

Committee: **Scrutiny Committee for Social Services and Health**

Date: **17 March 2005**

By: **Acting Director of Adult Social Services**

Title of report: **Carers Grant**

Purpose of report: **To scrutinise the allocation of the Carers Grant for 2005-2006**

RECOMMENDATION - the Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (1) note the spending plans for the Carers' Grant set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3; and
 (2) note that the information contained in Appendix 4 will be updated once the proposed carers needs analysis is completed.

1. Financial Appraisal

1.1 The Social Services Department's allocation from the Carers Grant for the last five years is set out below:

2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
550	781	944	942	1,175

1.2 Based on this history, officers formed a working assumption that for 2005/6 the Department's allocation would increase by £364k. This figure was used during the grants planning process to develop the proposed spending plans.

1.3 Notification has now been received that the national control total for 2005/06 will increase by £60 million and that the Department's allocation will increase to £1.75 million. This is an increase in grant of £575k or 49%.

1.4 Attached as Appendices 1, 2 and 3 is the proposed allocation based upon the receipt of £1.75 million.

1.5 Although (from 2004) the grant is no longer ringfenced, the current allocation to authorities is based upon the following formula:

Formula	%
Children & Families	20
Adults (18-64)	24
Adults (65+)	56

1.6 The proposal for 2005/06 would reduce the Children and Families allocation from the current 34% to 26% (cash increase £58k). Other key changes proposed include:

Proposals- Adult Services	£
Increasing the short break voucher scheme	175,000
Contribution to Older People's Residential Short Breaks	103,022
5 new Carer Grant funded schemes	77,150
4 existing schemes transferring to Carers Grant funding	72,590
Extension of 5 existing Carers Grant schemes	52,250
Needs Analysis and Re-Commissioning Project	21,541
Inflationary uplift for a range of existing schemes	16,313
Total increase - Adult Services	517,866

2. Supporting Information

2.1 The grant forms part of the 1999 National Strategy for carers. It is designed to stimulate diversity and flexibility in provision of services to carers to support them in their caring role.

2.2 The Carers Grant is no longer ringfenced, but is now a “targeted” grant, with the Government stating “*that the money is still labelled as for carers, and we would encourage councils to use it for that purpose.*” (*Local Government Finance Settlement November 2003: Carers issues*). Local Authorities are closely monitored on Carers Grant expenditure through the Commission for Social Care Inspection’s Delivery and Improvement Statement. Furthermore, from October 2004 a new performance indicator, “Outcomes for Carers of Adults following Assessment”, will bring additional focus on this area.

3. Proposals

3.1 For 2005/6 the multi-agency County Carers’ Strategy Group, which includes carers, recommended that the highest priority areas for allocation of additional Carers Grant funds should be those services that address the needs of older carers and long term carers, including the family carers of people with learning disabilities.

3.2 An information pack, with application form, was circulated to voluntary organisations at the beginning of July, and the bidding process was advertised in each Council for Voluntary Services newsletter. In addition a workshop for prospective applicants took place at the beginning of September with 14 organisations represented.

3.3 In respect of the Carers Grant, 23 applications were received from 14 organisations. There were 13 applications for new schemes and 10 for the expansion of existing schemes. Representatives from the multi-agency County Carers Strategy Group, including carers, met to look at the applications and recommended priorities to the Officer Panel.

3.4 The Carers’ Grant Officer Panel met on the 22 October. The Panel was made up of senior officers from the Social Services Department and Health, but also included a carer. The Officer Panel considered the funding recommendations of the Carers Strategy Group and made few changes before agreeing the final set of proposals.

3.5 An application was received from a National Charity to provide a support service for older carers of people with learning disabilities. The panel agreed that such a service is a priority and recommended that the sum of £30k be ring-fenced, but that there should be further discussions regarding the detail of this service. This is being taken forward by the Commissioner for Learning Disabilities Services.

3.6 Following receipt of the notification that we were in fact to receive an increase in grant some £211k more than our working assumption, existing allocations and proposals were reviewed. In the light of the current financial pressures on Social Services and the County Council it is proposed that the bulk of this additional grant should be committed against existing carers schemes, thereby freeing up revenue for other priorities and securing funding for key services that might have otherwise been at unavoidable risk.

4. Conclusion and reason for recommendation

4.1 It is recommended that the Social Services and Health Scrutiny Committee note the spending plans for the Carers’ Grant set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3. In addition the Committee is asked to note that the geographical information contained in Appendix 4 will be updated once the proposed Carers’ Needs Analysis Project is completed later this year.

