

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: SPENDING PLANS FOR SERVICE TO CARERS
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 20 DEC 2001	Ref: DM/DM	

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report updates Committee on the use of funds allocated for services to carers in North Lanarkshire 2001/2002 and seeks approval for additional proposals to create further direct services to carers.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. As part of the National Strategy for Carers, the Scottish Executive made provision in each of the last two local government settlements for funds to provide services to carers. The total allocation for North Lanarkshire is £627,500. The use of these monies is required to be agreed by carers groups, with written evidence to this effect to accompany the issue of Joint Community Care Plans to the Scottish Executive.
- 2.2. In order to ensure agreement by carers and carers organisations, all proposals for funding have been presented to the Carers Strategy Group which has invited, received and considered requests for funding. This group, which has met regularly since 1999, has representation from carers, carers organisations, Health and Social Work and was responsible for the production of the North Lanarkshire Strategy for Carers.
- 2.3. Committee has previously approved the use of monies for 2000/2001 and the bulk of these monies for 2001/2002. Some proposals were still to be considered further by carers and progress on these is contained in this report.

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. Of the total funds available for services to carers, there remained some further matters to bring forward to Committee, which are set out below.
- 3.2. £1,200 to Jack and Jill Support Group to fund sessional play worker for children with high care needs and to allow additional families to attend annual holiday. In addition the school holiday programme will be enhanced, particularly to the benefit of older siblings.
- 3.3. £2,990 to ENABLE Cumbernauld to enable the attendance of 10 people and children with learning disabilities attend social club and also providing a break for their carers.
- 3.4. £6,000 to NCH Young Carers Project to fund holiday breaks for young carers.

- 3.5. £5,165 to Princess Royal Trust Carers Centre to extend 'Carers Library' in Bellshill Cultural Centre.
- 3.6. £300 to Chrysalis Support Group for Xmas respite programme for carers.
- 3.7. £2,000 to CLASP in Wishaw to enable a promotional video highlighting carers issues to be produced in conjunction with Wishaw/Shotts Community Work Team.
- 3.8. The funds required for the above proposals total £17,655 which exceeds the funds available from the balance of £16,082 reported in October. Committee were advised at that time, that as a result of delay in determining the use of some of the monies, considerable slippage in the budget had resulted. Taking this in to account there are sufficient monies available to cover the shortfall of £1,573.

4. FINANCIAL/PERSONNEL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. Funding for carers has been included in the Social Work budget. The proposals are consistent with the National Strategy for Carers, the North Lanarkshire Carers Strategy and the Joint Community Care Plan.
- 4.2. There are no personnel implications for the Council at this stage.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1. Committee is asked to:
 - (i) approve the use of monies to support carers as set out in section 3; and
 - (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report.



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Director of Social Work
5 September 2001

For further information on this report please contact Duncan Mackay, Manager, Community Care (Adult Services) (TEL: 01698 332065)