

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MONDAY 23 APRIL 2001 AT 10.00 AM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MONDAY 23 APRIL 2001 AT 2.15 PM

Agenda Item No.

6

SERVICE STRATEGY AND SPECIFIC GRANTS – ADULT CARE SERVICES

Report of the Director of Adult Care Services

Author: Sarah Pickup, Assistant Director – Commissioning
telephone 01992 556350

Executive Member: Julia Price

1. Purpose of the Report

To present to the Cabinet the comments of the Adult Care Services Select Committee on the proposed Service Strategy for Adult Care Services for 2001/02, the County Council's contribution to Joint Investment Plans and for proposals for service development and use of specific grants and the comments of the Children Schools and Families Committee on the proposals for use of Carers Breaks Grant, and to seek approval for these plans, subject to any amendments the Cabinet and Executive Committee may wish to make.

2. Summary

2.1 At its meeting on 19 March the Cabinet agreed the following proposal:

“ That the proposed strategy, plans and use of specific grants be referred to the Adult Care Services Select Committee for their comments and that the proposals for use of carers breaks grants be considered by both the Adult Care Services and Children, Schools and Families Select Committees.”

2.2 The Adult Care Services Select Committee discussed the reports referred to it and made the following response to the Cabinet's proposal :

- That the proposed strategy plans and use of specific grants as referred to in the Director of Social Services Report be recommended for agreement.
- That the Cabinet be requested to approve the proposals for the use of carers breaks grants referred to in the report of the Director of Social Services.

- That, with this item as an example the Adult Care Services Select Committee feels that to fulfil successfully its scrutiny role a budget monitor should be regularly presented to this select committee.

2.3 The Children Schools and Families Committee discussed the proposals for the use of Carers Breaks Grant put to it by the Carers Topic Group and made the following response to the cabinet's proposal:

- The Select Committee agreed that the proposals for the use of Carers' Breaks Grant, as set out in the report, should be put forward to the Cabinet on 23 April 2001 as the recommended submission to the Department of Health for the use of grant in the coming year.

3. **Conclusions**

3.1 The Cabinet needs to consider the comments of the Adult Care Select Committee and whether to recommend to the Executive Committee the adoption of the proposed strategy, plans and use of specific grants including the proposals for use of Carers Breaks Grant, in relation to which the comments of the Children Schools and Families Select Committee should also be considered.

3.2 The County Council will contribute to four Joint Investment Plans based on the proposals in this report. The Cabinet may wish to authorise the Executive Member for Adult Care Services to formally approve these Joint Plans.

1. **Background**

- 1.1 Planning for the development and provision of Social Services now takes place in the context of the Government's modernisation agenda for local government in general and for Social and Health services in particular.
- 1.2 The internal context for service planning is the Best Value Performance Plan, and associated promises, the County Council's Revenue and Capital Budgets.
- 1.3 In the context of modernising health and social services, there are requirements for joint planning for each care group, some cross cutting plans and the overall health framework through the Health Improvement Plan. The NHS Plan sets objectives for more integrated provision and pooled budgets.
- 1.4 Social Services performance is monitored and assessed through a performance assessment framework which uses a set of 50 performance indicators, alongside information from inspections and annual review meetings, to assess performance and progress against targets.

2. **Strategy for Provision of Adult Care Services**

- 2.1 Nationally, the priorities set for adult care services revolve around the provision of more flexible and more readily accessible community based services to support people living as independently as possible, a multi-disciplinary approach to assessment and service delivery and a jointly agreed strategic approach to improving preventative and rehabilitation services. There is also a focus on the involvement of users and carers and the provision of more diverse and flexible opportunities for carers' breaks.
- 2.2 The County Council in its Best Value Performance Plan for 2001/02 has promised the following in relation to Adult Care Services:

“To help people to live independently and involve and serve the public we will:

- a) fight for the interest of elderly and disabled people and ensure they have access to our services so that they can maintain their independence,
 - b) work with the NHS, voluntary organisations and other councils to improve health and care services,
 - c) promote the employment prospects for disadvantaged people,
 - d) promote equality and improve access to our services, employment and buildings,
 - e) provide quality advice and information services”.
- 2.3 In the context of national priorities and local promises the Service Strategy for Adult Care for 2001/02 is proposed as follows:

- To work in partnership with the NHS to provide more streamlined, client focused services, moving towards the use of pooled budgets and integrated services where this will deliver the best outcome for clients.

- To consult with and involve users, carers and other stakeholders in pursuing service developments or proposing policy changes.
- To focus developments on preventative and rehabilitation services to avoid unnecessary admissions to hospital or residential/nursing home care and to facilitate discharge.
- To support people in living as independently as possible and in ensuring that they are able to maximise their potential in terms of access to work or alternative occupation.
- In supporting independence, to ensure safety of clients, carers and the community.
- To support carers and offer breaks in a way that meets their different needs.

2.4 The overarching strategy outlined above forms a framework within which proposed service plans for each care group have been developed. These strategies will form the basis of the County Council's contribution to Joint Investment Plans.

