

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Social Care
Date of Decision:	26 February 2010
Decision Title:	Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2010/11
Decision Reference:	1265
Report From:	Director of Adult Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for making grant awards to the voluntary and community organisations outlined in this report.
- 1.2 This paper seeks to
- Offer background details of the Adult Services Grant Programme and Process.
 - Provide details of the steps taken in determining grant allocations for 2010/11.
 - Provide details of recommendations of organisations supported including recommended funding allocations and details of proposed activities (Appendices C and D).
 - Offer information regarding the Grant Programme's Criteria.
 - Provide details of the monitoring and evaluation process.
 - Provide information regarding the Impact Assessment.

2. Contextual Information

- 2.1 The publication 'A Guide to Procuring Care and Support Services', published by the Department for Communities and Local Government, October 2006, draws a helpful distinction between grants and contracts.
- 2.2 A grant is defined as a sum of money to support a particular activity. It does not usually cover the entire cost of the activity and it is legally considered to be a one-sided gift, rather than a payment in exchange for services.

- 2.3 A contract is a binding agreement to perform a certain service in exchange for an agreed payment.
- 2.4 In broad terms these definitions are an affirmation of those used by the former Social Services Committee for many years. There has been a trend to transfer services from a grant-funded to a contractual basis in the light of the above definitions, for many years.
- 2.5 In accordance with the outcome of the corporate Best Value Review of support to the voluntary sector, the Adult Services grants programme is advertised on the County Council's website. Community Voluntary Services are also informed of the County Council's grant programme.
- 2.6 Grants of £5,000 and above require authorisation by the Executive Member for Adult Social Care.

3. Finance

- 3.1 The budget in 2010/11 for grants to voluntary organisations is £650,000. This report represents an allocation of £411,967 for grants over £5000. The balance of this budget will be allocated to grants of £4,999 and below through delegated authority by the Director of Adult Services, and those grants previously allocated on a multi-year basis. £100,000 per annum was allocated to Hampshire Voluntary Care Groups Advisory Service (now known as the Good Neighbour Support Service) in 2008/09 for three years.
- 3.2 A total of 73 applications were received for the 2010/11 Grant Programme, totalling £1,090,783. 63 organisations applied directly to the programme (totalling £769,589). In addition two applications were transferred across from the carers' grant programme (totalling £51,588) and eight from the pump priming for new innovations grant programme (totalling £269,606). This represents an oversubscription of £440,783.
- 3.3 18 applications are recommended to be awarded grants over £5,000. These are outlined in Appendices C and D. Grant recommendations for grants under £5,000 will be submitted in a separate report to the Adult Services Departmental Management Team under the established scheme of delegation.

4. Performance

- 4.1 Organisations recommended for grant funding will be able to support the Adult Services Department in delivering social care services to Hampshire residents. Their performance will be measured against the outcome framework outlined by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), namely:
 - Outcome 1 – Improved Health and Wellbeing
 - Outcome 2 – Improved Quality of Life
 - Outcome 3 - Making a Positive Contribution
 - Outcome 4 - Increased Choice and Control
 - Outcome 5 - Freedom from Discrimination and Harassment

- Outcome 6 – Economic Well-being
 - Outcome 7 – Maintaining Personal Dignity and Respect.
- 4.2 Initial assessment of how individual organisations recommended for funding may meet the CQC performance outcomes are summarised in Appendix D.
- 4.3 Some organisations recommended for grant funding will also be supporting volunteering and building sustainable rural communities, which are activities identified as crucial to delivering the Rural Strategy. This includes Club Hampshire Ltd, deafPLUS, New Forest Information Service and Age Concern Andover and District. Details of the organisations' activities are set out in Appendix D.

