

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: MEMBER/OFFICER REVIEW OF EQUIPMENT & ADAPTATIONS : PROGRESS REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 19 DECEMBER 2002	Ref: SKMCD/ST	

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report provides Committee with a progress report on the implementation of the Member/Officer Review of Equipment and Adaptations.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. A report to the Social Work & Housing Committees in October 1999 identified a number of issues relating to the assessment and provision of community equipment and adaptations. Committee approved a recommendation to establish a joint Member/Officer working group. The decisions of the group were agreed by Committee in November 2000 and have been the subject of regular progress reports to Committee since that time.
- 2.2. As report by the Joint Future Group, the community care policy making wing of the Scottish Executive requires agencies to jointly resource and manage equipment and adaptation services.
- 2.3. Audit Scotland is currently undertaking a baseline review of community equipment and adaptation services across Scotland. The two main aims of the survey are to examine how joint working is progressing at the local level to result in improved service provision, and to examine how well these services are being managed.

## 3. PROPOSALS/CONSIDERATIONS

### 3.1. Service Developments

- 3.1.1 The Joint Equipment Store has been operational since May 2002. The Joint Partnership Board meets every six weeks to monitor performance in relation to budgets and service provision. Performance information is provided by the Stores' stock control system (MESALS 2000).
- 3.1.2 The measured term contract for supply, installation, servicing, maintenance, removal and storage of major items of equipment has been in place since August 2002, and has been extended to some of the equipment funded via Health.
- 3.1.3 The Information and Assessment Centre is in the process of being fitted out with demonstration equipment and information resources. Staff, comprising two

- 3.1.3 The Information and Assessment Centre is in the process of being fitted out with demonstration equipment and information resources. Staff, comprising two Information Workers and one Equipment Adviser, have been successfully recruited and will commence in post in early December.
- 3.1.4 Work is ongoing in relation to the Mobile Unit to finalise the exterior design and establish a timetable and route for the first planned visits around the authority.
- 3.1.5 Plans are underway to arrange the launch of the Joint Equipment Service in the early part of 2003.

### **3.2. Assessment**

- 3.2.1 Single Shared Assessment for older people is being rolled out across the Authority in line with recommendations in the Joint Futures Report. A significant training programme is currently underway to train staff from social work and health which includes assessment for provision of a range of equipment provided by the Joint Equipment Store. This impact on the waiting times for assessment for simple equipment will be monitored.
- 3.2.2 Appendix 1 shows waiting list information for assessment by occupational therapists and for simple assessment for equipment/minor adaptations by Reception Services staff. There are vacancies for Occupational Therapists in 3 teams, and staff have been working across teams to assist with this. Attempts continue to be made to recruit Occupational Therapists, but there continues to be a shortage of qualified staff across Scotland. Work is also taking place to ensure a balance of of experienced and new/inexperienced staff across the authority in order to meet service demands.

### **3.3. Equipment and Minor Adaptation Provision**

- 3.3.1 Performance information from the Joint Equipment Service Stock System indicates the following level of activity in relation to the provision of equipment:
  - a) an average 1850 referrals per month since opening in May 2002.
  - b) approximately 2000 items of equipment are delivered per month.
- 3.3.2 The current budget for Equipment and Minor Adaptations is £1.8 M which includes an additional £500,000 as a result of virement by Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2002. The current budget is fully committed, and having quantified the assessed unmet need until the end of the financial year, it is considered that an additional £1 M would be required to meet this.

### **3.4 Major Adaptations**

- 3.4.1 As approved at Social Work Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2002, additional funding of £305,000 has been transferred to the Housing and Property Department from the Social Work Department as a result of slippage within new developments. This has reduced the waiting list for adaptations.

3.4.2 Appendix 2 is a summary of expenditure on Adaptations installed within the Council's own housing stock to date, together with details of the current waiting list.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. Committee is asked to:

- (i) note the contents of this report.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**11 September 2002**

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## APPENDIX 1

### Waiting Lists for Occupational Therapy (OT) Assessment and Equipment/Minor Adaptations via Reception Services (RS)

(Numbers of people)

AREA TEAM	December 2000	Nov. 2001	Apr 2002	Sept 2002	Oct 2002	Nov 2002
<b>AIRDRIE</b>	632	74	136	117	78 OT 61 RS	99 OT 66 RS
<b>COATBRIDGE</b>	299	0	15	88	63 OT 65 RS	42 OT 65 RS
<b>CUMBERNAULD &amp; CHRYSTON</b>	352	266	90	67	110 OT 63 RS	100 OT 45 RS
<b>MOTHERWELL</b>	103	49	124	90	24 OT 34 RS	29 OT 40 RS
<b>BELLSHILL</b>	299	106	50	54	20 OT 20 RS	15 OT 20 RS
<b>WISHAW &amp; SHOTTS</b>	240	123	48	10	55 OT 0 RS	59 OT 0 RS
<b>TOTAL OT/RS</b>					350 OT 243 RS	344 OT 236 RS
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,925</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>580</b>

- All those waiting for assessment have been screened and are in lowest priority category.
- The national and local increase in referrals of 15-20% per annum means that progress in managing this work is always likely to be uneven.

## APPENDIX 2

### Adaptations Expenditure - Budget Position

The following table provides a summary of the budget and waiting list for adaptations as at 15<sup>th</sup> November 2002.

Since August 2002, the budgets assigned to the North and South Housing Divisions have been amalgamated into a single fund. The statement includes the virement from Social Work of £305,000 as agreed at Social Work Committee on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2002.

<b>A Budget Provision £</b>	<b>B Committed Expenditure £</b>	<b>C Unassigned Budget £</b>	<b>D Waiting List Value £</b>	<b>E Variance* (D – C = E) £</b>
1,999,800	1,852,268	147,532	1,167,078	1,019,546

The unassigned budget is the estimated amount likely to be required to meet demand for emergency or high priority cases referred before the year end.

### Number of People Waiting

The following table summaries the waiting list by points range as at the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2002. At this date the Area Offices have instructed work down to and including some cases with 18 points.

<b>Points Range</b>	<b>Value £</b>	<b>Number of Clients</b>
25 – 30	Nil	0
19 – 24	Nil	0
15 – 18	792,778	316
10 – 14	374,300	145
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,167,078</b>	<b>461</b>

### Previous Years Expenditure

The following table details the expenditure made on adaptations since 1996.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Revenue £</b>	<b>Capital £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
1996/97	300,000	1,149,000	1,449,000
1997/98	1,316,000	111,000	1,427,000
1998/99	1,280,000	50,000	1,330,000
1999/2000	1,735,000	60,000	1,795,000
2000/01	1,514,000	188,000	1,702,000
2001/02	2,036,800	200,000	2,236,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,181,800</b>	<b>1,758,000</b>	<b>9,939,800</b>

The table demonstrates the increased resources made available as demand has continued to increase each year.