

## AGENDA ITEM 9

### PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE GRANT 2001/2002

**Date:** 24 July 2001

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**To:** Partnership Forum

#### **A PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update the Partnership Forum on the Promoting Independence Grant 2001/2002.

#### **B ACTION REQUIRED**

The Partnership Forum to note the contents of the report.

#### **C SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

1. From 2001-02, a new Promoting Independence Grant replaces the previous Partnership and Prevention Special Grants.
2. The new Grant has similar aims to the Partnership and Prevention Grants, and will have broadly similar conditions.
3. The broad purpose of the Partnership Grant: *"to foster partnership between health and social services in promoting independence as an objective of adult services"*, remains a central objective for the new Promoting Independence Grant. The emphasis in this guidance is on using the Grant to promote new patterns of service providing care closer to home, in particular:
  - Through the prevention of unnecessary hospital admission
  - Improved discharge arrangements
  - Better rehabilitation after hospital treatment, including enabling people to enter or re-enter employment
  - Developing services to enable people to live independently and promote their social inclusion
  - Developing contingency plans to deal with emergency pressures

An action plan was submitted to the Department of Health on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2001 which was written in agreement with Primary Care Chief Executives on behalf of their respective organisations.

The activity of each service supported by the grant is to be understood in the wider context of joint investment and strategic planning processes which take account of National and Local Performance Indicators. These processes are an ongoing feature, allowing for informed discussion and evaluation to take place.

The Financial allocation is summarised in a table in the Appendix.

The new services seek to build and establish joint working between Health and Social Services in addressing shared issues of quality, efficiency, and using the respective resources to jointly achieve improved services and real outcomes for service users. These are

- **Central Resource Team** - during the recent winter capacity planning the use of temporary home finders proved invaluable in progressing plans and producing delayed discharges. There is a need to increase efficiency and effectiveness by ensuring optimum placements when needed, that priorities for placements are met consistently across the County and in reducing the amount of care management time spent on this activity. This team will provide a more efficient and effective service in identifying placements and gaps in provision which can thereby lead to more proactive commissioning of services.
- **Care Manager /Social Worker** in the Medical Assessment Units - these posts will carry out assessments of need and co-ordinate multi-disciplinary response avoiding unnecessary admission and facilitate timely and appropriate discharge from the Medical Assessment Units, Accident and Emergency and additional wards.
- **Intermediate Care Beds** - A residential intermediate care bed to facilitate early discharge, recuperation and rehabilitation. This would integrate existing intermediate care services within a care home setting.
- **Independent Bathing Service** - This service will provide a reliable, timely response to people experiencing bathing difficulties. It will assess the needs of individuals, provide information and support the service users in acquiring the equipment and simple adaptations which will help them to retain their independence and to reduce risk. It will also provide carers with the means to continue to assist safely with bathing.
- **Avoiding Slips and Trips** - To ensure that all elderly people seen in Accident and Emergency are assessed and their risk of falling again is minimised. To provide assessment of the risk of falling, focusing on improvement of living environment, medication review, exercise, training and education reducing the risk of falls.
- **Supported Living Co-ordinator** - Supported living is concerned with supporting people with disabilities to live in their own home and ensuring their support needs are met. It is proposed that a supported living co-ordinator post is established to lead this development and some additional care-management time secured to assess and support individuals joining the early schemes.

- **Inter Agency Adult Protection Policy Co-ordinator** - to be responsible for ensuring adherence to the joint agency adult protection policy and accompanying procedures. To assist in the process of raising standards of policy and practice in relation to the protection of vulnerable adults. To ensure the training strategy and programme cascaded through to multi agency managers and staff and that this is properly co-ordinated.

The two Primary Care Groups and one Primary Care Trust have agreed a total contribution of £149,153 required from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002 and are committed to a joint review with Social Services of the schemes which will be running out of funding in December of this year.

As the Partnership Grant and Prevention Grant are now combined, we are currently in the process of reviewing the way we carry out the monitoring of risk assessment of all projects. This will lead to a more consistent approach which can more readily identify unmet need and where there is possibly need for service development. It will also help support an evidence based approach to developing projects whereby initiatives are supported on the basis of demonstrable service improvement.

Consideration will be given to develop appropriate projects in the longer term via the Promoting Independence Grant should they meet the criteria as outlined above, for use of this resource. Other projects that do not meet these criteria but are nevertheless thought to be appropriate for continuation will be directed towards other available sources of funding. Projects that are naturally coming to an end will employ agreed exit strategies as set out in initial project plans.

It is hoped that the next three years will be a time of considerable achievement supported by local commitment at all levels.

## **D BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The Promoting Independence Grant Action Plan 2001/2002

The Department of Health Guidelines for Promoting Independence Grant 2001/2002

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