The following outline service plans are attached as appendices:

Service Plan for Older People	Appendix 1
Service Plan for People with Learning Disabilities	Appendix 2
Service Plan for People with Mental Health Problems	Appendix 3
Service Plan for Welfare to Work and People with a Physical Disability	Appendix 4.

2.5 Service Plans have been drawn up following consultation with service users and representatives of voluntary organisations over recent years. This has been further refined during the year with further consultation on:

- Extension of Direct Payments to people 65+
- Future Direction of Advocacy Services
- Carers Conference
- Conference for Black and Ethnic Minority Carers
- A two day workshop on Rehabilitation for Older People
- The development of a JIP for Learning Disability Services.

2.6 Joint Investment Plans are currently being prepared for Older People's Services, Mental Health Services, Learning Disability Services and Welfare to Work. These are due to be completed and agreed at the end of March.

2.7 A plan must also be prepared for the use of Carers' Breaks Grant. Following scrutiny of the National Carers' Strategy by the Adult Care Services Select Committee, a Topic Group was set up to make proposals for the use of grants in 2001/02. The Topic Group met on 7th March 2001 and made proposals for the use of grant which are attached as Appendix 7 to this report.

3. Resources

3.1 A number of specific grants have been made available to the County Council to pursue national priorities in relation to the promotion of independence, the development of mental health services and the extension of breaks for carers. The County Council has already made some decisions about the use of these specific grants, but full plans have to be included in Joint Investment Plans. Proposals for the use of Promoting Independence and Mental Health Grants are attached as Appendices 5 and 6 and where proposals involve new service developments or expansion of capacity, these are included in the outline plans at Appendices 1 to 4.

3.2 In addition to these specific grants, the County Council has made available some resources on a one-off basis to be used for the following purposes in 2001/02:-

Purchase of additional equipment to reduce waiting lists	£100,000
Improve disabled access to buildings	£100,000
Grants to Voluntary Organisations to support carers, undertake prevention work with older people or improve employment opportunities for people with special needs	£100,000

SERVICE PLAN FOR OLDER PEOPLE 2001/02**CONTEXT****Demography**

The numbers of older people aged 65+ in Hertfordshire is set to rise by 9% between 2001-2011.

Older people are much more likely than any other group to need help from Adult Care Services, and in Hertfordshire approximately 1 person in every 14 aged 65+ receives Adult Care Services arranged home care or residential care. Demographic trends point to more older people living alone and less support being available from family carers. Increasing numbers of older people and longer life expectancy will have significant resource implications for both Social Services and the NHS.

Expenditure/Activity 2000/2001

In 2000/2001, Hertfordshire planned to spend £63m on services for older people. Services provided from this budget include assessment and care management, day care for 1,400 older people, over 1.8m home care hours for 4,800 older people. Funding for 3,200 older people in residential and nursing care homes and the provision of equipment and grants to voluntary organisations.

NATIONAL POLICY CONTEXT

Services for older people in Hertfordshire are also being shaped by national policy which is also reflected in the JIP.

NHS Plan

The NHS Plan sets out a major programme to promote independence for older people and their carers. Six areas are highlighted:

- promoting independence
- extending access to services
- assuring and improving standards of care
- improving fairness in funding long term care
- helping Older People stay healthy
- developing partnership

Intermediate Care

The development of intermediate care services is a key element in the NHS Plan. These services promote recovery and rehabilitation, and aim to prevent unnecessary loss of independence. An extra £900M is to be made available nationally by 2003/4 to NHS and Social Services to fund increased beds, nurses, therapists and social care services. Multi-agency work is taking place within each PCG/T to develop Intermediate Care Services.

National Service Framework for Older People (NSF)

The NSF for Older People is due to be published shortly. The aim of the NSF is to drive up quality and reduce variations from one area to another. The NSF will target those areas set out in the NHS Plan, but is also likely to require improvements in the following areas:

- palliative care
- stroke
- falls
- mental health

In future there will be a requirement to produce a 'broad' plan which covers implementation of the NSF and the areas traditionally covered by the JIP.

Performance Assessment Framework for Social Services (PAF)

The PAF is made up of a series of Performance Indicators through which the government and the Audit Commission monitor Adult Care Services performance, and aim to drive up standards. A number of these indicators relate to services for older people and are set out in the JIP. Specific performance indicators for older people are set out in the JIP and also in the County Council's Best Value Programme. They include:

Households receiving intensive home care per 1,000 population aged 65

Percentage of items of equipment costing less than £1,000 delivered within 3 weeks.

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The main aim of Social Service is to support family carers, and enable vulnerable older people to remain in their own homes wherever possible. We will seek to promote independence and self-determination to ensure that individuals can live as full a life as possible with no more intervention than is necessary, and that services are sensitive to the religious or cultural needs.

The County Council has made a promise "to fight for the interests of elderly and disabled people and ensure they have access to our services so that they can maintain their independence".

