

Brief details of grant funded organisations

Brent Bereavement

Brent Bereavement Services provide counselling and support services to bereaved Brent residents. Any grant can be quantified in terms of hours counselling purchased. The service is open to all Brent residents and not just Social Services clients.

Brent Carers Centre

Brent Carers Centre seeks to improve the provision of information and support for Carers, including information about benefits, respite, health and social services, emotional support, practical help and training in line with the national and local carers strategy.

Core funding for the organisation previously provided through grant funding has now been transferred to the Carers Grant, representing the 5% of that grant which is to be used to fund 'general consultation with carers and related matters or other administrative activities.

Brent Triangle

Brent Triangle exists to meet the needs of elderly mentally ill people living in their own homes and for the respite care and support needs of their "informal family" and other unpaid carers in Brent.

Services are currently provided under a SLA dated April 1995 & 1998, which will be reviewed, revised and updated during the coming year.

Brent Triangle also receive funding from:
Mental Health Grant (£123,244 in 2003/4)
Carers Grant (£109,247)

Brent Community Transport

Discussions on a future funding have taken place on several occasions during the past year and a proposal was written to make BCT a specialist transport provider for people who cannot use taxicards or who live in areas where taxicard facilities are poor. Social Services will also commission group transport hire for groups that are transporting social services clients.

A service level agreement has been developed which specifies the amount of service to be purchased from the suggested grant allocation. Negotiations are continuing with BCT to finalise this agreement

Elders Voice

Elders voice state their purposes as:

To meet the needs and promote the interest of elders and disabled pensioners throughout Brent and South Kilburn, by the provision of resources which will endeavour to relieve poverty and isolation, advance and improve everyday conditions and help people remain in their own homes for as long as they wish.

Specific services provided include:

- Three day centres and luncheon clubs, two of which are for housebound pensioners.
- Education and training
- Practical support scheme – elderly home maintenance.
- Accident Prevention Scheme.

Services are provided under a service level agreement dating from 96/7, which is being reviewed and updated which Elders Voice are keen to progress. If existing levels of service are to be maintained an increase in funding is required.

Elders Voice have recently moved into Social Services owned office premises at 181 Mortimer Road.

The Accident and Prevention (Handyperson) Service was previously paid for via Partnership Grant which has now ceased, and funding proposed in this report replaces that. The service aims to reduce accidents and increase safety and security in the home to enable elderly people to continue to live independently.

Mission Dine

Mission Dine provides services to approximately 40 Elderly People from its day centre including lunches. The group also undertakes home and hospital visits, arts and craft activities and outings and generally aims to provide support and improve quality of life.

The group has major expansion plans and intends to move to new premises at Roundwood Park, Harlesden, using a National Charities Lottery Grant of £183,000. The group is looking to expand its staffing and have a number of paid positions in line with similar voluntary organisations.

New Testament Church of God

The New Testament Church of God is a community project designed as a self help organisation providing a wide range of services from community care, a day centre and luncheon club for the elderly, befriending and home care services (c.150 users). The project is wider than Social Services and includes a Friday night youth group and pensioners education classes in maths and English.

The group receives funding of around £2250 for Summer playschemes which is grant funded by the voluntary sector unit.

The group is also currently in receipt of Luncheon Club subsidy of c. £5,200.

It is intended to ultimately review the services being provided and the client base before deciding the level of future funding under a contract.

West Indian Self Effort

WISE provides a mixture of services to the elderly and to young people aged 9 – 14 via a Saturday school and a playscheme. Services to the elderly are a day centre and luncheon club, an innovative reminiscence project and a home service scheme. WISE serves 101 Brent clients. Officers are currently discussing the creation of a contract to commission specified services from WISE to replace grant funding.

The existing premises agreement where WISE are the lead tenant but use of the building is shared with ADPA should also be reviewed during the year.

Brent Crossroads

Brent Crossroads currently provide services to carers under a service level agreement. This arrangement will be reviewed and updated during 2003/04.

Crossroads receives funding from:
Carers Grant £88,647 in 2003/4
Aids Support Grant £16,900 in 2002/3

Brent Mind

Brent Mind provides a wide range of services to adults with mental health problems including dual diagnosis housing, community housing, counselling, befriending, and a social club. Many of these services are provided under contract arrangements or for specified services eligible for mental health grant.

Budgets and responsibility for monitoring have been transferred to the Joint Commissioner for Mental Health to commission relevant services directly.

Transport Grants

Social Services has also for many years given transport grants to some voluntary organisations as listed in table 2 in the report.

Groups receive a cash limited amount each year provided they submit invoices proving they have incurred the expenditure. The basis for these grants is largely historic and is now being reviewed.