



COUNCIL CABINET 16 MARCH 2004

Report of the Director of Social Services

Services to Older People in the African Caribbean Community

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To note the contents of the report
- 1.2 To approve continuing funding of the Hadhari Supported Luncheon Club until October 2004.
- 1.3 To commission a further review of the service in April 2004 to audit compliance with the recommendations of the review report.
- 1.4 To refer the report to the Minority Ethnic Communities Advisory Committee.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 On 7 October 2003, the Council Cabinet agreed to enter into a service level agreement for six months with Hadhari, for the provision of a supported luncheon club for African and Caribbean elders.
- 2.2 Continuation of the agreement beyond six months was dependent on Hadhari being able to increase the number of people receiving the service for the same level of funding, or reducing their running costs.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 On 8 January 2004 a review was carried out by the Service Manager and a Project Manager. The findings of that review are attached as Appendix 2.
- 3.2 The review involved examination of the care plan records and registration record, interviews with the manager and the care assistant, a tour of inspection of the building, and discussions with some of the users.
- 3.3 Although not all have been met, there is evidence that after three months in operation Hadhari is on track to meet most of the requirements of the service specification by October 2004.
- 3.4 Numbers of people attending currently exceed the requirement by three per week. The provider will be encouraged to take more people during the next review period but this will require careful management so as not to place undue pressure on the service as it develops.

- 3.5 However a further review should be conducted to confirm that the necessary progress has taken place, after a period of development supported by staff from the Whitaker Centre.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4 Not applicable.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Review Findings

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 £29,000 has been allocated in the 2004 / 5 Social Services budget for the Supported Luncheon Club.
- 1.2 Close monitoring of the Supported Luncheon Club will continue. The provider has been told that should the service not meet the required standards Social Services will consider terminating the funding.
- 1.3 The attendance of a larger number of people than the required 20 per week has reduced the unit cost from £27.88 to £24.24 per week.

Legal

2. None.

Personnel

- 3 Social Services staff will continue to support Hadhari to provide this service, allocating worker time to assist with assessment, care planning, and the development of risk assessment and management processes.

Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change

4. This accords with the Council's objective of **protecting and supporting people**.

