

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: NORTH LANARKSHIRE STRATEGY FOR CARERS: UPDATE ON USE OF FUNDS TO SUPPORT CARERS
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 30 OCTOBER 2003	Ref: GS/	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

1.1. This report updates Committee on the use of funds allocated for support to carers in North Lanarkshire. It includes details of the use of the balance of funds from 2002/2003 budget, an update on the use of funds agreed by Committee previously for recurring purposes and details of expenditure on a non-recurring basis to date for 2003/2004.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. To support the Strategy for Carers in Scotland, the Scottish Executive made provision in local government settlements for funds to provide support services to carers. The total allocation for North Lanarkshire is £627,500. This amount is included in the Social Work budget and is available to be utilised on an annual basis. The Scottish Executive requires the use of these monies to be agreed by carers, with written evidence to this effect reported to them. In recognition of the need to continue to expand support to carers Committee agreed, in August 2003, to enhance this budget by £40,000 from community care monies.

2.2. In order to ensure agreement by carers and carers organisations, all proposals for funding are considered by a sub-group of the Carers Strategy Implementation Group and recommendations reported back to the group. 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.

3. PROPOSALS/CONSIDERATIONS

3.1. Utilisation of the remaining balance of funds from last years budget is laid out below in **Table 1**

Table 1 Use of Balance of Funds 2002/2003

ORGANISATION	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
NCH Young Carers Project	Production of promotional video for Young Carers Youth Forum	£5,000
Apple Taxi Productions	Additional costs for production Carer Assessment Video and DVD	£5,342
Nuffield Centre, Glasgow University	Evaluation of Monklands Hospital Carer Co-ordinator Project	£5,000
Jack and Jill Support Group (Bellshill)	Funds to support summer break for families caring for children with a learning disability	£1,400
Parkinson's Group (Motherwell)	Set up Drop-in Service	£4,610
Princess Royal Trust Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Funds for Carer Training	£7,000
North Lanarkshire Carers Together	Funds for Consultancy to assist in organisational development (£15,000) and widespread publicity campaign (£12,000)	£27,000
North Lanarkshire Carers Together	New Office Equipment	£8,000

3.2. Committee approval was given previously for the uses of some funding for recurring purposes. The expenditure in this category for 2003/4 is summarised below in Table 2 and takes account of any annual inflationary adjustments required for staff related costs.

Table 2 Use of Funds for Recurring Purposes 2003/2004

ORGANISATION	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	COMMENTS
Social Work Department	Respite care – People with Learning Disabilities	£95,000	
Social Work Department	Respite care – People with Physical Disabilities	£60,000	£10,000 per Social Work Area Team
Cumbernauld Action for Care of the Elderly	Respite service – Older People	£17,267	
PRT Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Training Officer Post	£8,935	Full time post – Costs shared with South Lanarkshire Council.
Partners in Play	Project Worker – Salary and related costs	£19,096	
PRT Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Carers Support Service	£82,347	
Social Work Department	Carers Support Service	£43,464	Costs associated with 2 staff on secondment to Lanarkshire Carers Centre.
Redburn After School Care and Leisure Scheme	After school support for children with learning disabilities	£21,704	
Shared Care Plus	Staffing. Recruiting and supporting shared carers	£15,000	Funding this year have yet to be agreed. The amount stated is indicative only and may be subject to change
Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health	To develop short break opportunities for people with mental health difficulties and their carers	£30,000	Funding arrangements for current year to be decided following outcome of review. The amount stated is an indicative only.
Alzheimers Scotland	Support for ex-carers and carers of people in long term care.	£23,229	
NCH Young Carers Project	Development worker	£24,791	
TOTAL		£440,833	

3.3. New proposals for funding so far in 2003/2004 are summarised below in Table 3. These proposals have been agreed by the Carers Strategy Implementation Group.

Table 3**New Proposals for Funding 2003/2004**

ORGANISATION	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Hillview Special Needs Playscheme	Transport for Summer Playscheme	£1,120
Carers Liaison and Support Project (Wishaw)	Carers Break Fund	£10,000
Lanarkshire Carers Centre	Training for Carers Budget	£ 8,000
Carers Liaison and Support Project (Wishaw)	Funding for summer outing for Carers	£650
Alzheimer Scotland	Additional Staff Costs for support groups and funds to support social outings and activities for carers of older people	£4168
CALM Project Cumbernauld	Running costs for carer organisation supporting carers of children with learning disabilities.	£3,000
TOTAL		£26,938.00

3.4 The balance of £199,729 that remains available this year will be considered by the Carers Strategy Implementation Group over the coming months, and will be reported to Committee in due course. The availability of these remaining monies will enable further development of a range of initiatives of benefit to carers including improved information and responding effectively to carers from black and ethnic minorities. The partnership approach adopted ensures carers are fully involved in the process.

3.5 A funding application pack for organisations is about to be launched. This will ensure that organisations supporting carers will have greater clarity about their eligibility for funding, the range of activities funding can be used for, the application process and arrangements for monitoring.

4. FINANCIAL/PERSONNEL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

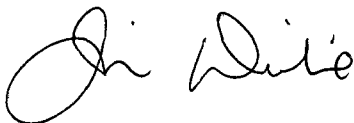
4.1. The funding available for developments of support services for carers is included in the Social Work budget. The use of the budget is consistent with the national Strategy for Carers, the North Lanarkshire Strategy for Carers and the Council's Community Care Plan.

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.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
19 September 2003

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