

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: JOINT EQUIPMENT SERVICE: OFFICAL LAUNCH
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 27 TH FEBRUARY 2003	Ref: ST/SKMCD	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to inform committee of the arrangements for the official launch of the Joint Equipment Service on 3rd March 2003.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Joint Equipment Service (JES) was a key recommendation of an Officer/Member Working Group on Equipment and Adaptations, which reported to Social Work Committee in November 2000 and has been the subject of regular monitoring reports since then.
- 2.2. The JES aims to provide a comprehensive community equipment and minor adaptation service. This encompasses all equipment/minor adaptations funded via social work for North Lanarkshire, and all equipment funded via health on a Lanarkshire wide basis. A disability information service is provided in conjunction with this, and is delivered via a central base adjacent to the Joint Store and a Mobile Unit, which takes the service to the outlying areas of the authority.
- 2.3. The three service elements of the JES have been introduced via a phased implementation plan:
- The Joint Store opened in May 2002 and is monitored by the Joint Partnership Board
 - The major refurbishment of the Information Centre and recruitment of Information staff was achieved in December 2002
 - The mobile unit exterior design was finalised in January 2003 and work is taking place to ensure that the unit is operational following the official launch

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. The Depute Minister for Health and Community Care, Frank McAveety has agreed to officially open the service.
- 3.2. The launch will be held on Monday 3rd March at 4.00pm. The venue will be the Information and Assessment Centre, adjacent to the Joint Store in Fern Street, Motherwell. The Depute Minister will be asked to unveil two plaques – one for the Joint Store, one for the Information Service. The mobile unit will also be officially “unveiled”.

3.3. The Director of Social Work will act as Chairperson for the event. Short presentations will be made by:

- The Convenor of North Lanarkshire Council's Social Work Committee
- The Chair of Lanarkshire NHS Primary Care Trust
- A representative from Lanarkshire Community Care Forum.

A provisional programme for the event is attached (Appendix 1)

3.4. Health and Safety considerations limit the number of people who can attend the launch.

3.5. JES staff will be in attendance to assist with information about the service. They will also conduct a tour of the buildings for official visitors and be available to offer support if required to service users and carers.

3.6. An official Open Day has been planned for Tuesday 4th March 2003. This will be an opportunity for more people to learn more about the service, and for other agencies to be invited.

3.7. It is proposed to rename the Information and Assessment Centre. On reflection it is considered the word "assessment" within the name can be misleading, giving people the impression that assessments of need will be carried out within the JES and not in their own homes. Whilst demonstrations and trials of larger items of equipment such as stairlifts will be carried out within the Centre, assessments of need will continue to be carried out in a person's own home.

3.8. It is proposed to call the building and the mobile unit the S.A.I.L. Service (Support and Advice for Independent Living). This reflects the breadth of service offered and fits with the Departments' philosophy of person centred services and the promotion of helping individuals achieve their full potential.

3.9. The Public Relations section in the Chief Executives' office will be organising an official photographer and liaising with the local and national press.

4. FINANCIAL / PERSONNEL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1. The cost of the launch will be met from existing departmental budgets.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
Thursday 23rd January 2003

For further information on this report please contact Susan Taylor, Manager Community Care Adults TEL: (01698 332065), or Susan Kelso-McDonald, Service Coordinator Independent Living Services TEL : (01698 332064)

**JOINT EQUIPMENT SERVICE
OFFICIAL OPENING**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME
3RD MARCH 2003**

4.00 – 4.15 pm	Reception	Joint Equipment Store Staff
4.15 pm	Welcome and Introduction Outline of service	Jim Dickie, Director of Social Work
4.20 pm	Key achievements in partnership working	Cllr H McGuigan Convenor of Social Work
4.25 pm	Benefits of integrated working	Ian Laidlaw Chairperson LPHC Trust (To be confirmed)
4.30 pm	Involvement of service users and carers	Lanarkshire Community Care Forum Representative (To be confirmed)
4.35 to 4.45 pm	Official Opening of Service and unveiling of plaques	Mr Frank McAveety Depute Minister for Health and Community Care
4.45 pm	Vote of thanks (to be confirmed) Tour for visitors.	
5.00 – 6:00 pm	Buffet in main area of Information Centre	