

MEETING OF SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

27 APRIL 2009 AT 10.00 AM IN ROOM 308A, MORAY COUNCIL HQ

Present: Jim Masson, Grampian Police
Susan Chalmers, Locality Manager, Skills Development Scotland
Eileen Bush, Chief Officer, MVSO
Tracey Gervaise, Public Health Lead, MHSCP
John Ferguson (CPDM), Chief Executive's Office, TMC (Chair)
Iain Terry (HPM), Community Services, TMC
Graham Jarvis (CLD Manager), Educational Services, TMC
Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Fund Manager
Jackie McCreadie, Fairer Scotland Fund Administrator (Minute)

Apologies: Anne Lindsay, Assistant Principal, Moray College
Gordon Gray, Grampian fire and Rescue Service

Welcome and Action Points

John Ferguson welcomed everyone to the meeting.
All action points arising from the previous meeting had been completed with no carry forward.

FSF Process

Jacqui Taylor then gave a brief overview of the process for submissions to the Fairer Scotland Fund. It was acknowledged that the process was cumbersome and the partners discussed and agreed that rather than all proposals having to go to all Theme group members that the groups be asked to nominate 2 representatives from each Theme Group to make decisions on outline proposals.

Proposals were accepted which had not gone through the Theme Groups – this being due to the tight timescales. It was agreed that in future no proposal would be accepted which had not been approved by the appropriate Theme group. This will ensure fairness and consistency.

Budget:

Jacqui then tabled a budget spreadsheet for 2009/10 for members' information. Partners noted that that the projected costs are based on the last quarter.

Underspend from 2008/09 was £131k leaving around £439k to spend on investments after deducting the staffing costs and projected costs. It was noted at this stage that the proposal received on the table today amounting to £639k.

First Round Proposals

FSF-1 Girfec Co-ordinator

Jacqui talked members through the proposal which is to fund the continuation of an existing co-ordinator's post. Members were supportive of the proposal

but questioned why this service was not funded through mainstream funding. After much discussion it was agreed to fund the post, subject to more detailed costing being provided, until 31 March 2010 to enable the service to continue whilst alternative or mainstream funding is secured. **Action: Approve £33,750**

FSF-2 Skillforce

This proposal is for a contribution towards the existing Skillforce Initiative. The proposal gives no indication as to why FSF funding is required and members were unsure what impact it would have to the overall initiative given the small amount requested. After some discussion members agreed to reject the proposal. **Action: Reject**

FSF3- Safer Communities/Anti-social Behaviour

This proposal is for a co-ordinator's post to undertake the management of referrals and ongoing development and delivery of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts targeted at young people in the early stages of offending and who do not meet the criteria for other services.

After lengthy discussion there was a suggestion that the ABC's could be tied up with the LIAP process and that perhaps Andy Jamieson could investigate this.

Members then agreed to reject the proposal as it stands. **Action: Reject**

FSF4 – Welfare Benefits

This proposal is seeking funding for an additional welfare benefits advisor plus ¾ clerical support to promote a welfare benefits take-up campaign targeted at disadvantaged communities. Partners were reminded of the financial inclusion event to be held in June with the aim of setting up a financial inclusion strategy and integrated network for Moray. This would be attended by credit unions, CAB etc. There was agreement amongst members that this is a key area in tackling poverty and sits within the Social Inclusion Strategy. John Ferguson reported that the Strategic Assessment shows a disproportionate rise in unemployment in Moray since the end of last year. After further discussion the members agreed to fund the benefits advisor post and ¼ clerical support for two years.

Action: Approve £60,000

Eileen Bush left the meeting at this point.

