

## **MEETING OF SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLEMENTATION GROUP**

**26 MAY 2009 AT 10.00 AM AT SCVO OFFICES,  
14-16 COMMERCE STREET, ELGIN**

### **Present:**

Jim Masson, Partnership Development Inspector, Grampian Police  
Eileen Bush, Chief Officer, MVSO  
Tracey Gervaise, Public Health Lead, MCHSCP  
Anne Lindsay, Assistant Principal, Moray College  
Iain Terry (HPM), Community Services, The Moray Council  
Graham Jarvis (CLD Manager), Educational Services, The Moray Council  
Fiona Simpson, Equal Opportunities Officer, The Moray Council  
Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Manager, The Moray Council (Chair)  
Jackie McCreadie, Fairer Scotland Administrator, The Moray Council (Minute)

### **Apologies:**

Gordon Gray, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service  
Susan Chalmers, Locality Manager, Skills Development Scotland  
Martin Johnston, Area Manager, HIE Moray  
John Ferguson (CPDM), Chief Executive's Office, The Moray Council

### **Presentation by Mike Martin of Grampian Racial Equality Council**

Mike Martin of Grampian Racial Equality Council gave a presentation on reported racial incidents in Moray and a brief discussion followed. Jacqui then thanked Mike for his presentation and he left the meeting.

### **Minute of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising**

Jacqui Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies. Members had no comments on the previous minute. As an Action Point from the previous meeting, Jacqui reported that she had a meeting with Tricia Herley from Procurement in relation to the Council's Tendering Process and would report under Agenda Item 3. Jacqui reported that since the last meeting letters have been sent out to applicants informing them of the Board's decisions on Fairer Scotland Fund proposals.

### **Fairer Scotland Fund**

Jacqui informed members on progress since the last meeting. The three applications which were approved by the Social Inclusion Implementation Group were presented to the Board on 7 May. Two of these were approved by the Board and the third one – Welfare Benefits Advisor – was rejected pending the outcome of the financial inclusion event due to take place on 5 June.

The two successful proposals will be subject to Service Level Agreements which Jacqui will draft out.

The revised process involving the Theme Groups is yet to be clarified and will be presented to at a Special Board Meeting on 10 June.

After some discussion it was apparent that members are unclear as to the remit of the Board, whether its role is to make final recommendations or to rubberstamp decisions made by the Social Inclusion Implementation Group.

Eileen Bush suggested having a look at previous Board minutes to clarify its role in connection with the Fairer Scotland Fund. It was agreed that Eileen Bush would discuss this issue at the Special Board meeting on 10 June.

Discussion then took place about Round 2 funding. At the previous meeting members had agreed that employability provision would be part of a competitive tendering process and would come under the strategic direction of the Employability Action Group.

The intended outcome of the financial inclusion event to take place on 5 June is to develop a Strategy which will identify how best the Fairer Scotland Fund could be invested to meet Financial Inclusion requirements.

Members then discussed the commissioning process and whether it would make sense to commission everything. Jacqui reported that the Council's tendering process takes a minimum of eight weeks from start to finish. There would also be a need for absolute clarity in what we are commissioning and there are still some gaps in knowledge.

Jacqui gave the view that there is still a need for an ad-hoc pot of money which would work in a similar way to the first round and reported that she has already received two outline proposals for this.

After further discussion members agreed that it would take away some of the confusion if submissions for the second round of the fund come directly to Jacqui who would then filter out and reject any that don't fit with the objectives of the Fairer Scotland Fund. Proposals which make it through this first stage would then be passed on to the appropriate Theme Group for the chair to approve. It was suggested that a clause be added into the outline proposal stating what the role of the Theme Group is and which would be signed by the Chair. The Social Inclusion Implementation Group would then make the recommendations as before.

Members agreed the process be provided to the Board on 10 June.

**Action Point: Jacqui to advise Board of revised process.**

### **Social Inclusion Strategy Outcomes and Performance Management**

Discussion then took place about the Social Inclusion Strategy and members agreed that we need to take a look at the SOA and identify where it now fits with the Fairer Scotland Fund. It was acknowledged that social inclusion has a wider fit than just the Fairer Scotland Fund and Jacqui agreed to make a start on revising the strategy and to e-mail members for their additions. Iain

Terry suggested adding an extra column explaining what has happened to those actions removed from the previous strategy.

Once this first stage is complete members would then need to agree lower level actions and outcomes.

Fiona suggested that an Equalities Impact Assessment would require to be carried out before the Strategy is agreed.

**Action Point: Jacqui to put together draft strategy and e-mail round members.**

#### **Financial Inclusion Seminar – update**

Jacqui reported that the financial inclusion event is due to take place on 5 June and that at present we have 32 confirmed attendees. Members who had not yet responded promised to do so within the next day or so.

#### **Future Meeting Dates**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28 July at 2.00 pm in Room 308A, Council Headquarters.