5. Key Points

5.1 Grants Criteria and Wellbeing

5.1.1 Adult Services criteria for grant applications are:

- (i) The grant recipient is a voluntary or community organisation;
- (ii) The services, projects or activities of the organisation support the priorities of Hampshire County Council and fit with the objectives of the Adult Services Department;
- (iii) The services, projects or activities are for people living in Hampshire;
- (iv) The organisation has a clear management structure within its constitution; and
- (v) Where applicable, the organisation shall demonstrate it holds the appropriate level of insurance and has in place policies around Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety and Race Relations.
- (vi) Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold unallocated reserves in excess of one year's running costs, or where it is judged that these reserves are unreasonably in excess of what is required or not allocated for legitimate purposes.
- (vii) Organisations receiving recurring funding which hold unallocated reserves in excess of three months' running costs may receive a reduced grant.
- (viii) Adult Services has adopted the Charity Commission's reserves policy in this respect. The definition is located in Glossary of Terms at the end of this report.

5.1.2 The grant applications received were considered in relation to how well they linked with current Adult Services outcomes:

- Maximising independence and inclusion
- Right care in the right place at the right time for users
- Vulnerable people are protected

- Delivering a high quality, cost effective service to the vulnerable people of Hampshire
 - The Hampshire Model of Personalisation
 - Meeting the performance outcomes identified by the Care Quality Commission
- 5.1.3 All grant applications have been considered in a staged process, initially for recommendation by senior operational and commissioning managers and then at a grant panel where applications and recommendations were considered within the context of the available budget. The grants panel consisted of the grants officer and senior Adult Services officers. All grant applications have been subject to scrutiny on need for the service vis-à-vis the Department's strategic commissioning objectives and priorities, as well as financial need. As previously mentioned, grants over £5,000 require authorisation by the Executive Member for Adult Social Care. These are summarised in Appendix C.
- 5.1.4 The Department and the organisations being recommended for grant funding are expected to show a commitment to the One Compact for Hampshire (the jointly agreed framework of principles to guide the working relationship of the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Public Sector).
- 5.1.5 Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold balances in excess of one year's running costs. Those organisations receiving recurring funding which hold in excess of three months' running costs, and where they cannot demonstrate through their reserves policy that these reserves are justified, may receive a reduced grant. To establish the level of reserves, organisations are required to provide a set of their latest accounts and annual report with their application and before grant payment is made – in the case of organisations with an income of £10,000 or above, these must be independently examined or audited. If organisations have reserves in excess of three months, we will apply the newly adopted reserves policy which is in line with the Charity Commission's policy on these matters.
- 5.1.6 Grants are generally a contribution to core costs or service/project costs. Adult Services expect those organisations applying to find additional funding from other sources, to contribute to the costs in kind (through volunteer time, for example) or both.
- 5.1.7 Those organisations and services that fulfil the above criteria and comply with mutually agreed reporting and monitoring requirements, will be considered by Adult Services for grant funding. Where an application has not been successful, advice and guidance in seeking alternative funding will be offered should an organisation request it.

- 5.1.8 As outlined above, a voluntary organisation may be considered for grant aid from Adult Services only if its services, projects or activities are in compliance with the aims and objectives, priorities and policies of the Adult Services Department. Grants are given to support services that are better provided by the voluntary sector e.g. the mobilisation of community resources to help vulnerable people maintain their independence.

5.2 Risk Assessment and Management

- 5.2.1 The provision of grants to voluntary and community sector organisations by statutory bodies always presents a degree of risk. Specific risks that statutory bodies are required to manage include voluntary and community organisations accepting funding without providing a service; organisations not delivering the service as expected; and there being an under spend on the expected activity.

- 5.2.2 This applies to all grants; however larger grants represent a potentially higher cost to the County Council.

- 5.2.3 A number of mechanisms have been employed successfully over a number of years to mitigate and alleviate these risks. These include nominating a Liaison Officer from the County Council whose responsibility is to monitor how the grant is spent, specifying within the grant agreement that the grant is 'restricted' funding for the provision of the specified activity only and phasing the payment of grants over the course of the financial year.

