

07 December 2006

Chief Executives Strategic Health Authorities
Chief Executives, Primary Care NHS Trusts

*Quarry House
Quarry Hill
Leeds
LS2 7UE*

Dear Colleague,

Gateway No : 7514

Re: Capital Bid Scheme for Hospices

As part of its Dignity in Care for Older People programme, in September 2006 the Department of Health launched a £40 million capital grants programme to improve the physical environment of hospices. Dignity in Care is a five-year programme of action, linked to the National Service Framework for Older people, designed to ensure that older people are treated with dignity and respect, wherever they receive care.

The grant programme is open to all adult hospices in England providing care for older people. Eligible hospices are being invited to bid for grants to:

- Improve the environment of care for older people
- Enhance end of life care for older people
- Enable hospices to be more responsive to the needs of older patients

An important aspect of the grant programme is for hospices to collaborate with people who use services, carers and the people who provide and deliver care to make sure that the projects they propose bring real benefits to older hospice users.

You will appreciate how important it is that improvement projects proposed by hospices fit with the wider strategic plan for end of life and palliative care in your area. Hospices will therefore be seeking to secure support for their proposals from the Strategic Health Authority, the Primary Care Trust or the PCT Collective Commissioning Group (PCCG) for your local Cancer Network.

I am writing therefore to make you aware that local hospices may be approaching you for your support and to ask for your co-operation in promptly returning the proforma that hospices will send you to sign so that you can confirm your support.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Liz Jones at Elizabeth.Jones@dh.gsi.gov.uk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian Philp', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Ian Philp
National Director for Older
People

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Richards', with a large, sweeping initial 'M'.

Professor Mike Richards
National Director for Cancer

**DIGNITY IN CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE
HOSPICE GRANTS PROGRAMME**

Hospice Organisation	
Project Title	
Project Description	
Amount Requested	£
<p>Statement of Support from the Chief Executive or designated lead for the SHA/PCT/PCT PCCG</p> <p>I have reviewed the project proposed, as detailed above. I understand that the PCT is not being asked to support this project financially and there are no associated revenue implications for the PCT.</p> <p>I confirm my SHA/PCT's* full support for this application</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>Position:</p> <p>Date:</p>	

* Delete as appropriate