on seeking tenders and planning permission has been delayed; and the deferral on the development of a Elgin car park strategy may impact on the achievement of the Local Outcome that ‘Moray will benefit from an improved and safer transport infrastructure’.**
  - (ii) 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’.**
  - (iii) The postponement in advertising and recruiting a third group of apprentices to the Moray Council, and delays in expanding the scheme to include community partners due to current financial pressures may impact on achieving the Local Outcome that ‘people in Moray will have access to better paid employment’.**

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

**Background Papers: Held by Author**

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