

**Minutes of the meeting of the National Support Services Committee (NSSC)
held at Alliance House, Caxton Street, London SW1H 0QS on the 6 June
2007.**

Present: Mrs E Boyd (Chairman)
Mr P Dolan
Mr R Evans
Mr GRO-A

In attendance: Mr C FitzGerald (Chairman of the Board of Trustees)
Mr M Harvey
Mr R Mishcon (for item 180.07)
Ms R Riley

Apologies Mr S Gregg

177.07 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were noted.

178.07 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
The minutes of the previous meeting and the record of decisions, with one minor amendment in respect of a decision regarding respite, taken on 2 May were signed as a correct record.

179.07 Matters Arising
173.07 (161.07(4) The committee noted that this item was to be dealt with separately on the agenda.

180.07 Regular Payments Review & Cost Estimates Arising
Mr GRO-A declared an interest.

The Chief Executive introduced the paper that had been previously circulated electronically and included with the agenda.

Following a considered discussion, it was agreed that the following proposal should be made to the full board of trustees at their meeting on the 23 July 2007.

That a synopsis of the paper considered by the committee be presented with the following recommendations in respect of monthly regular payment and appropriate supplement adjustments and the annual summer and winter payments. The paper would also comprise the background to these proposals.

1) That arising from the recent regular payment survey, all those with a gross household income of less than £30,000.00 per annum as shown or where their census form indicates should receive the higher rate of regular payment as published (£305.00). In addition this would apply to all infected intimates.

2) That all registrants and infected intimates, regardless of household income, receive the monthly supplement of £61.00 hitherto paid only to those receiving the higher or middle rate care component of the disability living allowance or attendance allowance.

3) That the supplement for a non-infected "live in" partner be £30.00 for all registrants who would receive the higher rate of regular payment.

4) For all those receiving the higher rate of regular payment, the supplement for the first dependent child would be £30.00 and for each other dependent child, the supplement would be £15.00.

Where an infected partner is living with a registrant and the "family" has dependent children, the supplement will only be paid to the registrant.

5) Registrants with a household income of more than £30,000.00 per annum would receive the current standard rate of regular payment (£255.00) together with the £61.00 supplement (Number 2 refers).

The supplement for a "live in" partner would be £15.00. The supplement for each dependent child would be £15.00.

6) The situation in respect of non-infected widows would remain unchanged save for the following:-

Financial support would be withdrawn:-

- After 10 years and with no change in circumstances.
- Three months after remarrying or entering into a stable relationship.
- Discontinuation of incapacity benefit or severe disablement allowance or withdrawal of the (to be introduced) Employment Support Allowance.
- Where support to dependant children is made available, this would cease when majority is achieved.

7) That the summer payment be increased from £750.00 to £1000.00 with effect from 08/09. The committee noted that this increase was directly related to the narrowing of availability of funding for respite.

8) That the winter payment be increased from £525.00 to £625.00. This uplift will be made in the current financial year.

The committee were aware that this proposal sought to address the immediate anomalies, for those registrants not in receipt of income support, inherent within the current (benefits linked) disbursement arrangements for regular payments. The committee were mindful of a number of related policy issues that would have to be addressed in due course.

(Chief Executive's Note: The committee noted that there although there had been verbal confirmation from the Trust's lawyers that the proposals were lawful in disbursement policy terms, written confirmation had not been obtained. The Chief Executive undertook to obtain such confirmation).

181.07 Applications for Support including any circulated by "round robin", cases, reviews and first appeals.
Declarations of Interest: There were none.

The schedule of applications and other matters were considered by the committee and a record of those decisions is attached on the schedule.

182.07 Any Other Business
There being no further business, the committee noted the next NSSC meeting is to take place on the 4 July 2007 commencing at 10.45am.

The meeting terminated at 1.00pm.

NSSC Decisions 6 June 2007

Reg no.	Request for	Amount	Agreed	Declined	Comments/conditions
1385W	Financial Assistance (FA)	£2,371.60	-	£2,371.60	Referral to THT
1416	Swimming Lessons (ED)	£350.00	£350.00	-	One-off grant agreed
1416	Taekwondo Lessons (ED)	£307.60	£307.60	-	One-off grant agreed
1416	School Trip (ED)	£517.00	£42.40	£474.60	Balance of one-off grant
1416	PPC for Wife (HM)	£98.70	-	£98.70	Hepatitis C
1493A	Rent Arrears (FA)	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	-	THT referral to establish rent situation
1512	Spectacles (HM)	£213.00	£200.00	£13.00	
1902	Spectacles (HM)	£214.00	£200.00	£14.00	
2014D	Cooker (LA)	£300.00	£300.00	-	Already has a loan from SF
2014D	Washing Machine (LA)	£200.00	£200.00	-	Already has a loan from SF
REVIEWS					
1283W	Shortfall of Mortgage GRO-A	£1,105.92	Deferred	Deferred	Referral to THT
1391W	Rent Payments GRO-A	£3,181.56	Deferred	Deferred	Referral to THT
1773W	Monthly Payments (RP)	£1,200.00	£300.00	£900.00	Payments to stop in 3mths
TABLED					
1396	Boiler Replacement (AH)	£1,925.00	£1,925.00	-	
1629A	Removal of Conservatory (AA)	£998.75	£998.75	-	Balance of Requests Deferred to Next Meeting
1629A	Slab Garden (FG)	£1,490.00	Deferred	Deferred	Subject to Information of Share Equity on Property
1629A	Replacement Fencing (FG)	£508.00	Deferred	Deferred	Subject to Information of Share Equity on Property
1629A	Decorating (AA)	£315.00	Deferred	Deferred	Subject to Information of Share Equity on Property
2002	Roof Repairs (AA)	£260.00	£260.00	-	£130 Payable on Receipt of Quote/Receipt
		£16,756.13	£6,283.75	£3,871.90	£6,600.48 Deferred