- 5.2.4 Grants are often used to enable positive risk taking. They provide a necessary level of flexibility where development opportunities are available. A number of grants within this report are within this category, e.g. L8 Nite Dash and HARG. The above detailed mitigation mechanism would be employed to manage this.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Approval be given for the support of voluntary organisations in 2010/11, for grants of £5000 and above, totalling £411,967 as outlined in the attached Appendices C and D.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

LINKS TO THE CORPORATE STRATEGY		
Hampshire safer and more secure for all		Yes √
Corporate Business plan link no (if appropriate)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Maximising well-being		√
Corporate Business plan link no (if appropriate)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Enhancing our quality of place		√
Corporate Business plan link no (if appropriate)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER SIGNIFICANT LINKS:					
Links to Previous member decisions:					
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Direct Links to Specific Legislation or Government Directives					
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Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>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.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- a) In compiling the attached report, account has been taken of the requirements of the Corporate Equalities Plan and Race Scheme. The One Compact for Hampshire has social inclusion as one of its principles and states that all partners are committed to the importance of promoting equality of opportunity for all people, regardless of race, age, disability, gender, sexual orientation and belief. Additionally, equal opportunity and race relation policies have been sought from the voluntary organisations that apply for grants above £5,000.

Applications were considered in terms of their accessibility for hard to reach groups and recommendations made which will be incorporated into the relevant grant agreements.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- a) The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all decisions it makes on the prevention of crime. The proposal in this report aims to improve the safety of vulnerable Hampshire residents and reduce the risk of crime occurring. Examples of projects recommended to be funded include The Vine Drop in Centre, Aldershot and Rushmoor Healthy Living.

3. Climate Change:

- a) **How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?**
 - The Adult Services Grant Programme proposes to support local organisations providing services within local communities. This reduces the need to travel and therefore reduces both the carbon footprint and energy consumption.
- b) **How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?**
 - The proposal recognises the need to adapt to climate change and plans to develop a longer term strategy in order to address this.

Name of organisation	Service / Project	Grant Awarded 2009/10	Grant Rcmmd 2010/11
Older People			
Age Concern (Andover & District)	Provide information and advice service, as well as day services and IT classes. Funding requested to contribute to core salary costs including project co-ordinator, support administrator and volunteer co-ordinator.	£10,555	£10,555
Age Concern Hampshire	Countywide Information & Advice Service & Associated Activity. For running costs including accommodation costs, utilities, correspondence, volunteer expenses, staff time, insurance, advertising and promotion, etc.	£100,747	£100,747
Age Concern Hampshire in Basingstoke	Offer 9 activity centres (6 funded through this grant application- Popley, South Ham, Kingsclere, Winklebury, Oakridge, Kempshott). Funding requested to contribute towards the salary, on-costs & expenses of the Community Services Officer and direct costs of running the service.	£27,532	£27,532
Age Concern Romsey & District	Age Concern Romsey maintains a hall with full facilities primarily for use by older people. The hall is also an information & signposting centre. Funding requested to contribute towards salary costs of Service Development Officer and Hall Administrator.	£7,985	£7,985
Age Concern Winchester	Age Concern Winchester offer practical advice, regular care services and social contact to older people. Funding requested to contribute towards salaries and core running costs.	£12,123	£12,123
Club Hampshire Ltd.	Club Hampshire currently runs 56 clubs for older people across the county. Funding requested to contribute towards the cost of transport, accommodation & staff salaries.	£118,685	£118,685
Winchester Live at Home Scheme	To improve support and services for older people in Winchester who are socially isolated and housebound. The project maximises independence, inclusion and a feeling of wellbeing. Towards paying for core operational and administrative costs	£15375	£16,000

Name of organisation	Service / Project	Grant Awarded 2009/10	Grant Rcmmd 2010/11
Older Persons Mental Health			
Alzheimer's Society - Basingstoke & Deane Borough	Basingstoke Outreach Service provides information, referral to appropriate support groups and home visits to people with dementia and their carers. Funding requested will contribute towards 2 part time dementia workers.	£7,500	£10,000
Alzheimer's Society - Blackwater Valley	Blackwater Valley Outreach Service provides information, referral to appropriate support groups and home visits to people with dementia and their carers. Funding requested will contribute to core salary and running costs.	£12,125	£10,000
Alzheimer's Society – New Forest	To set up 3 new music groups for people with dementia in Sway, Fordingbridge and Ringwood. Funding requested to pay for sessional music teacher costs and room hire.	n/a	£8,625
Physical Disability			
deafPLUS	Home Benefits Service. Funding requested to contribute towards salary of Home Benefits Service Advisor and core running costs.	£7,175	£7,175
Hampshire Centre for Independent Living (HCIL)	HCIL encourage and enable the use of the experience of disabled people to promote and support independent living through the use of Self Directed Support. Funding requested as a contribution towards core running costs.	£7,500	£7,500
Hampshire Advocacy Regional Group	To provide independent advocacy for deaf people who use BSL. To purchase deaf consultant or interpreter for service users in steering group, salary, overheads/running costs and part time advocate.	N/a	£7,000
Leonard Cheshire Disability	L8 Nite Dash is a fortnightly evening social group managed by young people with physical disabilities aged 18-40. Undertake a variety of activities in the community. Funding requested to enable the club to run weekly and increase membership from 10- to 20.	£4,020	£8,040

Appendix C

Name of organisation	Service / Project	Grant Awarded 2009/10	Grant Rcmmd 2010/11
New Forest Disability Information Service	New Forest Disability Information Service provides information and advice service for people with disabilities at their office, in outreach locations and in the person's home. Funding requested to contribute to core running costs.	£10,250	£11,000
Other Services			
Andover Advocacy Alliance	Independent advocacy service available in Test Valley. Funding requested to contribute towards management and running costs.	£21,074	£15,000
The Vine Drop In	Provide 1:1 in house mental health support, counselling, drugs and alcohol support, housing advice etc to	£4,999	£8,000
Rushmoor Healthy Living	RHL delivers a range of services, the majority of which are for older adults. The grant is towards staff costs relating to those activities. Will help to continue the activities expand the number delivered and develop additional ones.	£25,000	£26,000

1. Older People

1.1 Age Concern Andover and District - £10,555

Age Concern Andover and District supports older people to live an independent and dignified life by offering advice, support and supplying current, accessible and relevant information to them, their carers and family. It answers over 250 enquiries a month, holds a minimum of 6 information events and 12 talks per year. Representatives also sit on local and national committees to ensure older people have a voice in decision making. It also runs an Information Technology group, two low dependency day services, two exercise classes and three foot health clinics.

Approximately 5,800 people benefit from the services of the organisation. The organisation is an important partner not just for the Department but also for various other local voluntary and community organisations. Its services link well to the Hampshire Model of Personalisation and the Wellbeing Agenda.

Age Concern Andover links to the CQC performance outcomes relating to Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life Improved Economic Wellbeing and Increased Choice and Control as it provides information, advice and support services to older people which will enable them to remain independent in their own homes for longer. It also campaigns to improve the rights of older people in the local community.

The organisation's latest accounts show it holds 7.5 months' reserves. Age Concern Andover and District was allocated a grant of £10,555 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £10,555 be approved for 2010/11.

1.2 Age Concern Hampshire, Countywide Information and Advice Service - £100,747

Age Concern Hampshire aims to raise awareness of issues affecting older people in Hampshire, campaign for their rights and provide research, training, courses and conferences. It publishes its own newspaper, holds a regular session on the radio and runs the Exhibition Bus, courses and conferences.

Age Concern Hampshire runs a countywide Information and Advice Service. It dealt directly with 6,299 enquiries in 2008/09, held 57 talks to 1426 people, facilitated 6 residential care information days and 7 Pre-retirement seminars. Support is also given to the other 30 Age Concerns in the County and local branches.

The Department has worked in partnership with the organisation for several years. The Information and Advice service links well with corporate and departmental objectives including the wellbeing agenda and the Universal Offer within the Hampshire Model of Personalisation.

The Information and Advice Service links to the CQC performance outcomes of Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life, Improved Economic Wellbeing and Increased Choice and Control. It provides individualised information and advice to older people across Hampshire in order to enable them to maintain independence and make informed choices about the services they require.

The latest accounts show Age Concern holds just under 3 months' running costs in reserves. It was allocated a grant of £100,747 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £100,747 be awarded for 2010/11.