KEITH HINKLEY

Acting Director of Social Services

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Local Member(s): All

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None

Appendix One: CARERS' GRANT BUDGET 2004/05 & RECOMMENDED ALLOCATIONS FOR 2005/6

No	Scheme	Detail	Area	04/05 Budget	Recommendation 2005/06
	Grant Allocation	49% growth		1,174,593	1,750,000
Carers Grant is paid to the County Council as a specific formula grant: 20% is given for children's services 80% is given for adults					
	Funding Allocated to Adult services: A proposed increase from 66% in 2004/5 to 74% in 2005/6			776,785	1,294,651
	Funding Allocated to Children and Families Service: A proposed cap of a 10% share of available growth resulting in a reduction from 34% in 2004/5 to 26% in 2005/6			397,808	455,349
Allocation to Adult Services					
<u>Schemes with continued funding</u>					
1	Short Break Voucher Scheme		County	48,000	223,000
2	Spot purchase Emergency respite		County	56,756	67,456
3	Grangemead Short term care	In-house	Wealden	11,500	11,500
4	Rethink Carers Network & Respite(MH)	previously known as NSF	County	120,080	120,080
5	Assoc of Carers H&R		Hastings/pt Rother	6,250	9,450
6	H&R Crossroads Home Respite		Hastings/Rother	108,746	124,346
7	Hgs & Rother Crossroads to 25yrs	(90% C&F funded)	Hastings/Rother	8,819	8,819
8	Seaford Crossroads Care		Seaf'd/ Ebne/Wldn	121,500	139,000
9	Seaford Crossroads 30 hr Service	0-25 yrs (90% C+F funded)	Lewes	600	600
10	Lewes Crossroads Care		Lewes	57,423	57,423
11	Friends of William Daley Carers Support		Polegate & District	46,964	52,914
12	Mencap Sat Project 1		Lewes	9,140	9,140
13	ESDA holiday respite		County	6,180	6,180
14	Mencap Ebne Hive Activity		Eastbourne	16,900	16,900
15	PHAB Eastbourne		Eastbourne	2,132	2,132
16	Lewes District & Wealden MIND		Lewes	10,000	10,000
17	CFC Youthability	50/50 Adults & Children- (50% in C&F)	High Weald	28,765	28,765
18	ESCC Youthability - Transport	50/50 Adults & Children- (50% in C&F)	High Weald	9,775	9,775
19	British RedX North Wldn Carers Relief		Wealden	3,178	3,178
20	Carers County Outreach Support	10% C&F funded. Part of pooled budget	County	72,000	72,000
21	Carers Back Protection DLE	via SSD DLE arrangements	County	5,000	7,444
22	Carers Back Protection	Part of pooled budget	County	25,000	35,000
23	Adult Services unallocated	carers involvement expenses etc	County	2,077	2,077
24	Adult Services uplift re cost pressures		2.10%		16,313
Total of Schemes Continuing				776,785	
<u>Additional Schemes</u>					
25	Sponsored by L D Partnership Board	Supporting Older Family Carers	County		30,000
26	Vision Care	Carer Support	County		1,800
27	Alzheimer's Society	Carers Training	Ebne/Lewes/Wldn		2,400
28	Friends of William Daley Carers Support	Over 80 Years Enhanced Respite	Polegate & District		7,950
29	Direct Payments Carers Scheme	for non breaks carer services	County		35,000
30	Care for Carers Young Car Supp	contribution to shortfall from adults	Rother and Wldn		10,000
31	Needs Analysis and re-Commissioning Project- one off re better use of resources		County		21,541
<u>Existing Schemes transferring to Carers Grant Funding</u>					
32	Policy Officer -Carers Strategy and Commissioning Manager		County		49,446
33	Older people's Contracted Block respite care beds		County		103,022
Recommended allocation for Adults				1,294,651	
Allocation to Childrens and Families Service					
34	Direct Payments - short breaks	C&F	County	62,653	120,194
35	Sorrel Drive Respite extension	C&F in-house	Eastbourne	79,503	79,503
36	H&R Crossroads Care	0-25 (10% adult funded)	Hastings/Rother	79,373	79,373
37	Seaford Crossroads Kids Plus		Seaf'd/ Ebne/Wldn	24,105	24,105
38	Seaford Crossroads 30 hr Service	0-25 (10% adult funded)	Lewes	5,400	5,400
39	Lewes Crossroads Cygnet		Lewes	32,630	32,630
40	Carers and Parent Enterprise		Ebne/Lewes/Wldn	2,500	2,500
41	Lewes Mencap Sat Club 2 & Club 3		Lewes	15,860	15,860
42	PACT Cherish		Lewes/Wealden	6,350	6,350
43	Care for Carers Young Car Supp	now part of pooled budget	County	36,144	36,144
44	Care for Carers Rother (Rye)	now part of pooled budget	Rother	6,750	6,750
45	Care for Carers Youthability	50/50 Adults & Children- (50% in adults)	High Weald	28,765	28,765
45	ESCC Youthability - Transport	50/50 Adults & Children- (50% in adults)	High Weald	9,775	9,775
46	Carers County Outreach Support	90% Adults funded. Part of pooled budget	County	8,000	8,000
				397,808	
Recommended allocation for C&F					455,349

