

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	17 July 2012
<b>Title:</b>	Short Breaks Grant Allocations for 2012-2013
<b>Reference:</b>	3717
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services for Short Breaks grants to be allocated to the value of £36,977 to Voluntary Sector and other organisations in Hampshire for 2012/13.
- 1.2. Grants awarded to organisations in this report will enable them to develop and continue to provide services for disabled children and young people, as part of the range of services required to be provided within the framework of The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2011.
- 1.3. The Short Breaks programme will continue to consider smaller grants throughout 2012-13, including applications that support individual disabled children and young people to access mainstream leisure and recreation activities where specific individual provision is required to ensure their full participation. These Grants are all under £5,000 and allocated by officers under delegated powers.

### 2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children 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

2.4. This is the final grant round for larger grants (£5,000 and over) for Short Breaks for the current year 2012-13. The Panel for this particular round of evaluation and allocation comprised a variety of HCC officers including the Short Breaks team, other HCC colleagues who work on the Short Breaks programme, parent representatives (including representatives from Hampshire Parent/Carer Network (formerly known as Parent Forum) and representatives from Parent Voice Participation and Information Service).

2.5. The previous larger grants round for 2012-13 was challenging as there was significant interest from providers which was demonstrated by the high number of applications received for the grant round; and the majority of grants for 2012-13 were agreed in this earlier round. The Panel’s focus for decision-making in this round included the following:

- Continuing to consider areas where there have been fewer Short Breaks-funded activities previously
- Demand and interest from children, young people and their parents/carers
- A mix of activities that are specialist for children and young people with disabled; and activities that include disabled children in mainstream activities
- Value for money

2.6. This funding has also been used to provide some in-house (Hampshire County Council) activities. The same scrutiny process was followed, but this funding award is not given as a grant. This funding amount is identified in Section 3 below and totals £14,000. Together with the recommended Grant amounts, the total Short Breaks Grant funding detailed in this report is £50,977.

### **3. Grants For Approval**

3.1. Grants totalling £36,977 for the main Short Breaks activities are recommended to the Executive Member for approval. The grants are recommended following the evaluation of bids received from providers, in order to provide services for April 2012- March 2013.

#### **3.2. Grant Recommendations:**

##### **Havant and Waterlooville: Community Childcare Centres – “Growing Places”**

**£8,748**

This is a holiday club providing activities in all school holidays for children aged 0-12 years. The club is an inclusive club for all children, and the grant will support children with disabilities to be included in the activities provided.

##### **Havant and Waterlooville: Autism & Asperger’s Climbing Therapy (AACT) – 1:1 and small group climbing sessions**

**£12,000**

These sessions help children with autism, learning disabilities and behaviours that challenge to develop confidence, problem solving skills and physical development while enjoying a fun climbing activity. Children can attend 1:1 sessions and progress to very small groups according to their needs.

##### **Central Hampshire – Tower House Horses – “Horse Handling Club”**

**£12,000**

This small group activity provides Saturday sessions for children with all types of disabilities/additional needs. Groups complete horse-based activities with a focus on supporting children to practice social skills and reduce anxieties/challenging behaviours, and work towards certificates of achievement. The provider is based in the Winchester/ Eastleigh area but is accessed by families from several other areas due to the central location.

##### **Hart and Rushmoor: Stepping Stones DS – “Stepping Stones Recreation”**

**£4,229**

This is a parent-led group for families with a child / young person with Down 's syndrome. The grant awarded will cover activities throughout the year including Little Squirtz and pre-school Squirtz, clubs for younger children, and a fortnightly Secondary age club. Together with smaller grants approved under delegated powers, the total amount of grant provided to Stepping Stones DS for 2012-13 is £6,135.50.

### **Other Funding approved**

#### **All of Hampshire: Hampshire County Council Adoption Services – “Activity based respite for adoptive families”**

**£14,000**

This funding award is for targeted short breaks activities for children with disabilities and additional needs who are adopted. The funding will be for ten activity days throughout the year, plus a contribution to the activities during four weekends throughout the year. The Adoption Service offer the activity in partnership with the voluntary organisation Youth Options.

### **4. Finance**

- 4.1. A budget of £3.25m is allocated for the whole short breaks programme for 2012/13. The grants referred to in this report are proposed from the total grant fund of £2.37m to support approximately 2500 children and young people accessing Short Breaks services.
- 4.2. In the earlier larger grants round for 2012/13 a total of £1,976,707 was allocated. As in 2011/12, grants of under £5,000 will continue to be awarded by officers under delegated powers; with the grant fund remaining of this allocation. For 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, a total of £32,143 has been awarded in smaller grants, and a breakdown is included in Appendix C.
- 4.3. In addition to the amount allocated in the initial grant round, and the £50,977 recommended for Short Breaks activities and projects through this report, the budget also includes funding allocated for the Participation and Information Service, the Buddy Scheme, the Bridging workers scheme, and operational costs.