1.3 Age Concern Hampshire in Basingstoke - £27,532

Age Concern Hampshire in Basingstoke aims to promote the welfare of older people in Basingstoke and Deane. They currently run nine activity centres (six through Adult Services grant funding) for older people at various locations in the Basingstoke area.

Three of the centres operate all day and two are in rural areas. All centres aim to offer a variety of activities including games, chair exercises, quizzes, outings and speakers. Three centres offer hot lunch as do others on an occasional basis, where facilities allow.

Approximately 170 people benefit from the services offered by Age Concern in Basingstoke. The service links well with corporate and departmental priorities including the wellbeing agenda. The grant would contribute towards their core running costs.

Age Concern Hampshire in Basingstoke links to the CQC performance outcomes relating to Improved Health and Wellbeing and Improved Quality of Life and Increased Choice as it provides day services to older people which will enable them to remain independent in their own homes for longer. It enables them to access services which promotes social activity and physical wellbeing.

Age Concern Hampshire in Basingstoke was allocated a grant of £27,532 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £27,532 be approved for 2010/11. The organisation holds just less than 3 months' running costs in reserves.

1.4 Age Concern Romsey and District - £7,985

Age Concern Romsey maintains the centre for older people at Linden Hall. It offers information and advice, social interaction, health and welfare facilities. The hall is dedicated primarily for use by older people, directly through activities and events organised by Age Concern Romsey or other organisations working with older people in the Romsey area.

More than 500 older people benefit from the activities run by Age Concern Romsey. The grant would contribute towards the salary costs of the Service Development Officer and Hall Administrator. The grant fits with

corporate and departmental priorities including the wellbeing agenda and the Hampshire Model of Personalisation.

Age Concern Romsey links to the CQC performance outcomes relating to Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life and Increased Choice and Control as it provides information, advice and support services to older people which will enable them to remain independent in their own homes for longer. It provides a variety of activities to promote social activity and physical wellbeing. The information and advice service enables older people within the Romsey area make informed choices about the services they require.

Age Concern Romsey was allocated a grant of £7,985 in 2009/10. A grant of £7,985 is recommended for 2009/10. According to the latest published accounts, the organisation holds 7 months' running costs in reserves.

1.5 Age Concern Winchester - £12,123

Age Concern Winchester aims to promote the welfare of older people and to improve the quality of their lives by offering services that give practical help, advice and regular care and mental stimulation. Approximately 150 older people and their carers benefit from these services.

The grant funding would contribute towards the core running costs of the service, including staff salaries and office rental.

Age Concern Winchester links to the CQC performance outcomes relating to Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life and Increased Choice and Control as it provides good quality information, advice and support services to older people which will enable them to remain independent in their own homes for longer. It provides a variety of activities to promote social activity and physical wellbeing. The information and advice service enables older people within the Winchester district make informed choices about the services they require.

Age Concern Winchester was allocated a grant of £12,123 in 2009/10. A grant of £12,123 is recommended for 2010/11. The organisation has approximately three months' running costs in reserves.

1.6 Club Hampshire – £118,685

Club Hampshire aims to promote the wellbeing of older people by providing a range of day services to improve their quality of life and enable or assist them to maintain their independence.

Club Hampshire currently runs 56 clubs for older people across the county to counteract social isolation with programmes that provide a mixture of health, education, entertainment and fun and friendship. In 2008-09 approximately 1,350 older people attended their clubs. They are run on a voluntary basis and aim to be flexible enough to meet individual needs.

The service meets corporate and departmental objectives, in particular promoting independence and maintaining wellbeing. The accounts for the year ending March 2009 show the organisation has less than 1 month's running costs in reserves.

Club Hampshire delivers outcomes identified by the CQC. These include Improved Quality of Life and Improved Health and Wellbeing as it provides day services for older people which promote social activity, promotes physical wellbeing and enables members to maintain independence for longer.

Club Hampshire was allocated a grant of £118,685 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £118,685 be awarded for 2010/11.