Appendix Two - Summary of Recommended Funding

No.	Client Group	Organisation	Scheme	Funding Requested £	Additional Grant Proposed £
NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - FUNDING RECOMMENDED					
1	Adults LD	On behalf of L D Partnership Board	Supporting Older Family Carers	45,000	30,000
2	Adults SI	Vision Care	Carers Support Services	9,940	1,800
3	Adults	Alzheimer's Society	(Holiday Breaks and) Carers Training	9,999	2,400
4	Adults	W. Daly Carers Support	Over 80 Years Enhanced Respite	8,200	7,950
5	Adults	East Sussex CC	Direct Payments Carers Scheme	60,000	35,000
NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - FUNDING NOT RECOMMENDED					
6	Adults	W. Daly Carers Support	EMI Clients	30,000	
7	Adults	W. Daly Carers Support	Business Premises	9,500	
8	Adults	Winged Fellowship	Holiday Breaks	2,977	
9	Adults/C&F	SASBAH	Fieldwork Adviser and Support	12,896	
10	C&F	Carers First	Young Carers Project	9,003	
11	C&F	Face to Face	Befriending Parents	5,000	
12	C&F	Tonbridge MENCAP	Fun Club	9,500	
13	C&F	Adur Special Needs	Play scheme	5,310	
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM EXISTING SCHEMES - ADDITIONAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED					
14	Adults	W. Daly Carers Support	18-60 Education/Vocational Respite	8,200	5,950
15	Adults	Association of Carers	Respite Volunteers	3,200	3,200
16	Adults	East Sussex C.C.	Short Break Voucher Scheme	225,000	175,000
17	Adults	Seaford Crossroads	Services for Adults and Older	75,000	17,500
18	Adults	H & R Crossroads	Carer Support for Adults/Older	62,899	15,600
19	C&F/Adults	Care for the Carers	Young Carers Outreach/Schools	30,900	10,000
20	C&F	East Sussex C.C.	Direct Payments Short Breaks	100,000	57,541
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM EXISTING SCHEMES - FUNDING NOT RECOMMENDED					
21	C&F	Seaford Crossroads	Crossroads Kids	20,000	
22	C&F	Seaford Crossroads	Children's Services	20,000	
23	C&F	H & R Crossroads	Complex Needs	92,094	
SCHEMES RECOMMENDED TO TRANSFER TO CARERS GRANT FUNDING					
24	Adults	East Sussex C.C	Older people's respite care beds		103,022
25	Adults	East Sussex C.C	Policy Officer -Carers Strategy and Commissioning Manager		49,446
26	Adults	East Sussex C.C	Emergency respite care packages		10,700
27	Adults	East Sussex C.C/Cftc	OT post/Carers Back Care worker		10,000
28	Adults	East Sussex C.C	Carers Back Protection DLE		2,444
ADDITIONAL OFF ONE SCHEME RECOMMENDED					
29	Adults	East Sussex C.C	Needs Analysis/ Re-Commissioning		21,541
TOTALS				854,618	559,094
	C&F				57,541
	Adults				501,553

Appendix Three

Details of Schemes

No. 1 Name of Group: **ON BEHALF OF LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD – Supporting Older Family Carers**

Funding requested: 45,000 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 30,000

Carers Grant is requested to fund a scheme to support Older Carers who still have their son or daughter living with them. Direct assistance will be provided to enable the Older Carer to be actively involved in planning arrangements for long term support for their son or daughter and to make emergency plans in advance of the eventuality of them no longer being able to continue in the caring role.

