

Transfers of Resources from Housing and Local Government other Services (MEG) to Health and Social Services (MEG)

Transfer from the Supported Housing Revenue Grant (SHRG) BEL to the Drug and Alcohol Initiatives BEL

It has been agreed that £60,000 can be transferred from the Supported Housing Revenue Grant (SHRG) BEL to the Drug and Alcohol Initiatives BEL in order to supplement Drug and Alcohol Treatment Fund resources for Bro Taf Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)

This transfer, together with £40,000 being made available from the Drug and Alcohol BEL, gives a total of £100,000 to be paid out to Bro Taf DAAT for substitute prescribing which will enable them to carry on treating the existing caseload for the balance of this financial year.

The drug and alcohol initiatives budget, which currently stands at £3.4 million, is to be increased by an additional £3 million for next year, £6 million for 2004 - 2005 and £9 million for 2005 - 2006.

For next year, that additional funding will allow us to set up the equivalent of five additional community drug and alcohol teams across Wales. That will mean more community psychiatric nurses, more support staff and more time for general practitioners to prescribe substitute medication. In turn, that will also allow over 1,000 more people to access community detoxification services. This area will then expand in the following two years in line with the increase in funding. Further consideration will be given to the availability of and demand for bed spaces for residential detoxification and rehabilitation, and any shortages will be addressed.