Signed:

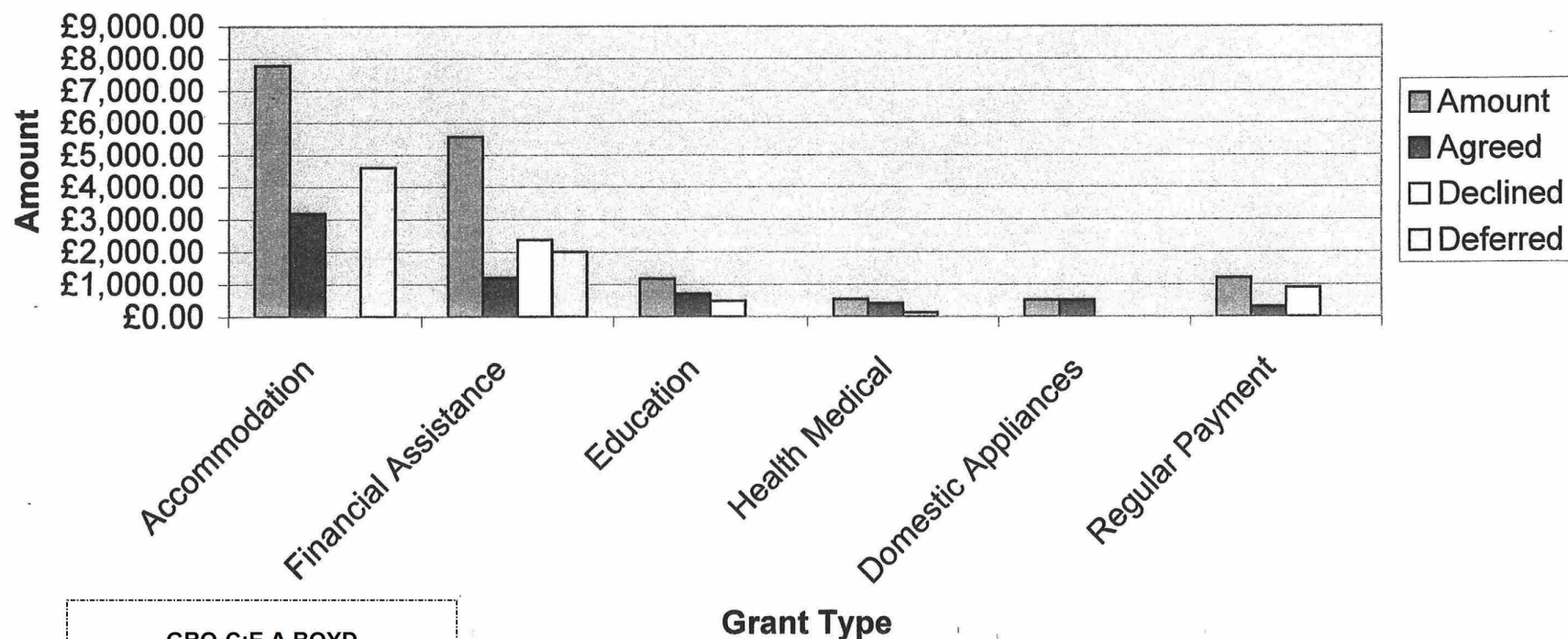
GRO-C: E A BOYD

Date: 04/07/07

NSSC Decisions 6 June 2007

Types of Grants Requested								
6	Accommodation	£7,786.23	£3,183.75	£0.00	£4,602.48			
4	Financial Assistance	£5,569.60	£1,200.00	£2,371.60	£1,998.00			
3	Education	£1,174.60	£700.00	£474.60	£0.00			
3	Health Medical	£525.70	£400.00	£125.70	£0.00			
2	Domestic Appliances	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00			
1	Regular Payment	£1,200.00	£300.00	£900.00	£0.00			
19		£16,756.13	£6,283.75	£3,871.90	£6,600.48	Deferred		

NSSC Decisions June 07



GRO-C:E A BOYD

Signed:

Date: