

SPECIAL MEETING OF SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

**23 FEBRUARY 2009 AT 2.00 PM IN THE DISTRICT COURT, MORAY
COUNCIL HQ**

Present: Anne Lindsay (Assistant Principal), Moray College
Susan Chalmers, Skills Development Scotland
John Ferguson (CPDM), Chief Executive's Office, TMC (Chair)
Graham Jarvis (CLD Manager), Educational Services, TMC
Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Fund Manager
Jackie McCreadie, Fairer Scotland Fund Administrator (Minute)

Apologies: Jim Masson, Grampian Police
Gordon Gray, Grampian fire and Rescue Service
Eileen Bush, MVSO
Iain Terry (HPM), Community Services, TMC

John Ferguson welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Jackie McCreadie as the new FSF Administrator to the partners present. John explained the purpose of today's meeting which is a special meeting of the group to look at Impact Assessment submissions from 4 projects who received Transitional Funding through the FSF last year. Decisions need to be made about whether funding will continue post March 2009 or end at March 2009.

Submissions have been received and criteria for scoring have been drafted. The meeting is to agree the criteria and scoring procedures and also to go through the submissions received. John explained that for this purpose the Implementation Group has delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Safer and Stronger Group.

Jacqui Taylor reported that in future decisions relating to allocation of funding will be carried out differently and the plan is to establish what is really needed in Moray through research initially and commission services appropriately.

Jacqui Taylor then explained the proposed scoring criteria which is split into 2 parts. The first part is based on the three key objectives of the FSF and the second part is based on key areas which all projects should evidence they meet and fits with the key criteria laid out by the Government for the use of the fund.

Much discussion took place about the correct wording of the procedures and the scoring system to be used and several amendments were agreed.

Action Point: Jacqui Taylor to amend criteria and forward to other partners for approval.

A discussion took place about the merits of having an application form and the general consensus of the group was that an application form would be a good way to ensure that all submissions are in the same format and are treated in the same way. The scoring procedures agreed would form the basis of the application form and guidance notes.

The group then read through the three submissions namely, Youth Justice, MiB and The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) (Moray New Futures). After discussion the group members agreed to another three months' interim payment for MiB (NHS), SCVO (Moray New Futures) and Aberlour Childcare Trust, thereafter they would then have to go through the process of bidding through their appropriate Theme Groups.

The members felt that as the submission from Youth Justice appeared to be a new service it was agreed that interim funding was not appropriate in this instance and the submission should be rejected on this basis.

John advised that agreement had been reached to write to the chairs of each of the Theme Groups requesting their ideas on distribution of the fund.

Action Points:

Jacqui Taylor to email the rest of the partnership to seek approval to grant three months' interim funding and agreement on the proposed scoring criteria.

Letters to be sent out to projects advising of the group's decision once full approval has been sought.

Letters to be sent out to Chairs of Theme Groups seeking ideas on how to distribute the fund.

A discussion then took place about timescales and cycles of meetings. It was agreed that each of the Theme Groups could approach their appropriate Implementation Groups to provide ideas on the use of the fund which would speed up the decision making process.

As the Smarter Theme group are meeting this week John agreed to speak to Jeff Hamilton in order that they can start looking at ideas of funding. Susan Chalmers made the suggestion that we look at the cycle of meetings for the Theme Groups and work out a timetable of meetings for the Social Inclusion Implementation Group accordingly.

There was a general consensus that the majority of the fund should be allocated this year for two-year projects for maximum impact.

John then thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was concluded.

Action Point – John to advise Jeff Hamilton of the group's proposals for discussion at this week's Smarter Theme Group meeting.

Jacqui Taylor/Jackie McCreadie to put together timetable for further Meetings based around the timetable for the Theme Groups.