All Learning Disability Partnership Boards are being encouraged to develop such schemes as part of the national implementation of the Valuing People White Paper.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives:

There was agreement that such a service is a priority and it was recommended that the sum of 30,000 be ring-fenced, but that there should further discussions regarding cost and shape of this service. These are pending with the original applicant, other stakeholders and Learning Disabilities Commissioners.

No. 2 Name of Group: **VISION CARE - Carer Support Services**

Funding requested: 9,940 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 1,800

East Sussex Vision Care is a consortium of 3 charities promoting independence for visually impaired people across East Sussex by providing a home visiting service, rehabilitation and vision awareness courses.

Carers Grant is requested to give support and information to carers identified when making home visits and provide one to one support and if required more in depth training on vision awareness.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives:

It was agreed that vision awareness courses for Carers could be useful and this part of the request was supported, but it was not felt appropriate for Carers Grant be used to fund the mainstream activity of simply recognising Carers and signposting them to specialist Carer Support agencies.

No. 3 Name of Group: **ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY –
Holiday Breaks and Carer Training**

Funding requested: 9,999 Area Covered: Eastbourne, Lewes and
Recommended Grant: 2,400 Wealden

The Alzheimer's Society for Eastbourne and District was set up in 1991 with the aim of improving understanding of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia and ensuring that a range of good quality services are provided or developed to support people with dementia and their carers.

Carers Grant is requested to subsidise holidays for users and carers together in specialist centres geared to offer respite when the carer wants it, and also to offer more training courses to carers

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives:

It was agreed to support the Dementia training aspect of the request, but that funding towards such breaks would be better accessed through the Short Break Voucher Scheme which would allow more choice, and could allow carers to choose such holidays if they chose to.

No. 4 Name of Group: **FRIENDS OF WILLIAM DALY –**
Over 80 years enhanced support

Funding requested: 8,200 Area Covered:
Recommended Grant: 7,950 Parts of Wealden and Eastbourne

The Friends of William Daly Centre Carer Support Scheme was set up in 1982 with the aim of providing services to carers to enable them to continue to care for their dependent at home, to prevent inappropriate admission to hospital and enable early discharge home for either the carer or dependent. The services provided include a 24 hour, 7 day a week flexible respite service, offering short periods of regular respite for carers.

This particular scheme for which funding is requested is to provide a new targeted breaks service for carers who are over 80 years old. There are thought to be over 1000 carers aged over 80 in Wealden and Eastbourne.

This organisation accepts Short Break Vouchers.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

This new scheme is targeting the priority group of older carers. This organisation submitted 4 bids, of which 2 are recommended for funding. However it was felt that further clarification was needed on the services that this scheme will provide. This is currently being sought from the organisation.

No. 5 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL –**
Direct Payments for Carers

Funding requested: 60,000 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 35,000

The County Council has a priority of increasing further the use of Direct Payments to achieve the efficient use of resources and to encourage individual choice. National strategies for all Adult user groups require Direct Payments schemes to be developed. The Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act 2004 comes into effect next April. The key change is that when undertaking a carer's assessment we must consider whether the carer works or undertakes any form of education, training or leisure activity, or wishes to do so.

Carers in East Sussex are seeking more choice and flexible short breaks and have indicated that what they value most as a break from caring is to be enabled to do something for themselves. Over 10% of the population of the County are Carers. They are entitled to be offered Direct Payments if following assessment their eligible need is for "non-break" carer services. Additionally where a carer is assessed as needing a break then the adult user is entitled to be offered Direct Payments for Respite for the carer.

From October 2004 there is a new PAF performance indicator based on recording 2 sorts of outcomes for carers following assessment of the carers needs: Breaks for Carers and Other 'Specific' Carers Services -which are any services which will support the carer in their caring role.

Currently there is no funding for such a Direct Payments scheme re Carer services. This proposal is for a pilot scheme to test out the model.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

The concept of a pilot to test out the issues was supported

No. 6 Name of Group: **FRIENDS OF WILLIAM DALY - EMI Clients**

Funding requested: 30,000 Area Covered: Parts of Wealden and
Recommended Grant: 0 Eastbourne

The Friends of William Daly Centre Carer Support Scheme was set up in 1982 with the aim of providing services to carers to enable them to continue to care for their dependent at home, to prevent inappropriate admission to hospital and enable early discharge home for either the carer or dependent. The services provided include a 24 hour, 7 day a week flexible respite service, offering short periods of regular respite for carers.