### **5. Future Direction**

- 5.1. The Panel was held as described in 2.4, for the whole of Hampshire with Short Breaks funds being administered centrally. During 2012-13 we are progressing work alongside Parent Voice and Hampshire Parent / Carer network which will support local groups and networks focused on disability and ensure these groups are linked to Local Children's Partnerships. These groups along with the Local Children's Partnerships will be encouraged to take a much more active lead role in recommending grant allocations for their own areas in the future. This will take the form of a pilot for autumn 2012 larger grant round which recommends grants for 2013/14 provision.
- 5.2. The participation and engagement of children and young people will be enhanced throughout 2012-13 by improved evaluation of Short Breaks activities, to be implemented by the Short Breaks team and by activity providers. Further strategic development of children and young people's participation will be developed throughout 2012-13.
- 5.3. The participation and engagement of parents and carers will be enhanced in the planning and development of future Short Breaks services by the

continued development of the Hampshire Parent/Carer Network (formerly Parent Forum).

- 5.4. Hampshire County Council is expected to review the Short Breaks Service Statement regularly and this work has begun with Hampshire Parent / Carer Network, Parent Voice and officers from Hampshire County Council. The joint working group have provided a new Service Statement in draft, to be consulted upon widely; and submitted to the Executive Lead Member at a Decision Day later this year for approval.

## **6. Recommendation(s)**

- 6.1. That the Executive Lead Member approves those Grant applications totalling £36,977 to the organisations listed in Section 3 of this report; and also notes the funding allocation to Hampshire County Council department totalling £14,000 and described in Section 3.

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

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

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Short Breaks Grant Awards	3353	17 October 2011
Short Breaks Statement of Future Provision and Grant Awards	3153	28 September 2011
Short Breaks for Disabled Children	2589	6 April 2011
Short Breaks Grant Awards	3440	18 January 2012
Short Breaks Grant Allocations for 2012-13	3441	1 February 2012
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	
Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation 2011	December 2011	

**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:**

N/A

**3. Climate Change:**

N/A

SHORT BREAKS FOR DISABLED CHILDREN GRANT: Summary of Grants under £5,000 1<sup>st</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Activity title/details</b>	<b>Date of activity</b>	<b>Funding Awarded</b>
Bushy Leaze Children and Families Centre	East Hants	Special Saturdays	19 May and 24 November 2012	£1,000.00
NAS - Alton Branch	East Hants	Pottery painting	23 June 2012	£135.00
Eastleigh Fundays Group	Eastleigh	Under Fives Fun Days Extended for Special Needs	29 May 2012; 13 June 2012, 25 June 2012	£1,000.00
Hampshire Riding Therapy Centre	Eastleigh	Ponies Educating Diabetics & Siblings (PEDS)	28 April - 18 August 2012 and 12 May - 1 September 2012	£2,490.00
Now Heritage Community Interest Company	Eastleigh	Toynbee Visually Impaired Voices Radio Project	13 June to 18 July 2012	£302.00
The d.@rt Centre, Wildern School	Eastleigh	Multi-Arts group holiday activities	30 July- 2 August 2012	£1,200.00
Community Childcare Centres	Havant & Waterlooville	Easter Holiday Club	2 - 15 April 2012	£650.00
Y services for young people	Havant & Waterlooville	Wednesday night club	1st April 2012 - March 31st 2013	£4,504.44
Y services for young people	Havant & Waterlooville	Odyssey Thursday Club	Thursday - term-time only, plus 2 off-site activities during Summer & Christmas	£676.96
Stepping Stones DS	Hart and Rushmoor	Stepping Stones Family Day	Sunday 1 July 2012	£823.73
Stepping Stones DS	Hart and Rushmoor	Cycling & Trampolining Course	2 - 4 April 2012	£1,082.77
Yateley School	Hart and Rushmoor	Centre 4 Youth Weekly Special Needs Arts, Music, Dance and Drama Group	May 2012 – March 2013	£2,031.00

## Appendix C

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Activity title/details</b>	<b>Date of activity</b>	<b>Funding Awarded</b>
Gosport School Sport Partnership	Fareham & Gosport	Inclusive multi-sports activity	June half term	£1,430.00
Springfields Playscheme	Fareham & Gosport	Support for disabled children to attend holiday playscheme	Easter Holiday & June Half Term 2012	£1,430.00
Wheelchair Laser Tag	Fareham & Gosport	Wheelchair Laser Tag Activity	Summer half term (June) and 5 dates in School Summer Holidays	£1,200.00
Southampton & District Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Association	All areas	Family ice skating day	09-Jun-12	£640.00
<b>Total of under £5,000 grants</b>				<b>£20,595.90</b>
<b>Support for Individuals Grants</b>	All areas			<b>£11,547.50</b>
<b>Total of all under £5k grants</b>				<b>£32,143.40</b>