1.7 Winchester Live at Home Scheme - £16,000

Winchester Live at Home Scheme aims to improve support and services for vulnerable older people (65+) in the Winchester area who are socially isolated and housebound. It provides a range of social activities and contacts the outcomes of which benefit and maximise their independence, inclusion and feeling of wellbeing.

The organisation offers a number of services including one-to-one befriending; four group services (friendship club, lunch club, exercise club, and arts and crafts club); two ancillary services (shopping service and keep-in-touch or contact service); a holiday service; an early response service for referrals with immediate needs, peer monitoring exercise and walking group. Over 200 people benefit from these services.

Winchester Live at Home Scheme meets corporate and departmental objectives including maximising independence, promoting well being and offering preventative services within the Hampshire Model of Personalisation.

Winchester Live at Home supports the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life and Making a Positive Contribution. The service is run predominantly by older people who are trained volunteers. It offers a variety of services which promote independent living and reduce the need for hospital admission. Services provided also promote social activity and physical wellbeing.

Winchester Live at Home Scheme was allocated a grant of £15,375 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £16,000 for 2010/11 be approved for 2010/11. The organisation holds less than 4 months' running costs in reserves.

2. Older Persons' Mental Health

2.1 Alzheimer's Society – Basingstoke and District- Outreach Service - £10,000

The Alzheimer's Society Basingstoke and Deane offers practical services and support for people with all types of dementia and their carers. Services include provision of relevant, meaningful and timely information, referral to appropriate support groups, home visits, assistance and collaboration with local, health and statutory services and setting up peer support groups. The worker also liaises with GP surgeries and support training provided in Basingstoke hospital.

The service has expanded since last year and now employs an additional part time dementia support worker. Approximately 350 people benefitted from input in 2008-09. The service links well with corporate and departmental priorities including the Hampshire Model of Personalisation and the Older Persons Mental Health Strategy.

The Alzheimer's Society Basingstoke and Deane supports the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Promoting Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life and freedom from Discrimination and Harassment. The service offers individualised information and advice at an early stage to people with dementia and their carers. It aims to ensure that people with dementia receive the care they need without discrimination.

Alzheimer's Society Basingstoke and District was allocated a grant of £7,500 in 2009/10. A grant of £10,000 is recommended for 2010/11.

2.2 Alzheimer's Society – Blackwater Valley – Outreach Service - £10,000

The Alzheimer's Society Blackwater Valley offers practical services and support for people with all types of dementia and their carers. Services include provision of relevant, meaningful and timely information; referral to appropriate support groups; home visits; assistance and collaboration with local, health and statutory services and recruitment of local volunteers within the local community.

In 2008-09 450 were offered input from the outreach service. The outreach worker engages with hard to reach groups, those living alone and in rural areas; is involved in setting up peer support groups; and liaises with GP surgeries.

The Alzheimer's Society Blackwater Valley supports the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Promoting Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life and freedom from Discrimination and Harassment. The service offers individualised information and advice at an early stage to people with dementia and their carers. It aims to ensure that people with dementia receive the care they need without discrimination

Alzheimer's Society Blackwater Valley was allocated a grant of £12,125 in 2009/10. A grant of £10,000 is recommended for 2010/11. The organisation holds 12 months' running costs in reserves.

It is recommended that both Alzheimer's Society Blackwater Valley and Basingstoke and Deane are awarded the same amount this year. This is to establish equity of funding.

2.3 Alzheimer's Society - New Forest - £8625

The Alzheimer's Society New Forest aims to promote the understanding of dementia in the New Forest. It provides advice and support to people with dementia and their carers.

The organisation set up fortnightly music group for people with dementia in Hythe in September 2008. This was based on the sessions offered by Hampshire County Council within its residential care homes. The sessions have proved to be very successful and as a result they wish to set up three additional groups in Sway, Fordingbridge and Ringwood.

It is estimated that 30 people with dementia and their carers will benefit from attending the sessions. It will link well with corporate and departmental objectives, in particular the Wellbeing agenda and the Older Persons' Mental Health Strategy.