A key objective is to break the "vicious circle" of inappropriate admissions to residential and nursing homes caused by increasing hospital admissions, pressure for early discharge and the lack of rehabilitation services.

In delivering and planning services, the key themes are partnership and co-ordination, and again this is reflected in another Best Value Programme Promise "work with the NHS, voluntary organisations and other councils to improve health and care services".

PLAN FOR 2001/02

In recognition that the needs of older people cross health and social care boundaries, we agree each year a joint strategy for older people with our Health partners. This is set out in the Joint Investment Plan. The aims of the JIP are to improve planning co-ordination and promote integration of services at the health and social care interface. A number of priority areas have been identified for the coming year:

- strengthen arrangements to prevent inappropriate hospital admission – improve joint assessment arrangements
- care at home to support people in their own homes who have high dependency needs
- develop rehabilitation services both in the community and in hospital
- develop better co-ordinated and integrated arrangement to support people being discharged from hospital
- develop a joint commissioned approach to people who need NHS Continuing Care or care funded by Adult Care Services in a Residential or Nursing home
- develop an integrated approach to the assessment and support of older people with mental health problems
- develop effective preventative services with District Councils, Housing organisations and Voluntary organisations
- promote Benefits take up
- develop services for elderly people from ethnic minorities.

PLAN FOR INVESTMENT IN NEW OR ADDITIONAL SERVICES 2001/02

The Joint Investment Plan sets out the priority areas for service for older people. It includes an Action plan for service development and meeting priorities in the NHS Plan. It also sets out proposed investment in new or additional services. A summary of the County Council's contribution to the Plan in terms of new investment is set out below.

	£K
<i>Continuing and Strengthening Existing Services</i>	
(a) Full year effect of new provision in 2000/01	740
(b) Full year effect of services provided through winter pressures	300
© Residential and Nursing Home Care, additional resources 40 more places spread evenly through the year	200
(d) Home Care providing services to 50 additional clients	115
(e) Transport to meet increased use of day care	100
(f) Disability Equipment – additional equipment to support people in maintaining their independence	100
<i>Investment in New Services</i>	
(a) Development of extra care housing schemes (funding will provide care services for around 20 people)	120
(b) Expansion of Direct Payment scheme to people aged 65+ (funding will strengthen PASS the organisation providing advice and information to potential users)	60
© Strengthening of Rehabilitation Services to assist people in returning to their own homes following hospital admission	50
(d) Services to support the assessment of carers needs	100
(e) Project Manager (joint funded with NHS) to lead on implementing an integrated equipment service across the NHS and County Council	25
(f) Project Manager (joint funded with NHS) to lead on integrating older people's services with Primary Care Trusts	25

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| (g) | Support to voluntary organisations to improve services to
- black and ethnic minority carers and older people generally. | 30 |
|-----|---|----|

Total Proposed New Investment	£1,965K
--------------------------------------	----------------

HEALTH STRATEGY AND CONTRIBUTION TO JOINT INVESTMENT PLAN

The Joint Investment Plan for Older People is being put together by Health and Adult Care Services working together. The focus of health strategy for the JIP will be to work towards delivery of targets for older people's services set in relation to implementation of the NHS Plan. There is an emphasis on prevention of admission to hospital and reduction in delayed discharge, the development of intermediate care services and on partnership with Adult Care Services to deliver more integrated care.

SERVICE PLAN FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES 2001/02**CONTEXT****Demography**

Hertfordshire has an incidence of learning disability per 1000 of population of 6.61. This is significantly higher than the national average. Contributory factors are thought to be:

- Past local of hospital for people with learning disabilities
- Availability of specialist health care
- Popularity of services, including special education

Additionally we know from national research that the life expectancy of people with learning disabilities is increasing and there is an increased survival rate to adulthood of children with severe and complex needs. These factors lead to a high and increasing demand for services.

Expenditure/Activity 2000/2001

In 2000/01, Hertfordshire planned to spend £29.4m on services for people with a learning disability. In addition the county council receives £21m from the Health Authorities with which it purchases services for clients resettled from long-stay hospitals. Services from these budgets together include assessment and care management, funding of accommodation for 1,360 people, day care for over 1,300 people, the provision of 86,860 hours of home care, as well as the provision of equipment and grants to voluntary organisations.

NHS Plan

The NHS plan does not specifically monitor people with learning disabilities, but the assumption is that they are included in all the programmes in the same way as others in the community.

National Strategy

Services for people with learning disabilities in Hertfordshire are shaped by the Government agenda of combating social exclusion and inequalities and promoting health and social wellbeing. In recognition of the importance the Government is giving to learning disability services the long awaited National Strategy is to be published in the form of a White Paper. We are informed that the National Strategy for Learning Disability will reflect and extend to the wealth of guidance published since 1992, which encourages the development of services responsive to individual user's needs and wishes. This guidance has informed service developments in Hertfordshire and is reflected in the Joint Investment Plan for Learning Disability.