FSF5 – Moray Arts Centre

This submission engages with young people at risk of substance misuse and offending and trains them in film-making and animation. Members felt that the number of young people being targeted was ambitious and that it might prove difficult to achieve long-term commitment from the specific client group. After discussion it was agreed to reject the proposal. **Action: Reject**

FSF6 – Gypsy Traveller Education and Information Project

This proposal aims to identify and engage with gypsy travellers to support the development of improved life skills and confidence including increased awareness of health issues, employability support and knowledge of other

services and what they can offer. It was agreed that this proposal fits with all three objectives of the Fairer Scotland Fund and several local priorities. Members felt that there were too many activities proposed and were unsure about the geographical location this would cover. After discussion members suggested that Jacqui Taylor could meet with the applicant for more information and to request that a more focused and targeted proposal be submitted. Decision deferred. **Action: Deferred for further information.**

FSF7 – LEAD Scotland/NHS Grampian

This submission seeks to develop one-to-one support and mentoring for individuals with prolonged and enduring mental health issues to gain confidence and core skills and participate in lifelong learning opportunities. Discussion took place about apparent duplication with other services and that how this links with the Condition Management Team. After discussion members agreed to reject the proposal and suggested that the applicant contacts other agencies doing similar work to develop a more collaborative approach to this. **Action: Reject**

FSF8 – Moray Domestic Abuse Forum

This proposal is a pilot project to appoint two part-time family support workers who will support victims of domestic abuse at an early stage. Currently only more serious cases can be dealt with. After discussion the group agreed to approve the proposal and to seek more quantifiable outcomes from the pilot. **Action: Approved £30,000**

FSF9 – Community Learning and Development (Youth Team)

This submission is to for costs involved in extending the current drop-in facility aimed at unemployed young people aged 16-25, provision of one-to-one support, information and signposting and delivery of accredited training. Members felt that this could be integrated with 16+ Learning Choices and should come under the strategic direction of the Employability Action Group. It was agreed that this proposal be deferred to the Employability Action Group to be considered along with similar proposals as part of a commissioning process. **Action: Deferred to EAG**

FSF10 – Community Learning and Development (Youth Team)

This proposal is a two-year programme to run in all schools in Moray aimed at S3 pupils providing an alternative curriculum with an emphasis on ensuring effective transition post S4. Members were unclear as to how this proposal differs from the Skillforce Initiative. After discussion it was agreed to defer a decision and to refer the proposal to the Employability Action Group as the previous proposal. **Action: Deferred to EAG**

FSF11 – Youth Justice

Jacqui talked members through the proposal which is to fund a Restorative Justice worker's post to work with victims of youth crime. Jim Masson made the point that this could link in with Victim Support who already have the infrastructure in place. After discussion members agreed to reject the proposal and suggest to youth justice contact victim support. **Action: Reject**

FSF12 – Community First (Moray)

This proposal is to fund a piece of research into the needs of vulnerable clients including elderly, identify gaps and map current service available to this client group. Members felt that should the need for a piece of research be identified then this would be commissioned by the group and put out to tender in the usual way. The group then agreed to reject the proposal.

Action: Reject

FSF13 – Moray New Futures

This proposal is to fund an employability service which supports people who are furthest from the labour market due to multiple and complex barriers to achieve positive progression. Members agreed to defer the decision and refer the proposal to the Employability Action Group.

Action: Refer to Employability Action Group

In response to a point made by Iain Terry regarding timescales members agreed that money should be set aside for the proposals approved at today's meeting and take away the proposed second stage of the application process. All proposals approved would be subject to a Service Level Agreement which would ensure that robust outcomes and performance indicators could be set and monitored

Social Inclusion Strategy Outcomes and Performance Management

A brief discussion took place about the Social Inclusion Strategy. It was agreed that we need to review this strategy, set milestones and performance indicators and look at changes in light of the current recession.

Fairer Scotland Fund Process (Review)

The group discussed the process for the Fairer Scotland Fund and it was felt we need to look at our priorities based on the Strategic Assessment and be more specific about our requirements for next round.

Members then discussed the need for Service Level Agreements and it was agreed that this would be the best way forward and would replace the second stage of the application process.

Action Point: Jacqui Taylor agreed to speak to Sandi Pick in Procurement re Service Level Agreements.

John then thanked members for attending the meeting and the meeting concluded.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 26 May 2009 at 10.00 am in the Meeting Room at SCVO, Commerce Street, Elgin.