The Alzheimer's Society New Forest supports the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Promoting Health and Wellbeing and Improved Quality of Life. The service offers the opportunity to improve mental and physical wellbeing through good quality singing sessions which are available to people with dementia and their carers.

This is the first year Alzheimer's Society New Forest has applied for funding from this programme. It is recommended a grant of £8,625 be approved for 2010-11.

3. Physical Disability

3.1 deafPLUS, Home Benefits Service - £7,175

deafPLUS Home Benefits Service provides specialist help for people who are deaf or hard of hearing and their carers to identify and apply for financial and practical benefits to meet their needs. They visit clients in their own homes to help them complete Benefits Applications and follow up as needed. This includes taking cases to tribunals because the unique issues surrounding deafness in day to day living are not fully appreciated by the assessors.

The increased benefits received allow greater independence, wellbeing and choice for people with hearing loss across Hampshire, fitting well with Departmental objectives and the Wellbeing agenda. 50 people with hearing loss benefited from this service in 2009/10, all of whom were referred from Adult Services.

deafPLUS supports the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Improved Quality of Life, Freedom from Discrimination and Harassment and Improved Economic Wellbeing. It offers an individualised service to increase benefit uptake for deaf adults and supports clients through the tribunal process where required.

deafPLUS were allocated a grant of £7,175 for 2009/10. A grant of £7,175 is recommended for 2010/11.

3.2 Hampshire Advocacy Regional Group (HARG), Advocacy for deaf people who use British Sign Language (BSL) - £7,000

HARG aims to promote independent advocacy, to strengthen existing advocacy schemes, to identify gaps in local advocacy provision and develop new schemes where appropriate.

HARG wishes to provide independent advocacy for deaf people who use BSL. It would offer a much needed specialised service to support BSL users, using experienced advocates who also use BSL. Approximately 30 people will benefit from the service.

HARG supports the delivery of CQC outcomes in particular Improved Quality of Life, Increased Choice and Control, and Freedom from Discrimination and Harassment. The service ensures that people who use BSL and require an advocate are not disadvantaged in accessing the service and are enabled to communicate their needs effectively.

This is the first application HARG has made for the BSL service. It is recommended a grant of £7,000 be approved for 2010/11.

3.3 Hampshire Centre for Independent Living (HCIL)- £7,500

HCIL encourages the voice of service users in the planning and delivery of the support services essential to daily living. It also uses the experience of disabled people to promote and support independent living through use of Self-Directed Support.

Activities undertaken include ensuring 'service users' are involved in developing support material, policies and practices; acting as advocates on specific issues; supporting workshops and seminars in Self Directed Support, and keeping service users informed and involved with national and local developments.

HCIL's activities link well to departmental priorities, in particular the Hampshire Model of Personalisation. The grant funding would contribute to the organisation's core running costs.

HCIL contributes to the delivery of CQC outcomes in particular Improved Quality of Life, Making a Positive Contribution and Increased Choice and Control. The service enables users to actively contribute to the development of support services for independent for people living with complex or specialised needs.

HCIL was allocated a grant of £7,500 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £7,500 be approved for 2010/11. The organisation has no running costs in reserve.

3.4 New Forest Disability Information Service (NFDIS) - £11,000

NFDIS provides free, confidential, impartial, disability-related information and advice to people with disabilities of any age, their families, carers and professionals throughout the New Forest and surrounding areas. It aims to empower these individuals by enabling them to make informed choices and lead active lives in their community.

Approximately 1600 people benefitted from their service in 2009/10. 200 of these were referred by the Department. The work of the organisation is consistent with corporate and departmental strategies including the Hampshire Model of Personalisation.

NFDIS contributes to the delivery of CQC outcomes in particular Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life, Increased Choice and Control and Improved Economic Wellbeing.

NFDIS was allocated a grant of £10,250 in 2009/10. A grant of £11,000 is recommended for 2010/11. Latest accounts show the organisation holds limited reserves.

3.5 Leonard Cheshire Disability – L8 Nite Dash - £8,040

Leonard Cheshire Disability aims to work in an empowering innovative manner to enable each individual to achieve their full potential in a safe, supportive, stimulating, challenging and fun environment.