County Council Promises and Commitments

The County Council promise, to "fight for the interests of elderly and disabled people and ensure they have access to our services so that they can maintain their independence" underpins our service development. Our performance and efficiency in key aspects is measured through the performance and framework for social services (PAF). One such measure is:

Adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities helped to live at home per 1000 of population.

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The main aims of Adult Care Services are to:

Provide assistance to enable people with learning disabilities to develop the greatest possible degree of independence

- Enable people with learning disabilities to be central to decisions which have an impact on their views
- Provide local, comprehensive and accessible services
- Promote equity of access to services
- Work in partnership with our stakeholders to develop and maintain quality services for people with learning disabilities
- Support carers to enable them to continue in their caring role where this is their wish.

PLAN FOR 2001/02

The needs of people with learning disability span many areas of service provision, including social care, health care, housing, education, employment and leisure. The proposed plan for learning disability has therefore been agreed with representatives of all these stakeholders, and also with a strong input from users and carers, and representatives of the voluntary sector.

The following are the proposed key areas for development:

APPENDIX 6 Development of integrated Health and Adult Care Services teams with single line manager.

- Continue to provide for growth in accommodation needs by developing support living in homes and registered care homes. To do this we will work in partnership with housing departments, housing associations and care providers in the voluntary sector.

APPENDIX 6 Increase awareness of the opportunities of the Direct Payments scheme, and work to remove the blocks which prevent take up.

APPENDIX 6 Continue to develop befriending, leisure access and college breaks schemes which enable carers to take a break from caring.

APPENDIX 6 Increase respite care services covering both day time and residential services.

APPENDIX 6 Review day services and develop an action plan to tailor these services to individuals needs and wishes.

APPENDIX 6 Promote preparation for work courses and employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities.

- Strengthen advocacy services across the county

APPENDIX 6 Ensure that people with learning disabilities are in receipt of their full Benefit entitlement.

PLAN FOR INVESTMENT IN NEW OR ADDITIONAL SERVICES 2001/02

For 2001/2 additional investment has been agreed for new learning disability services as follows:

<i>Continuing and Strengthening Existing Services</i>	£K
Full year effect of new provision in 2000/01	850
Additional transport to meet rising demands	100
<i>Investment in new services</i>	
New residential and day care placements for 40 clients	850
Enhance LD advocacy through partnership with voluntary sector	<u>50</u>
Total Proposed Investment	£1,750K

HEALTH STRATEGY AND CONTRIBUTION TO JOINT INVESTMENT PLAN

All proposals in the Joint Investment Plan have been developed with health working in partnership with us.

The health strategy for people with learning disabilities reinforces the social inclusion agenda, specialist health provision, and focuses on enabling people with learning disabilities to access mainstream health care. However there is also a recognition that for some clients this is not achievable at the moment because of their complex and specific needs. For these people specialist assessment and therapeutic services are being developed.

SERVICE PLAN FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS 2001/02

CONTEXT

Expenditure/Activity 2000/2001

In 2000/01, Hertfordshire County Council planned to spend £13.2m on the provision of mental health services for adults of working age. Services provided from this budget include assessment and care management, day services for 555 adults, including support in the community, funding of 770 residential placements, as well as over 41,000 hours of home care and grants to voluntary organisations.

NHS Plan

The NHS Plan and the earlier NHS Act (2000) formalises the increased emphasis on developing services within (and for) Primary Care. They set down the detail of how integrated practice (between NHS and Social Care) should be developed and again there is a strong emphasis on User and Carer participation in the planning and delivery of services. Removed the barriers to integrated working.

- **National Service Framework for Mental Health**
The key emphasis here is to outline and prescribe a 'blueprint' for high quality MH services. Includes explicit standards for service provision and emphasises increased collaboration, shared care, greater integration and strengthened links both between Health and other agencies and between Primary and Secondary care. The NSF also emphasises the need to significantly improve the engagement of both Users and Carers in the planning and delivery of mental health services.
- **Hertfordshire Local Implementation Team's Development Plan**
The Local Development Plan (LDP) highlights a number of priorities that reflect the national NSF agenda. The key themes that underpin the LDP include increased/improved joint practice, reduced duplication, value for money & best value, improved mental health support for Primary Care, developing the workforce and improving information and communication.
- **Reforming the Mental Health Act White paper**
The Mental Health Act is being reformed to increase the emphasis on community treatment, improved community support, more structured approaches to assessment, care planning and the delivery of treatment. It also increases the focus on safer practice and more accountability for the actions of MH professionals.
- **County Council 'Promises' and commitments**
The key commitments from the County Council include improving access to services for clients, improving and maintaining their independence, improving the effectiveness and appropriateness of services and improving the 'voice and influence' of local communities in the design and provision of services. Improving
- **Carers & Disabled Children Act (2000)**
New changes in legislation will radically effect the work that is done with Carers. The new Carers Act, together with the key targets from the NSF for mental health, will result in significant developments for Carer related services. Firstly, the offer of an assessment of Carers need will now be

a requirement for Social Services. Additionally, there will be a further development in the ‘breaks’ or respite services that are provided for carers of people with disabilities and a requirement that these new service initiatives be developed in close collaboration with the Carers who will use them.

