

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	17 October 2011
Title:	Short Breaks Grant Awards
Reference:	3353
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. A total budget of £3.25m for 2011-12 was confirmed by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 6 April 2011, to support the provision of Short Breaks for Disabled Children within the framework of The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010.
- 1.2. The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of the executive Lead Member for Children's Services grants to be allocated over the value of £5,000, totalling £99,787.61 to Voluntary Sector and other organisations in Hampshire.
- 1.3. Grants awarded to organisations in this report will enable them to continue to develop and provide services for disabled children and young people, which contribute to the range of services required to be provided within the framework of The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010.
- 1.4. A Grants programme for April 2012 – March 2014 is currently being planned.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The Regulations bring into effect Paragraph 6(1)(c) of Schedule 2 to the Children Act 1989 (inserted by section 25 of the Children and Young Persons Act 2008), requiring local authorities to provide services to assist individuals who provide care for disabled children to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively, by giving them breaks from caring.
- 2.2. The Regulations state that "a child is disabled if he is blind, deaf or dumb or suffers from mental disorder of any kind or is substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity or such other disability as may be prescribed"

2.3. The Regulations also define short breaks with the caveat that provision shall be made, in so far as is reasonable and practicable, for a range of services which are sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively. In particular the local authority must provide, as appropriate, a range of:

- day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere;
- overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere;
- educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes;
- services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.

3. Finance

3.1 The grants referred to in this report are proposed from the allocation of £765,000 to support 1200 children and young people accessing local universal services. Grants will continue to be awarded following this report and subject to further reports, with the £386,553.61 remaining of this allocation. These services offer provision of:

- educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes;
- services available to assist carers in the evenings, weekends and school holidays.

3.2 Parents and carers of disabled children have contributed to the design and proposed delivery of the services for which grant funding has been applied for through feedback and consultation with service providers, through formal and informal evaluation of existing provision, and through participation in local Groups.

3.3 The process adopted for the evaluation and allocation of grants has been consistent with that of the Children's Services Integrated (CSI) grant process to ensure a consistent approach to grant provision across Children's Services. The panel for this particular round of evaluation and allocation comprised a variety of HCC officers from the short breaks team, the procurement service and two representatives from Parent Voice.

4. Grants for Approval

The following schedule of grants are recommended to the Executive Member for approval. The grants are awarded following the evaluation of bids received from providers following an advert requesting a range provision from across the county. A table of the following grants has been included as Appendix 1.

- **All of Hampshire**

AACT – Autism & Asperger’s Climbing as Therapy

One-to-one and small group sessions using Calshot Activity Centre climbing wall; running from November 2011 – March 2012 during evenings, weekends and school holidays. Up to 580 children/young people will be able to attend.

The panel recommends a total of £29,125.
(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £15,304. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £44,429).

Sensecere

Ten Sensory activity days and workshops running in Havant & Waterlooville, New Forest, Gosport, Basingstoke. Workshops running from November 2011 – March 2012. Children can access guided sensory activities/sensory equipment, with support for parents attending alongside to confidently continue activities beyond the workshop.

The panel recommends a total of £18,642.56.
(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £14,622.20. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £33,264.76).

The Rose Road Association

Provision of places for children and young people living in Hampshire at holiday play schemes based at The Bradbury Centre, Southampton, during October 2011 and February 2012 half-terms, and December 2011 Christmas holiday.

The Panel recommends a total of £4677.
(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £73,995. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £78,672).

Family Resource Centre UK

GO! (Great Opportunities!)

Six events for the whole family providing activities where everyone can join in. Covering the areas of Basingstoke, Hart & Rushmoor, East Hampshire, New Forest, Fareham & Gosport and Test Valley. These will run at weekends and also during school holidays between November 2011 and March 2012. The provider is already established in other neighbouring counties.

GO! Club – (pilot in Basingstoke) Fortnightly Saturday sessions for 5-19 year-olds including cookery, dance, drama and crafts. These will run between November 2011 and March 2012.

The Panel recommends a total of £7860.

UK Youth (based at Avon Tyrrell Outdoor Activity Centre)

Provision of Christmas Environmental and Outdoor Activity Experience for the whole family. Activities for all and social activities for parents/carers including time away from the centre/the children.