L8 Nite Dash was developed in May 2009 by a committee of young people with physical disabilities aged between 18 and 40. The group meets fortnightly in a variety of settings to socialise and try new experiences.

The club links well with corporate and departmental priorities in particular the Hampshire Model of Personalisation and promoting social inclusion. Ten people benefit from attending. The group currently holds a waiting list and is wishing to expand to running weekly. This will enable it to increase its membership to 20.

L8 Nite Dash contributes to the delivery of the CQC outcomes, in particular Improved Quality of Life, Making a Positive Contribution, Increased Choice and Control and Freedom from Discrimination and Harassment. The user facilitated service enables members to increase opportunities to socialise within the community and challenge stereotypes about the abilities of people with mobility problems.

Leonard Cheshire L8 Nite Dash was allocated a grant of £4,020 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £8,040 be approved for 2010/11.

4. Other Services

4.1 Andover Advocacy Alliance - £15,000

Andover Advocacy Alliance is an independent advocacy service available to all adults living in Test Valley. It uses a model of volunteer advocates and issue based advocacy. It also offers self advocacy for adults with a learning disability.

The organisation aims to support and enable people to take greater control of their lives through helping them to make more informed choices, have increased involvement in decision-making, a better understanding of their rights, and enhanced skills to assert those rights.

Andover Advocacy Alliance links well with corporate and departmental priorities including enhancing wellbeing and the Hampshire Model of Personalisation. 224 people have benefitted from the service in 2009-10.

Andover Advocacy Alliance contribute to the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Increased Choice and Control and Making a Positive Contribution.

Andover Advocacy Alliance was allocated a grant of £21,074 in 2009/10. It is recommended that a grant of £15,000 be approved for 2010/11. The organisation holds 3 months' running costs in reserves.

4.2 Rushmoor Healthy Living (RHL), £26,000

RHL aims to deliver high quality, effective projects aimed at improving physical health and mental well being. Its focus is to engage disadvantaged and vulnerable local residents in order to address health and social inequalities and improve quality of life.

RHL delivers a wide range of projects which provide opportunities and support to those most in need to enable them to take control of and improve their health, general well being and quality of life. Projects include a fuel poverty project, social well being activities, seated exercise programmes, weight management, health MOTs, skilled health courses, health trainers, smoke free homes project, and exercise classes.

The organisation's activities link well to corporate and departmental priorities, in particular the Wellbeing Agenda, preventative services and the Hampshire Model of Personalisation.

RHL contributes directly to the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Improved Health and Wellbeing and Improved Quality of Life.

In 2009/10 RHL was allocated £25,000 towards its core services and the Physical Activity for Older Adults Programme. It is recommended that a grant of £26,000 for 2010/11 be approved. RHL holds less than one year's running costs in reserves.

4.3 The Vine Drop In Centre - £8000

The Vine aims to reduce social isolation, enable change and improve life chances for homeless and vulnerable adults in Rushmoor and surrounding areas.

The Centre offers services to help more vulnerable people access the support they need to reintegrate into the community. It would like to provide a more structured programme including mental health support, 1:1 counselling, drugs and alcohol support, housing, employment advice, healthy living anger management, alcohol awareness and depression workshops. Approximately 360 people currently attend the Centre each month.

The Centre links to corporate and departmental priorities including the Universal Offer under the Hampshire Model of Personalisation.

The Vine contributes to the delivery of CQC outcomes, in particular Improved Health and Wellbeing, Improved Quality of Life, Freedom from Discrimination and Harassment. In addition to the services provided in house the organisation is also proactive at challenging the negative stereotypes of homeless people.

The Vine was allocated a grant of £4999 in 2009/10. It is recommended they it is awarded a grant of £8000 in 2010/11. The organisation currently has 5 months' running costs in reserves.

Glossary of Terms

The Charity Commission's definition of reserve is:

Income funds that are freely available for its general (unrestricted) purposes. "Reserves" are therefore the resources the organisation has or can make available to spend, for any or all of the charity's purposes, once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. It is not yet spent, committed or designated.