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The County Council’s main objectives for this care group are to promote social inclusion and provide safe, secure services through early intervention, intensive community support to users and carers and 24 hour access to services. There is a strong link to the Welfare to Work programme as a tool to promote social inclusion for this group.

PLAN FOR 2001/02

The overall direction for service developments in 2001 – 2002 will be to ensure continued progress in:-

- Promoting Independence for clients;
- Increasing the ‘voice’ of clients and carers in planning and commissioning mental health services;
- Through increased partnership and integration to take steps that extend community services for clients that are safe, secure and offer alternatives to in-patient care where this is appropriate. This includes service that prevent and/or adequately deal with crises;
- Develop and promote activities that improve social inclusion for clients of mental health services. Significant amongst these services will be the further development of supported living, an increased emphasis on employment support and the development of wider social/leisure opportunities that are often denied people who have mental health problems;
- Improve the identification of vulnerable clients and provide services that intervene earlier and prevent deterioration into crises;
- Reduce the incidence of poverty, poor/absent opportunities for clients to become stakeholders in the local community and reduce the exclusion of people with mental health problems from educational and other vocational related opportunities;
- Increasing the access to service for people who use mental health services and provide accurate, timely and meaningful information about services, treatments, rehabilitation and the importance of adopting a partnership approach to the service delivery;
- Development of Joint Teams and integrated services within the new Hertfordshire Partnership Trust.

PLAN FOR INVESTMENT IN NEW OR ADDITIONAL SERVICES 2001/02

The Joint Investment Plan sets out the priority areas for mental health services. It includes an action plan and sets out proposed investment. A summary of the County Council’s contribution to the plan in terms of new investment is set out below.

<i>Continuing and Strengthening Existing Services</i>	£K
Full year effects of new provision 2000/01	390
Voluntary Organisation Pressures	15
 <i>Investment in New Services</i>	
New residential and day care placements	117

User Development Programme – a worker to involve service users in service development	48
Extending Befriending Scheme run by MIND for young people in Dacorum	38
Establishing Befriending Scheme in East Herts by extension of services run by MIND in other areas	38
Extension of Assertive Outreach to Welwyn/Hatfield through recruitment of additional staff	76
Broxbourne Assertive Outreach Team	97
Contribution to Local Implementation Team - responsible for overseeing the implementation of the mental health National Service Framework.	<u>37</u>
Total Investment	<u>856</u>
Source: Promoting Independence	505
Mental Health Grant	<u>351</u>
	<u>856</u>

HEALTH STRATEGY AND CONTRIBUTION TO JOINT INVESTMENT PLAN

With the introduction of the National Service Framework, the planning processes and resultant strategy for mental health is now very much a joint exercise and the service objectives and plan for 2001/02 for the County Council, as set out above, very much reflect the health agenda as well. There are some very specific targets for health in the implementation of the NHS Plan and the joint strategy will reflect the need to deliver on these targets. Key themes are around improved access to services via primary care, prevention of suicide, the development of assertive outreach services and the merging of care management with the care programme approach.

SERVICE PLAN FOR WELFARE TO WORK & PHYSICAL AND SENSORY DISABILITIES

CONTEXT

Expenditure and Activity 2000/01

In 2000/01, Hertfordshire planned to spend £13m on services to people with a physical or sensory disability. Services funded from this budget include assessment and care management, funding of 200 residential placements and day care for 447 physically disabled adults. In addition, the Sensory Disability Team provides support to over 1,200 clients and Employment Direct supports over 190 people at any one time in obtaining and remaining in work.

'Modernising Social Services' White Paper

This White Paper established the aim of ensuring that people of working age who have been assessed as requiring community care services are provided with those services in ways that take account of and as far as possible maximise their and their carers capacity to take up, remain in or return to employment.

National Priorities Guidance

The National Priorities Guidance requires that Councils promote the independence of adults assessed as needing social care support arranged by the local authority, respecting their dignity and furthering their social and economic participation and to enable adults assessed as needing social care support to live as safe, full and as normal a life as possible in their own home wherever feasible. For people with a physical or sensory disability **promoting independence** is the key to identifying and supporting their needs. The guidance also reminds Councils of their responsibility to help service users and carers of working age, work where possible.

Meeting Needs Together – Joint Investment Plans and Welfare to Work for Disabled People

This document, produced in April 2000 by the Department of Health announced the requirement for the NHS and local authorities to work with a range of partners to draw up a Joint Investment Plan (JIP) for welfare to work for people with disabilities. The JIP is intended to improve the job opportunities for all those who:

- need continuing support to remain in employment
- want to re-enter employment, through re-training for example;
- are entering employment for the first time;
- are not ready for work but want to move closer to the world of work

The Community Care (Direct Payments) Act 1996

This Act, alongside the new regulations introduced in February 2000, promotes cash alternatives for community care direct to individuals who need services. It provides the opportunity to set up flexible care

packages promoting independence and user choice, which is particularly appropriate to support people with a physical or sensory disability.