This event is open to all Hampshire families.

The Panel recommends a total of £8,500.

(Grants have been previously awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £13,530. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £22,030).

- **Havant & Waterlooville**

Prospect School

Provision of After School Rock School Club for students at the school, from October – December 2011, culminating in “Prospect’s Got Talent” show in December 2011.

The Panel recommends a total of £4988.

(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £12,372. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £17,360).

- **Eastleigh**

Solent Youth Action

Provision of holiday scheme for children aged 10-19 years, in October 2011 half-term.

The Panel recommends a total of £2,190.

(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £6830.10. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £9020.10).

YMCA Fairthorne Group

Provision of supported places at daycamps at the YMCA outdoor activity centre for 0-16 year-olds, during October 2011 & February 2012 half-terms, and Christmas 2011 holidays.

(These daycamps are open to children/young people from a wide geographical area).

The Panel recommends a total of £6765.

(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £92,595. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £99,360).

- **Winchester/Eastleigh**

In Touch

Provision of Holiday Activities days based at Marwell Activity Centre in October 2011 half term holiday; supporting young people with Autistic Spectrum disorders aged between 0-16.

The Panel recommends a total of £972.

(Grants have previously been awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £4,360. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £5,332.

- **Basingstoke**

Please see Family Resource Centre UK; GO! Club in 'All of Hampshire' section above.

- **Hart & Rushmoor**

NAS (National Autistic Society) - Hart & Rushmoor

Support and resourcing to three drop-in clubs for children/young people with autism and their parents/carers. Two mid-week clubs offering gaming/building activities; and a Saturday club, running from October 2011 – March 2012. The club is now based at Samuel Cody School with improved facilities and increasing its membership with school pupils also attending.

The Panel recommends a total of £7,416.15.

(Grants have been previously awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £6602.50. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £14,018.65).

- **New Forest**

Parent Link

Provision of youth clubs for children/young people with additional needs and their siblings: Saturday club from January – March 2012; and December 2011 and February 2012 school holidays. The age group offered the service has been extended to include 5-12 year-olds.

The Panel recommends a total of £8651.90.

(Grants have been previously awarded in the financial year 2011-12 of £17,321. Total Short Breaks Grants for 2011-12: £25,972.90).

5. Future Direction

- 5.1. We have commenced the commissioning and procurement process for grants to be allocated for the financial year 2012/13 considerably earlier this year to ensure organisations are provided with more planning time.
- 5.2. It is also expected that, dependent on the success and service user feedback of this year's schemes, we may be in a position to award grants for longer than one year for some services in the future, providing more stability and development opportunities for organisations.
- 5.3. The participation and engagement of parents and carers and children and young people will also be enhanced in the planning and development of future short break services by the continued development of the Parent Forum (and also by the required consultation exercise as future service statements are prepared).

6. Recommendation

- 6.1. That the Executive Lead Member approves those Grant applications over £5,000, totalling £99,787.61 to the organisations listed in 4 above.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u> Short Breaks Statement of Future Provision and Grant Awards	<u>Reference</u> 3153 2589	<u>Date</u> 28 September 2011 6 April 2011
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u> Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation 2010		<u>Date</u> December 2010

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. The proposals support that the needs of disabled children and their carers are met within local services and that parents and their representatives have an opportunity to be consulted and to influence services.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. N/A

3. Climate Change:

N/A

Appendix 1
Table of Grants Recommended

Short Breaks Provider	Grant recommended (£)	Grant previously awarded 2011-12 (£)	Total Short Breaks Grants Awarded 2011-12 (£)
AACT	29,125	15,304	44,429
Sensecere	18,642.56	14,622.20	33,264.76
The Rose Road Association	4677	73,995	78,672
Family Resource Centre UK	7860	N/A	7860
UK Youth	8,500	13,530	22,030
Prospect School	4,988	12,372	17,360
Solent Youth Action	2190	6830.10	9020.10
YMCA	6765	92,595	99,360
In Touch	972	4,360	5,332
NAS – Hart & Rushmoor	7,416.15	6602.50	14,018.65
Parent Link	8,651.90	17,321	25,972.90
Total:	99,787.61		