

The Security Benevolent Fund

Examples of cases assisted

Case 1.

Assistance sought by Jane aged 37, having been employed in the security industry for 10 years, and SIA registered. Jane an adoptee since the age of 3, and now widowed for 6 years her husband died suddenly at home one evening from natural causes, leaving her with four children and unable to work due to being a full time carer to three of the children, the fourth attending university in North Wales. One of her daughters (aged 10 at the time) was systematically sexually abused and raped by a 15 year old local boy and friend of the family. Due to this all three daughters were placed on the 'At Risk' Register, later downgraded to 'Children in need' All daughters are subject to special needs with Social Services and local G.P. involvement, with one of the children undergoing counselling having been diagnosed with Asperger syndrome, another with enuresis, and the third with ear problems. Jane herself remains on the sick list suffering from depression and sleep problems. Adding to these problems Jane's elderly mother residing in a home in Wales recently broke her hip and needs Jane to be near her to provide care. Jane requested financial assistance to help her move away with her children to Wales to be near her mother and away from the environment she was now experiencing. Social Services and her local G.P. in liaison with their colleagues in Wales had recommended and supported this move. WCoSP Trustees agreed to award £2,000 to assist in the move and furnishing a new home in Wales.

Case 2.

Assistance was sought by Karen a full time carer for her 6 year old son who is registered disabled with cystic fibroses (High role care component). Karen's partner is a full time security officer and SIA registered. Due to the very high cost of care for their son a request was made to WCoSP to assist in the purchase of a specialist sofa to be used by her son. The Trustees awarded £500 towards this purchase.

Case 3.

Mary's partner a security officer and SIA registered was murdered whilst performing his security duties leaving his partner with two young children and pregnant with a third. There was no life insurance, and she was unable to claim from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board being two months short of the period required for her to be classified as a 'common law wife' CICB compensation was awarded to her partners father as he was recorded as next of kin, but he declined to pass on any of this award to her. Mary became in urgent need of financial assistance over the short to medium term to clear a bank overdraft and provide assistance for their children. At the time this young family were living from hand to mouth and unable to purchase the most basic of Christmas presents for the children, the Trustees awarded £1,500 to assist this family at a crucial time.

Case 4.

Donald. aged 85 years a Burma Star veteran with 27 years' service in the RAF Regiment as a Flight Sergeant, and after military service employed as a Metropolitan Police prison van driver until full retirement, requested financial assistance from WCoSP to provide a fridge freezer, curtains etc to his sheltered accommodation home. Donald. had been residing with his sister and brother-in-law at their home but it had been repossessed leaving him homeless for a short while until the local authority provided him with sheltered accommodation. They could not provide him with a fridge

freezer etc. Donald is not a well man and survives on a very limited pension with no savings. SAFFA and other charities made donations, and the WCoSP Trustees awarded £500 towards the cost of providing these items.

Case 5.

Steve a serving security officer and SIA registered aged 36 years was diagnosed with cancer of the oesophagus and liver. He resides with his wife and two young daughters aged 5 and 3. Unfortunately his cancer is terminal and his life expectancy is months. Both he and his wife are aware of this prognosis, and his main concern is for his family, Steve only receives statutory sick pay from his employer, his wife had to give up working as a carer to give full support care to her sick husband, and there is very little income coming into the family. Steve requested financial assistance to carpet and decorate his home before he dies to provide reasonable clean and comfortable accommodation for his family, two other charitable organisations had made funds available, and WCoSP Trustees awarded £300.

Case 6.

Isabelle an SIA registered security officer has been unable to work for 12 months due to her suffering with ME/CFS. This condition is not yet currently available for treatment on the NHS and she has been forced to receive private treatment with is costing about £100 per month which includes medication. The prognosis is that she is improving rapidly and is it hoped that the remaining duration for treatment will be months rather than years. Isabelle is only receiving sick pay, and has run out of funds to meet her treatment and medical costs; she applied to the WCoSP for financial assistance in meeting her treatment and medical costs until her health improves. The Trustees initially awarded her £800 to meet these costs, and will decide if further financial assistance should be made to meet additional medical costs.

Case 7.

Stuart aged 79 years, a former regular serviceman (Royal Signals) and latterly a security officer with the Michelin Tyre Company, applied for assistance through the Royal British Legion to help finance the cost of installing a modern chairlift. Stuart is totally dependent on the use of a chairlift and a suitable model had been found. The RBL requested on Stuarts' behalf financial assistance of £500 from the WCoSP to help meet the cost of the chairlift, RBL would meet the balance. The Trustees awarded £500.