The Performance Assessment Framework for Social Services (PAF)

This covers a range of Performance Indicators through which the Government and the Audit Commission monitor Social Services performance and aim to improve standards by comparing with other local authorities. Specific indicators relating to people with physical or sensory disability include:

- Adults aged 18-64 with physical disabilities helped to live at home per 1,000 population
- Percentage of items of equipment costing less than £1,000 delivered within 3 weeks

County Council Promises

There are a number of promises that Hertfordshire County Council has committed itself to achieving, the ones particularly relevant to this group are:

‘To help people to help themselves and involve and serve the public we will;

- a) fight for the interests of elderly and disabled people and ensure they have access to our services so that they can maintain their independence,
- b) improve the employment prospects for disadvantaged people
- c) promote equality and improve access to our services, employment and buildings

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The main aim of Social Services is to support family carers and enable people with a physical or sensory disability to live as independently as possible. This includes facilitation of access to work, or other occupation and is in the context of services that are sensitive to religious or cultural needs. Giving people greater choice and control over their care arrangements is an important aspect of this. Direct Payments are an effective and flexible way of being able to achieve this. The Joint Investment Plan – Welfare to Work is seeking to improve information and access for people with disabilities seeking work or looking to return to work/re-training. The action plan that is currently being developed will be seeking to improve access or look for other ways of being able to overcome the barriers relating to disability access.

PLAN FOR 2001/02

A newly formed Physical and Sensory Disability Steering Group, involving Health and Adult Care Services, will be seeking to raise the profile of this care group, particularly focussing upon rehabilitation, service provision, gaps in the service, such as those with early onset dementia and head injuries. It will also link into the Best Value Review of services for people with a physical or sensory disability which is taking place in 2001/02. A full strategy for this care group will follow on from the Best Value Review. The action plan for the JIP in relation to Welfare to Work has a number of areas that it is seeking to achieve:

- To improve the take up of Direct Payments in order to achieve more flexible care packages
- To improve the take up of benefits within the County and to provide advice on the benefits implications of going into work
- To develop a sign-posting service for information and advice relating to aspects of welfare to work
- To develop a database of information relating to support services for people accessing or returning to work
- Development of a ‘buddy/mentor’ system to support people with disabilities at work
- Set up a working forum of employers and employees to improve attitudes towards employing people with disabilities
- Reference group of people with disabilities to support and act as advisors in implementing the Joint Investment Plan
- On going consultation with Users and Carers

PLAN FOR INVESTMENT IN NEW OR ADDITIONAL SERVICES IN 2001/02

The action plan as detailed above has proposals both for existing and new services for people with physical and sensory disability and in the area of welfare to work. The JIP Welfare to Work is a new area crossing a number of care groups, so it is crucial to address issues of access and look towards support services to encourage people to return to work.

<i>Investment in New Services</i>	£K
New Residential or Day Care placements	100
Proposed investment in services to support Welfare to Work Action Plan detailed in separate Cabinet and Select Committee Report	150
Voluntary Organisation Pressures	<u>20</u>
Total Investment	£270K

HEALTH STRATEGY AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE JOINT INVESTMENT PLAN

As mentioned earlier there is a newly formed Steering Group for Physical and Sensory Disability, which met in mid February 2001, this group will concentrate on raising the profile of this group of people. It will also work alongside any action/recommendations arising out of the Best Value Review on people with a physical and sensory disability. This is currently running from February to October 2001. There are representatives from West and North and East Herts Health Authorities on the Welfare to Work Executive Steering Group and a representative from the Rehabilitation and Therapy Services, who have all made valuable contributions to the production of the mapping process and action plan.

Promoting Independence and Additional Grants

The amounts allocated for Hertfordshire for Promoting Independence and Additional Grants in 2001/02 are £3.839m and £1.99m respectively. It is proposed these amounts are expended as follows:-

Full Year Effects of 2000/01 new placements	£'000
Elderly (including transport)	740
Mental Health	390
Physical Disability	1,100
Learning Disability (including transport)	<u>850</u>
Sub Total	<u>3,080</u>

New /Enhanced/Additional Services to meet residential demand/reshape services

	£'000	Number of Additional Clients
1. <u>Elderly JIP</u>		
Full year effects of Winter Pressures		
APPENDIX 6 10 x Quantum Care placements	100	10
APPENDIX 6 15 x other placements including Hemel Hempstead new home	150 50	15 10
APPENDIX 6 HSCC budgets (especially home care)	100	200
Equipment	100	20
Transport - Rising demand (using capacity of day care)	25	
Project Manager PCT Hertsmere - Integrated services	120	20
Extra Care Housing (part year)	60	
PASS Direct Payments	50	20
Rehab/Ots	30	
Voluntary Organisation Pressures	100	1000
Carers Assessments	200	40
Residential budget increase (part year)	114	50
Home Care budget increase (part year)		
<u>Mental Health JIP</u>	100	5
2. New Residential and Day Care Placements MH	15	
Voluntary Organisation Pressures		
<u>Learning Disability JIP</u>	850	40
3. New Residential and Day Care Placements LD	100	20
Transport - Rising demand (using capacity of day care)	50	
LD Advocacy		
	£'000	Number of Additional Clients