This particular scheme for which funding is requested is to provide a new targeted breaks service for carers of people labelled as elderly mentally infirm. This organisation accepts Short Break Vouchers

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives:

This organisation submitted 4 bids, of which 2 are recommended for funding. However it was felt that this particular application was weak, in regard as to why people with dementia should be in a separate scheme. Further clarification is currently being sought, to ensure that existing resources are being accessed by carers supporting people with dementia.

No. 7 Name of Group: **FRIENDS OF WILLIAM DALY – Business premises**

Funding requested: 9,500 Area Covered: Parts of Wealden and
Recommended Grant: 0 Eastbourne

The Friends of William Daly Centre Carer Support Scheme was set up in 1982 with the aim of providing services to carers to enable them to continue to care for their dependent at home, to prevent inappropriate admission to hospital and enable early discharge home for either the carer or dependent. The services provided include a 24 hour, 7 day a week flexible respite service, offering short periods of regular respite for carers.

This particular request relates to infrastructure costs

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

The bid was not supported as it was not felt appropriate to use Carers Grant for non service costs.

No. 8 Name of Group: **WINGED FELLOWSHIP - Holiday Breaks**

Funding requested: 2977 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 0

The Winged Fellowship Trust was set up in 1963 to give disabled and visually impaired people a choice of holidays, provide vital breaks for carers and opportunities for volunteers. The breaks are provided in five centres throughout the country. A wide range of activities and events are provided at these centres, which provides 24-hour on-call care for residents. The age range of people who use this service is between 27-93.

The East Sussex branch provides 78 breaks, of one week each, per year. The Carers' grant is requested to provide 10% of the costs of providing the service.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was recommended that funding towards such breaks would be better accessed through the Short Break Voucher Scheme which would allow more choice, and could allow carers to contribute to such holidays if they chose to.

This organisation is being encouraged to accept Short Break Vouchers

No. 9 Name of Group: **SASBAH - Fieldwork Adviser and Support**
Funding requested: 12,896 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 0

The Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus established in 1965 works across Sussex to assist people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus to lead full, active and rewarding lives. The age range of people helped by SASBAH is between 1 and 80 years. It offers a range of services including a Buddy Scheme, educational, medical, housing, daily living and leisure advice, independence training, housing support, family and carer support and occasional respite.

Last year SASBAH appointed an advisor who is based in Lewes to cover East Sussex. There are 150 individuals in East Sussex with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. The funding request was to contribute to the cost of the advisor service for 25 adults and 10 children visited each week. Community Partnership Finance Grant is funding SASBAH's Buddy Scheme

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was felt that the Application did not meet the Carers' Grant areas of priority because as far as adults were concerned its primary focus was users rather than carers, and therefore it was not appropriate for Carers Grant funding from the adult allocation.

No.10 Name of Group: **CARERS FIRST - Young Carers Project**
Funding requested: 9,003 Area Covered: Wealden
Recommended Grant: 0

This Kent based Carers organisation is offering to cover the parts of East Sussex bordering Kent with an outreach young carers support service

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was felt that the existing countywide young carers service was more appropriate

No.11 Name of Group: **FACE TO FACE - Befriending Parents**

Funding requested: 5000 Area Covered: Eastbourne, Hastings and Wealden
Recommended Grant: 0

Face to Face provide a befriending service to parents of children newly diagnosed with a disability. Formed in the 1980s it became an independent charity in 2002 and provides services in Surrey, West Sussex, Brighton and Eastbourne. Volunteers, who are themselves parents of children with disabilities are trained and supported to Befriend and offer support to parents of children newly diagnosed with a disability.

The Eastbourne Befriender group only has finance from a charitable source until 2005, and the Application is to replace this funding and also develop additional schemes in Hastings and Uckfield

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

The hope was expressed that alternative sources of funding would be found to at least continue the Eastbourne scheme, as the priority for the Children and Families Service share of Carers Grant had to be Direct Payments

No.12 Name of Group: **TONBRIDGE& DISTRICT MENCAP – Fun Club**

Funding requested: 9,500 Area Covered: Wealden & West Kent
Recommended Grant: 0

Tonbridge MENCAP is an independent charity providing help advice and services to people with learning disabilities and their family carers.

They estimate that 35% of their users come from East Sussex and the proposal is to create a satellite service in the Crowborough area for children aged 8 to 17 years, during the summer school holidays

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

As the priority for the Children and Families Service share of Carers Grant had to be Direct Payments, the hope was expressed that alternative sources of funding would be found to allow this limited scheme in an area where there was not currently such a service for children under 14.

