

Strategic Objectives for Respite Care (from the 1999 Respite Care Strategy)

- Objective 1** To prevent or delay the loss of independence, by developing and targeting a range of preventative services that provide short term breaks in the community or through residential services.
- Objective 2** To maintain and promote independence through short-term breaks that are not only supportive but also stimulating, enjoyable, developmental and enhance the quality of life.
- Objective 3** To improve opportunities for recuperation and rehabilitation at whatever stage in their lives this is required for service users and carers.
- Objective 4** To recognise the different needs of service users and carers, to enable the preservation of healthy family relationships during and after short-term breaks.
- Objective 5** To listen to service users and carers, be open and responsive to new ideas for services and to develop new partnerships and joint agency approaches to delivering services.
- Objective 6** To improve the level of carers' assessments carried out and to establish assessment practices acceptable to carers.
- Objective 7** To develop services in rural areas that improve access, bring services to the rural area or provide flexible transport.
- Objective 8** To develop introductory and transition periods to assist service users and carers to become familiar with staff and volunteers providing the service.
- Objective 9** To provide services appropriately so that genuine relief from the carers' role is possible and optimum health can be achieved.
- Objective 10** To widen the opportunities for Children & Families respite services, by developing outreach and community based services as well as the existing residential provision.