4.	<u>Welfare to Work</u>		
	Welfare to Work	100	
5.	<u>Physical & Sensory Disability Plan</u>		
	New Residential and Day Care Placements PD	100	10
	Voluntary Organisation Pressures	20	20
	<u>Cross Care Group</u> for inclusion in more than one JIP		
6.	Website development	50	
	PRG Manager Equipment	25	
	Contribution to IT double running	50	
	Adaptations budget	40	20
	Voluntary Organisation Pressures - Carers in Herts	50	
	Sub Total New/Enhanced/Additional Services	<u>2,749</u>	
	Total	<u>5,829</u>	<u>453</u>

Mental Health Grant 20001/2002

Scheme	District / CMHT	Amount
User Development programme	Countywide	£48,000
Extending befriending Scheme. Target group is younger people	Dacorum	£38,000
Establish a befriending scheme	East	£38,000
Assertive Outreach Scheme – extension to existing scheme	WGC / Hatfield	£76,000
Broxbourne Assertive Outreach Scheme, including CST input	Broxbourne	£97,000
Contribution to Local Implementation Team	Countywide	£37,000
Additional Private and Voluntary Placements	East	£17,000
Total New Schemes		£351,000

Appendix 7

	SCHEME	PROPOSED SPEND 2000/01 £	PROJECTED SPEND 2000/01 £	PROPOSED SPEND 2001/02 £
	CHILDREN'S SERVICES			
1.	Care at Home	40,000	40,000	30,000
2.	Playschemes	39,000	29,000	39,000
3.	Residential Respite			
	Jubilee House	67,000	67,000	67,000
	Stairways	22,000 104,750	22,000 104,750	44,000 152,000
	Adrian Road	15,750	15,750	45,000
4	Young Carers	40,000	25,000	35,000
	TOTAL	223,750	198,750	260,000
	BUDGET	184,000	184,000	
	MENTAL HEALTH			
5.	Flexible Day Services	90,000	90,000	92,000
6.	Respite	75,000	25,000	75,000
7.	Care in the Home			100,000
	TOTAL	165,000	115,000	267,000

	SCHEME	PROPOSED SPEND 2000/01 £	PROJECTED SPEND 2000/01 £	PROPOSED SPEND 2001/02 £
	LEARNING DISABILITIES			
8.	Befriending Schemes	50,000	50,000	76,500
9.	Care in the Home	13,000	13,000	13,000
10.	Summer Activities	15,000	15,826	32,000
11.	Specialist Beds for Learning/Physically Disabled	60,000	49,000	61,500
12.	Flexible Respite			33,500
	TOTAL	138,000	127,826	216,500
	OLDER PEOPLE AND YOUNGER DISABLED PEOPLE			
13.	Care at Home	70,000	61,000	100,000
14.	Day Care (ethnic minority)	60,000	46,000	80,000
15.	Other Day Care			500
16.	Flexible Respite	20,000	5,000	63,000

	TOTAL	150,000	112,000	243,500
	ALL CLIENT GROUPS			
17.	Crossroads	192,000		228,000
18.	New Flexibilities			20,000
	TOTAL	192,000		248,000
	SCHEME	PROPOSED SPEND 2000/01 £	PROJECTED SPEND 2000/01 £	PROPOSED SPEND 2001/02 £
	CONSULTATION, PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION			
	CWD Project Officer (30%)			13,000
	Adult Services - Project Officer	36,000		37,000
	Admin Support			9,000
	Conferences/Consultation			6,000
	TOTAL	36,000		65,000

OVERALL SPEND

	PROPOSALS £	ALLOCATIONS £
Children's Services	260,000	260,000
Mental Health	267,000	
Learning Disabled	216,500	
Older people and younger people with physical disabilities	243,500	975,000
All client groups	248,000	
Planning/Admin.	65,000	65,000
TOTAL	1,300,000	1,300,000

Children's Services

Scheme 1

The county strategy for children with disabilities includes the provision of breaks at home for parents. Additional contracts with home care agencies such as Crossroads have been agreed to provide specialist services for these children. It is estimated that the money will purchase 3,330 hours of care over the year (66 hours a week). On average of 6 hours per week per family this will benefit an average of 11 families every week throughout the year.

Scheme2

The county strategy for children with disabilities includes the provision of additional play schemes, weekend clubs and after school provision for children with special needs. The funding will provide approximately 615 additional days/places. Over the course of the year it is expected that around 40 children will benefit every week throughout the year.