No. 13 Name of Group: **ADUR SPECIAL NEEDS PROJECT –**
Playscheme and Youth Club

Funding requested: 5,310 Area Covered: Lewes, Brighton & West
Recommended Grant: 0 Sussex

This charity set up in 1997 is based in the Carers Centre in Shoreham, West Sussex, but is apparently accessed by families from Lewes District. It provides breaks for disabled children and their families.

The proposal would allow the families of 12 children aged between 5 and 18 years to have a weekly break.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Concern was expressed about the issue of funding an out of county service on the far side of Brighton & Hove

There are alternate weekend clubs already funded in Lewes.

No. 14 Name of Group: **FRIENDS OF WILLIAM DALY –** 18-60 Educational
/vocational respite

Funding requested: 8,200 Area Covered: Parts of Wealden and
Recommended Grant: 5950 Eastbourne

The Friends of William Daly Centre Carer Support Scheme was set up in 1982 with the aim of providing services to carers to enable them to continue to care for their dependent at home, to prevent inappropriate admission to hospital and enable early discharge home for either the carer or dependent. The services provided include a 24 hour, 7 day a week flexible respite service, offering short periods of regular respite for carers.

This particular request relates to giving carers of working age breaks to allow them to time to access education and leisure and social activities.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

This organisation submitted 4 bids, of which 2 are recommended for funding. However it was felt that further clarification was needed on the services that this scheme will provide. This is currently being sought.

No. 15 Name of Group: **ASSOCIATION OF CARERS -** Respite Volunteers

Funding requested: 3200 Area Covered: Hastings & parts of Rother
Recommended Grant: 3200

The Association of Carers was set up in 1987 to provide relief, assist, encourage and promote Carers in their caring role and support their dependants within their own homes.

The organisation offers a home respite service to carers and families coping with a terminal illness by recruiting suitable volunteers to visit people in their own homes, to offer friendship and companionship to the dependent for a few hours allowing the carer to have some time for themselves.

Additional funding is being sought to extend the scheme further into Rother.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

A very cost effective breaks service provided by volunteers. The only application to be recommended to receive exactly what they asked for.

No.16 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – Short Break Voucher Scheme**

Funding requested: 225,000 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 175,000

The need for a flexible 'short break' service was identified through consultation carried out in 1998 as part of the development of the 'Respite Care Strategy'.

The short term break voucher scheme is designed to offer persons cared for and their carers a simpler way of achieving some level of flexibility and choice in the delivery of respite care than is currently available via direct payments. The Short Break Voucher Scheme is in line with the County Council's focus on person centred, flexible care and the move away from 'menu' driven services.

We have the power to provide vouchers in lieu of community care services.

These can be issued to carers, or to the person being cared for, in order to provide a break. The Voucher Scheme offers a range of choice from homecare, daycare and to purchase time with outreach workers.

The Short Break Voucher Scheme is the only kind of flexible service operated within the County.

At the present time, over 357 clients have registered with the scheme. The current 48,000 budget can provide at least 4,000 hours of care.

The Voucher Scheme pilot must be regarded as a success, due to its huge increase in uptake in the past year and very positive feedback. It is being mainstreamed in that some of the administration is transferring to Finance and Panels are now responsible for allocation. The Short Break Voucher Scheme is co-ordinated by a Policy Officer who dedicates approximately six days per month to the scheme. The scheme is supported by paid staff from the Policy and Strategy Unit, Financial Services and Contracts and Purchasing.

There are however, ongoing development needs within the Voucher Scheme including stimulation of the market and the procurement of new providers. The Scheme gives users choice and control with minimum bureaucracy and is greatly valued by those users who can access providers.

However the decision needs to be reached as to whether to substantially increase the size of the budget, thereby justifying development and administrative costs, or to wind down the scheme.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was agreed that the pilot had been a success and that the scheme should expand to become viable and available to many more carers and with larger allocations for each. It was suggested that there should be a cap of 15,000 maximum committed from the Carers Grant to fund a staff post to support the scheme, which needs further development.

No. 17 Name of Group: **SEAFORD, EASTBOURNE & WEALDEN CROSSROADS – Adults**

Funding requested: 75,000 Area Covered: Eastbourne, Seaford, and Wealden
Recommended Grant: 17,500

Seaford, Eastbourne & Wealden Crossroads was set up in 1986 with the aim of relieving the stress and strain on carers by providing well trained motivated Care Attendants who will visit the carer's home and stay for 3/4 hours to give the regular carer/s a general break.

