

AGENDA ITEM No. 11

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: NORTH LANARKSHIRE STRATEGY FOR CARERS: PROGRESS REPORT ON USE OF FUNDS 2002/2003
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 27 th FEBRUARY 2003	Ref: GS/ST	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report updates Committee on the use of funds allocated for services to carers in North Lanarkshire 2002/2003 and seeks approval for additional proposals.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. As part of the National Strategy for Carers, the Scottish Executive made provision in local government settlements for funds to provide services to carers. The total allocation for North Lanarkshire is £627,500. The use of these monies requires to be agreed by carers groups, with written evidence to this effect to accompany the issue of Joint Community Care Plans and Annual Reviews 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 Implementation Group for consideration. This group has met regularly since 1999 and has representation from carers, carers' organisations, Health and Social Work. The group was responsible for the production of the North Lanarkshire Strategy for Carers.
- 2.3. In previous years, Committee approved use of some funding on a recurring basis. As a result, the funding available this year was reduced proportionately. A summary of these uses, with adjustments for staff salary increases and to bring funding into line with the financial year end is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.4. When this committed funding was taken into account, a balance of £248,151 remained to be utilised in 2002/2003 for new developments. A number of proposals were approved by Committee in October 2002, and further proposals are presented in this report.

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

3.1. New proposals for funding in 2002/2003, summarised in the table below, are presented to Committee for approval:

Organisation	Proposed Usage	Amount
Chrysalis Carers Group	Running costs for group supporting carers of people with mental health problems.	£400
PRT Carers Centre	Funds for Carers Breaks. This will ensure each of the 5 Carer Support Workers attached to each Area Team has access to a budget of £15,000 for short breaks for carers.	£65,000
Social Work Department	Funds for Carer Liaison and Support Project in Wishaw for short breaks for carers until 31 March 2003	£3000
North Lanarkshire Carers Together	Running Costs for this organisation representing the issues of carers. (see point 3.3)	£71,536
NCH Young Carers Project	Holiday fund for Young Carers	£6000
Lanarkshire NHS Board	Carer Co-ordinator post at Monklands Hospital and associated costs until 31 March 2004. This post was funded for 1 year out of last year's budget. Extension will allow the service to continue, subject to a planned evaluation.	£35,000
To be determined	Commission Training Video for staff training in Carer Assessments	£2500
To be determined	Commission individual/organisation to evaluate the work of the Monklands Hospital project.	£5000
Watch us Grow	Respite for Carers through weekend sessions for people with learning disabilities to develop horticultural skills.	£3780
TOTAL		£192,216

3.2 Further proposals for the balance of £44,925 are in progress and include initiatives to respond to the needs of carers in remote areas and from ethnic minorities, launching a welfare benefits campaign and developing support to carers of older people.

3.3 North Lanarkshire Carers Together have produced a comprehensive business plan which sets out in detail the means by which they intend to achieve their goals of actively linking carers and professionals, developing partnerships and influencing policy developments and service developments affecting carers. The funding will, in part, enable 2 full time members of staff to be appointed, a Development Manager and an Administrator/Information Officer. Social Work staff will continue to actively support the organisation and work with them to produce a partnership agreement.

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 Council's Community Care Plan.

4.2. There are no personnel implications 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 and the information contained in Appendix 1.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
30 January 2003

For further information on this report please contact Susan Taylor, Manager, Community Care (Adult Services) (TEL: 01698 332071) or Gordon Simpson, Senior Officer (Carers) (TEL: 01698 332265)

APPENDIX 1

Carers Funds for Recurring Purposes

ORGANISATION	PURPOSE	PROJECT START DATE	2001/2002	2002/2003	COMMENTS
Social Work Department	Respite care – People with Learning Disabilities	01/04/01	£95,000	£95,000	Added to Supplementation Budget
Social Work Department	Respite care – People with Physical Disabilities	01/04/01	£60,000	£60,000	£10,000 to each Area Team
Cumbernauld Action Care of the Elderly	Respite service – Older People	01/02/02	£16,276	£4,570	To cover costs from 01.02.03 to 31.03.03 with a 3% uplift for staff costs
Princess Royal Trust, Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Training Officer Post	01/01/02	£8,675	£2,169	Full time post – Costs shared with South Lanarkshire Council. To cover costs from 01.01.03 to 31.03.03
Partners in Play	Project Worker	01/04/01	£18,000	£18,540	3% uplift for staff costs
Princess Royal Trust, Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Carers Support Service	01/01/02	£25,000	£80,677	Costs to employ Carer Support Workers in 5 Area Teams plus associated costs.
Social Work Department	Carers Support Service	01/01/02	£ 7,000	£51,300	Costs associated with Departmental staff on secondment
Redburn After School Care and Leisure Scheme	After school support for children with disabilities	01/02/02	£20,476	£ 3,413	To cover costs from 01.02.03 to 31.03.03
Princess Royal Trust, Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Training for Carers Programme	08/02/02	£0	£15,000	Funding from 2000/2001 covered costs until this financial year
Shared Care Plus	Staffing, Recruiting and Supporting Shared Carers	23/10/00	£36,000	£15,000	To cover costs from 23.10.02 to 31.03.03
Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health	Developing Short Break Opportunities for Carers of People with Mental Health Problems	21.01.02	£39,550	£0	No funding required in this financial year due to late start of project and recruitment difficulties which are now resolved.
Alzheimers Scotland	Support for ex-carers and carers of people in long term care.	01/11/01	£23,220	£9,679	Costs from 01.11.02 until 31.03.03.
NCH Young Carers Project	Development worker	01/12/00	£ 8,000	£24,000	Salary and associated costs.
TOTAL			£357,198	£379,349	