Scheme 3

Demand for residential respite services has risen sharply, both for requests for increased packages as well as new referrals. Occupancy rates at Jubilee House and Stairways have increased accordingly, particularly for children with high care needs. Funding has been required to increase general staffing levels in the day and at night. NCH at Adrian Road are expanding their service by opening additional weekends - they currently close on alternate weekends, as well as increasing the number of children with higher care needs.

Scheme 4

Carers in Hertfordshire, Stevenage Young Carers and local District teams will continue to organise outings, weekends away, and holiday breaks for young carers so that they can have some time to themselves away from caring. It has been difficult to fully utilise the funding available to date and so this year there is a proposed reduction in the budget for these activities.

Mental Health

Scheme 5

Guidepost Trust, in South West Hertfordshire and the Community Support Team in Hertford will continue to provide flexible and extended day care during 2001/2002. See below for proposals to extend the service to other parts of County.

Scheme 6

£75k is being spent on holiday provision at Forresters Hotel and other resources. This provides respite carer for carers by providing respite to clients either with their carers or on their own. This will continue in 2001/2001.

Scheme 7

Carers want more flexible services in their homes and without the need for it to be regular and planned in advance. A sum of money will be used to develop services through the voluntary sector with one or more of a number of possible providers. Carers should be able to 'book' a service so that as carers they can short break at the weekend or in an evening so they can go to family functions or the theatre knowing the cared for person is secure and cared for.

Learning Disabilities

Scheme 8

In year 3 befriending schemes will be extended so that they will be available in four additional areas of County, thus completing the cover for the County. Community based activity schemes, offering leisure activities to groups of adults with learning disabilities in two areas of the County (East Hertfordshire and South West Hertfordshire) and would hope to extend this service across the County in subsequent years.

Scheme 9

The scheme providing care in the home, enabling carers to take a regular break will continue in year 3. This is a South West scheme.

Scheme 10

In year 3 college breaks activities schemes will extend into another part of County, so that South West and North Hertfordshire have schemes. A scheme already exists in North West Hertfordshire and the service will be extended to the remaining quadrant in subsequent years.

Scheme 11

A scheme set up in year 1 will continue as planned and provide shared care/ respite care beds in North West Hertfordshire, to enable carers of clients with profound learning and physical disabilities to take a break.

Scheme 12

£33, 500 will be allocated to provide flexible breaks schemes in year 3. This is providing new opportunities and will cover 'break away' schemes for carers' relatives with learning disability from four areas of County and also funds a significant increase in both beds based and non- beds based respite care, available to carers throughout countywide.

Older people and younger disabled people

Scheme 13

Carers of older people have been supported through a number of schemes run by Alzheimer's Society, Countywide Breakaway (N.W.), Gemms (N), Carers in Hertfordshire (S.W.) and Age Concern (N.W. and East). This year's additional allocation allows for a further provision by Age Concern and Gemms schemes in particular. These schemes all provide volunteer sitting alongside some carer's support.

Scheme 14

Day care services for black and minority ethnic carers have been established in Watford and Three Rivers (5 clubs exist) and the additional allocation will enable services to be established in other parts of county - particularly the North, Hitchin/Letchworth.

Scheme 15

There is a provision in Dacorum that provides day facilities for local people and that can expand if a small allocation of £500 is given.

Scheme 16

A small sum of money was used during 2000/2001 to facilitate the take up of residential respite for older people. This now needs to be extended so that carers can access shorter and more flexible breaks. There is a need to have a more co-ordinated approach to respite care so that more carers will get the break they want. To achieve this there needs to be funding for alternative respite services and co-ordination of the provision.

Additionally, younger people with physical disabilities need to be able to access more flexible forms of respite care - such as cottages with additional support services or family holidays where care services can be purchased to allow the main carers some respite. During 2001/02 we will work with care managers to identify additional flexible services that will mean that more families of people with disabilities have breaks better suited to their needs.

All Adult Care Groups

Scheme 17

Crossroads now provide a sitting service to carers of all adult care groups, although currently the main benefactors are older people. This has been because traditionally Crossroads have provided to carers of older people.

When the Crossroads Scheme was established across county in 1999, the East Hertfordshire was served through a scheme funded through joint finance. This source of funding has now ceased and the scheme needs to be aligned with the other schemes. A sum of money is needed to replace this funding. Hence the increase. This will mean all adult care groups throughout County should be able to access the sitting services which provides a regular 'break' carers and can be directly accessed by carers pending a full assessment from Social Services.

Scheme 18

The Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000 enables local authorities to respond more creatively to carers needs. In line with this, a small sum of money has been allocated to purchase one-off items of equipment or other services that would be an alternative way to meet carers needs - examples

such as transport costs, or driving lessons, laundry facilities etc. These services would be provision for the carer and not the person they care for.

Consultation, Planning, and Administration

5% of the grant can be used to provide officer time to consult with colleagues and carers about the breaks schemes and monitor and administer the overall proposals. Last year this funded an officer's time but year on year the grant and number of schemes grow and so there is an increasing need to fund this activity. The children's schemes also need to be planned and monitored and so this year the grant will fund one FTE and one P/T equivalent officer and fund consultation.