This scheme is open to carers looking after a disabled person over the age of 19, regardless of their disability.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

The bid to expand the existing service for adults and older people was supported

No. 18 Name of Group: **HASTINGS & ROTHER CROSSROADS –**
Support for Adults/Older People

Funding requested: 62,899 Area Covered: Hastings & Rother
Recommended Grant: 15,600

Hastings & Rother Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme was set up in 1988 with the aim of relieving stress and strain on carers and give both them and the people they care for an opportunity for a much needed respite break. The service is provided for carers with dependants of all ages and disabilities, thereby helping maintain the physical and emotional health of carers.

This particular service is to support services for adults and older people from the age of 25. This is provided by trained care attendants on a regular basis usually at the individual's home.

There is currently a waiting list averaging 30 families (60 to 80 families a year)

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

This scheme is well thought of and an increase is recommended

No. 19 Name of Group: **CARE FOR THE CARERS –**
Young Carers Outreach/Schools Liaison

Funding requested: 30,900 Area Covered:
Recommended Grant: 10,000 County-wide but risk is to service in Rother and Wealden

Care for the Carers was set up in 1989 with the aim of providing information for Carers to enable them to access appropriate services for themselves and those they care for, as well as providing opportunities for Carers to meet together to reduce isolation and enhance their skills etc.

Care for the Carers provide a number of different activities including an outreach service for Adult carers, home visiting, assessment of needs, Backcare, Hospital liaison, as well as running "Youthability" Saturday sessions and residential activities for young disabled people to give carers a break, and provide 1-1 support and respite activities for young carers aged 7-18 years. A bi-monthly newsletter is published and sent to over 3000 carers.

This particular application is requesting funding to replace a charitable grant that runs out in April 2005. If this income is not replaced the Young Carers outreach and schools liaison service in rural Rother and Wealden will cease.

Currently Care for the Carers is in contact with at least 180 young carers and their families, and it is anticipated that an additional 50 young carers will be identified each year requiring support etc.

It is known that over 50 adults are supported by Young carers in this part of the County

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It is recommended that a contribution be given to Care for the Carers from the Adults allocation in recognition of the role Young Carers play in supporting adults with disabilities. It is acknowledged that additional funds from elsewhere will also be needed. It was suggested that as this is a service that goes into schools it may be eligible for Standards Funding

No. 20 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL –
Direct Payments Short Breaks**

Funding requested: 100,000 Area Covered: County-wide
Recommended Grant: 57,541

Direct payments will be a key indicator for disabled children's services from 2004/05 onwards and are in line with legislative requirements under the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000.

The existing scheme gives Direct Payments to Parent Carers of disabled children and is regarded as a great success. The provision of this scheme enables carers to feel supported in their caring task enabling them to continue in their caring role and prevent family breakdown. The Direct Payment scheme provides flexible services which are of benefit to the carers.

However it cannot meet the demand and there is a waiting list. In addition the Carers Grant existing allocation is having to-be supplemented from other hard pressed budgets.

Therefore the application is to enable additional short breaks to be provided from the Direct Payments Scheme. It is anticipated that approximately 28 carers will benefit from the requested additional funding

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was acknowledged that the proposed cap on growth from the Carers Grant creates a problem for Children and Family services. There was understanding that the priority for the use of all growth monies was Direct Payments

No. 21 Name of Group: **SEAFORD, EASTBOURNE & WEALDEN CROSSROADS
– Kids**

Funding requested: 20,000 Area Covered:
Recommended Grant: 0 Eastbourne, Seaford, and Wealden

Seaford, Eastbourne & Wealden Crossroads was set up in 1986 with the aim of giving carers of a disabled child and/or young adult a service specifically designed to meet their needs. Crossroads aims are to relieve the stress and strain on carers by providing well trained staff who provide a high standard of care. The service aims to give respite either in the family's home or community based.

This particular scheme offers respite to children aged 0-19 years.

27 children currently benefit from the service and the proposal is to offer this to a further 9 each week

There are currently 40 children on the waiting list to receive a service.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was acknowledged that the proposed cap of 36,400 growth from the Carers Grant creates a problem for Children and Family services. There was understanding that the priority for the use of all 36,400 was as Direct Payments

No. 22 Name of Group: **SEAFORD, EASTBOURNE & WEALDEN CROSSROADS
– Children**

Funding requested: 20,000 Area Covered: Eastbourne, Seaford, and
Recommended Grant: 0 Wealden

A similar application to Number 21 above

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was acknowledged that the proposed cap of 36,400 growth from the Carers Grant creates a problem for Children and Family services. There was understanding that the priority for the use of all 36,400 was as Direct Payments

No. 23 Name of Group: **HASTINGS & ROTHER CROSSROADS –**
Children & Young People

Funding requested: 92094 Area Covered: Hastings & Rother
Recommended Grant: 0

Hastings & Rother Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme was set up in 1988 with the aim of relieving stress and strain on carers and give both them and the people they care for an opportunity for a much needed respite break. The service is provided for carers with dependants of all ages and disabilities, thereby helping maintain the physical and emotional health of carers.

