

Question from Mrs P Fender, Welsh Newton, Monmouth

I have been a full time carer for my severely disabled husband for many years.

Government has allocated a Carers' Grant to the Council for the past seven years (£772,000 for the year 2008/09) to be used in consultation with carers, primarily for carers' respite. There is no evidence that this has been done.

There have been no business plans for the use of the Carers' Grant and, as yet, no evidence of any end of year returns.

- Why is there no business plan for the year 2008/09?
- Having been alerted some time ago to this serious omission, why has action not been taken to ensure proper accountability of the Carers' Grant 2008/09?
- Who has overall and ultimate responsibility for agreeing and overseeing the use of the Carers' Grant?