

Management Meeting, 24 April 2006 – Exmouth Hospital

Those present: Mike Jeans - Chairman
 Liz McQuiston
 Nicky Ruare
 Phil Dyson
 Gill Whitfield
 JE
 Debbie Avery
 Trish Whitfield
 Louise Rains
 Erica Moore

Apologies: None

No	Topic	Action
1	<p><u>Flexible Grant:</u></p> <p>Phil introduced the subject by sharing Geoff King's thinking on how the fund might be used. A pot of money - £62,000 divided between each locality = £10,200 for each. Suggestion by Geoff that the management group or a sub group oversees the sum. Carers would submit an application form to the group which would make decisions and inform the carers accordingly. Geoff suggested that each Link would be responsible for distributing the money or have one of the Links as taking overall responsibility. Maximum payment of £200 per carer per year.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the ways the money might be spent and the consensus was that the purchase could be quite diverse in order to benefit the carer most for having a break.</p> <p>Louise said that they adopted the approach of "what do you think would help you?" when dealing with a similar situation for parents of children with special needs and the parents had some very good ideas. Louise suggested not starting with an actual figure, but to try and get ideas first around what would provide a break.</p> <p>The management meeting was thought to meet too infrequently and it was agreed that a monthly meeting would be more appropriate for decision making on approved sums. It was also thought that by suggesting an upper spending limit to carers this might stem creativity.</p> <p>It was suggested and agreed that a monthly sub-group comprising the Link Worker, JE and a manager (on a rota basis) would meet and monitor claims. This sub-group would then feedback to the management group. Discussion arose around the many difficulties that could be incurred, particularly around reaching all carers and Phil suggested that the problems are dealt with as and when they arise.</p> <p>Phil said that he would contact James Rooney who manages Mental Health in East and Exeter and ask him to send a representative if he was unable to attend the sub-group himself. He said he would also liaise with Leo Trimming. Debbie and Lorraine will liaise with Trish for dates. It was mentioned that every third sub-group meeting could take place after the Forum Meeting.</p>	<p>Phil</p> <p>Trish/ Debbie/ Lorraine</p>

	Debbie pointed out that the carers should be notified on the application form that the decision making sub-group meets monthly.	Phil
2	<u>Equalities Day Workshop</u> :- 5 June: Aimed at Forum and Links.	
3	<p><u>Projected Spend for Adult Carers' Grant</u>: Debbie passed round a handout. She confirmed that the ratio of spending areas tallied well with a consultation she had recently had with carers.</p> <p>Louise said that there was £40,000 for children's services and that grant funding savings would have to come from non-grant areas.</p> <p>As Pamper Days are open to all carers it was suggested that the funding for this should come from the pot of £10,000. Review of spending for the previous year's 05/06 £10,000 took place as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £1,000 Chairpersons' expenses (£500 Chair, £250 deputy, £250 admin & travel) ▪ £3,000 Pamper Days ▪ £1,000 Consultations around carers ▪ £5,000 Edvsa extra projects (Hard to reach carers; Ethnic Minorities; Carers response cards; Hospital Discharge). <p>Recommendations for 06/07:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £1,000 for Chairperson' expenses (£500 Chair, £250 deputy, £250 admin & travel) ▪ £4,000 for Pamper Days ▪ £2,000 reserved for Young Carers is Liz McQuiston is unable to secure some money through the East Devon PCT Charitable Funds. This money would be used to employ someone to help run summer activities and to have an activities budget. An extra person would then free Liz's time to visit families. Louise said how important it is to know what both services are applying for so that one service is not disadvantaged as a result. ▪ £3,000 is to be left as a contingency – one being to cover the possibility of any large number of carers joining the Link and creating much more work for the Scheme. 	
4	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> : 31 July 2006, Ravenscroft Day Room, Axminster Hospital. (Car park available at Poplar Mount, turning on left just before hospital).	