

C8 ITEM 82 (b)(ii)

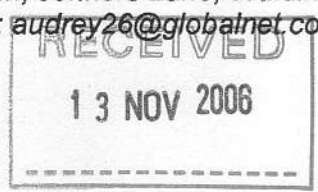
# HOMECALL



**Home Visiting Schemes for the Visually Impaired**  
*Supporting independence, health & welfare, social inclusion and relieving isolation*  
Independent Registered Charity no. 294901. Established in 1985

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2006

Mrs Audrey Paul, Homecall Chair, Champneys Farm, Jenners Lane, Wartling, East Sussex BN27 1RU.  
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8<sup>th</sup> November 2006

Dear *Richard,*

I am writing to appeal for financial support to our voluntary service that supports visually impaired people in all areas of East Sussex. From April 2000 until September 2006 our funding of more than £130,000 each year came through another local charity called East Sussex Vision Care, who in turn received their funding from East Sussex County Council. Due to County Council cutbacks this funding has ceased, so we are now trying to quickly find other sources of finance in order to continue to help our clients, whilst at the same time developing a strategy to ensure long term sustainability. The service, as outlined both in the enclosed leaflet and below, costs approximately £330 per client per year to deliver. If we cannot find alternative funding, we may have to close at the end of March 2007.

The Homecall home visiting service has been available to visually impaired people in East Sussex since February 1985. We currently support between 385 and 400 clients throughout the county. Our service users are some of the most needy and vulnerable in the community as, in many cases, sight loss comes with increasing years. 88% of Homecall clients are over the age of 75, with 31% of them being over the age of 90. Most clients live alone; many are housebound and also have other illnesses and disabilities. Our network of 330 trained, dedicated volunteers visit clients weekly to help with tasks such as reading mail, paying bills, filling in forms, going out together for walks and a myriad of other tasks that our clients could not manage alone. Our clients are reliant on the help they receive from their Homecall volunteer to enable them to remain living independently and to access appointments, services and activities in their local community. The regular support is of benefit to both health and welfare as it helps identify problems as they occur, thus minimising emergencies.

It would be a huge loss if this highly valued service was to close, particularly as Homecall has this year been honoured to receive the very prestigious Queens Award for Voluntary Service.

If you would like to know more about Homecall please visit our website [www.homecall.uk.com](http://www.homecall.uk.com) and do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to meet with me or require further information.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

*pp Audrey Paul*  
Audrey Paul  
Homecall Chair

TC NOTE:  
11 CLIENTS RESIDE  
WITHIN RYE  
PARISH (£3630 pa)

[www.homecall.uk.com](http://www.homecall.uk.com)

**Counsel and Care Befriending and Support Services Certificate of Achievement 2006**

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