This particular service is to support services for to support children and young people with complex needs, aged between 0-25 years, by providing respite for their family carers. This is provided by trained care attendants on a regular basis usually at the individual's home. Approximately 70 carer families benefit from weekly respite breaks of normally 2- 4 hours. The Carer's Grant is requested to provide an additional 120 hours respite breaks per week for carers currently on the waiting list

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

It was acknowledged that the proposed cap of 36,400 growth from the Carers Grant creates a problem for Children and Family services. There was understanding that the priority for the use of all 36,400 was as Direct Payments

No. 24 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL-** Older people's
respite care beds

Funding requested: Area Covered: County
Recommended Grant: 103,022

Currently the County Council purchases through block contracts 13 residential and Nursing Home beds to provide respite short breaks, at a cost of £238,848. Unlike many other authorities we have not used Carers Grant previously to fund this. Given pressures on the Community Care budget these services could be in danger if we do not contribute Carers Grant in this way. The proposal is to free up £103,022 of Community Care monies for other priorities

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Not yet discussed - To be discussed at Carers Strategy Group meeting 17th January 2005

No. 25 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL –**
Policy Officer -Carers Strategy and Commissioning
Manager

Funding requested: Area Covered: County
Recommended Grant: 49,446

Over the last 12 months the Policy and Strategy unit have been able to commit additional Policy Officer time to Carers Strategy development issues and this has proved its worth. Following a fundamental review and extensive consultation a new ambitious Carers Strategy Action Plan is now ready for implementation, and a shift towards the development of a comprehensive commissioning strategy has begun but seeing through these developments will commit a full time Policy Officer for at least 2 years. This funding will ensure capacity to take the partnership with carers forward with improving services.

Unlike many other authorities we have not used Carers Grant previously to fund this. Given pressures on the Community Care budget this work could be in danger if we do not contribute Carers Grant in this way.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Not yet discussed - To be discussed at Carers Strategy Group meeting 17th January 2005

No. 26 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL –
Emergency Respite**

Funding requested: Area Covered: County

Recommended Grant: 10,700

This will add to the £57,656 already committed from the Carers Grant to fund Spot purchase Emergency respite to meet the short breaks needs of carers. Given pressures on the Community Care budget this service could be in danger if we do not contribute Carers Grant in this way.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Not yet discussed - To be discussed at Carers Strategy Group meeting 17th January 2005

No. 27 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL/CARE FOR THE
CARERS –**

OT post/Carers Back Care worker

Funding requested: Area Covered: County

Recommended Grant: 10,000

Physical Disabilities Teams are so convinced of the value of the existing Cftc Backcare service they were prepared to freeze an OT post to find the funding to expand it. With the OT service still a scarce resource, using Carers Grant for this purpose therefore seems a more appropriate option. Given pressures on the Community Care budget this service could be in danger if we do not contribute Carers Grant in this way.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Not yet discussed - To be discussed at Carers Strategy Group meeting 17th January 2005

No. 28 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL -
Carers Back Protection DLE -**

Funding requested: Area Covered: County

Recommended Grant: 2,444

Currently expenditure from the main equipment budget is used to supplement this, an existing service with a budget of £5000 used to purchase specialist aids and equipment to help Carers lift without damaging their back. Given pressures on the Community Care budget this service could be in danger if we do not contribute Carers Grant in this way.

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Not yet discussed - To be discussed at Carers Strategy Group meeting 17th January 2005

No. 29 Name of Group: **EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL -
Needs Analysis and re-Commissioning Project-**

Funding requested: Area Covered: County

Recommended Grant: **21,541**

This project has been highlighted as the major new initiative in the Carers Strategy Action Plan. It is a one off time limited project to achieve the better use of resources committed to meet carers needs. It should deliver efficiencies in procuring carers services during 2006/7 and beyond in line with "Gershon" requirements

Comments from the Carers County Strategy Group representatives

Not yet discussed - To be discussed at Carers Strategy Group meeting 17th January 2005

Appendix Four

