

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **Report by the Executive Director of Social Work & Health**

**Social Work and Health Improvement Committee: 18 February 2009**

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**Subject: Greater Glasgow Independent Living Equipment Service (GGILES)  
– change of name to EQUIPU and ministerial opening of expanded  
store by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for  
Health and Wellbeing on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to inform the Social Work & Health Improvement Committee on the status and progress of West Dunbartonshire Council and West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership as a member of the Joint Equipment Store (at Baillieston in Glasgow) operated by Greater Glasgow Independent Living Equipment Service (GGILES).
- 1.2** Previous reports have been presented to the Social Justice Committee on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2006; Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2006 and Social Work and Health Improvement which have outlined the background and purpose of West Dunbartonshire Council (WDC) and West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership (WD CHP) becoming one of the partners in GGILES.
- 1.3** One of the recommendations in previous reports was that progress reports would be presented to the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee.

This report provides an update on the rebranding from GGILES to EQUIPU and the ministerial opening of the new expanded Store on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009 by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** The service provided by GGILES is in respect of the supply, delivery, fitting, maintenance and recycling of all nursing and daily living equipment primarily for Older People, a key service provision for people within the West Dunbartonshire Council area.
- 2.2** Membership of GGILES has brought an enhanced and improved service to clients and service users together with the potential for financial savings based on the significantly larger purchasing power of the GGILES grouping.

In addition recycling of equipment has brought financial savings to West Dunbartonshire Council.

**2.3** Partners within the GGILES arrangements (post April 2007) are as undernoted:

- Glasgow City Council
- NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- East Dunbartonshire Council
- West Dunbartonshire Council

West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership also became a partner in GGILES at the same time as West Dunbartonshire Council (1<sup>st</sup> April 2007).

**2.4** As noted in the Social Work and Health Improvement report in May 2008 (within paragraph 3.3 Proposed Extended Partnership Arrangements during 2008 / 2009 and 2009 / 2010) the success of GGILES had encouraged additional organisations to consider joining the partnership and these were as undernoted:

- East Renfrewshire Council and East Renfrewshire CHCP (Community Health and Care Partnership)
- Renfrewshire Council and Renfrewshire CHP
- South Lanarkshire Council

Increased numbers of partners required increased operational and service facilities and a capital investment of £950k was required to provide the upgrade. No additional costs were required by West Dunbartonshire Council for this.

**2.5** The inclusion of these additional partners will substantively increase the coverage of GGILES from a population of 776000 from existing partners to 1342000. Within Scotland this represents approximately 26.3% of the total population of the whole country.

### **3. Main Issues**

**3.1** Following discussion with all partner representatives it was agreed that a change of name (from GGILES) would be beneficial to the partnership principally as a result of the increased number of partners.

As noted in 2.4 above 3 new partners have joined the partnership and these are as undernoted:

- East Renfrewshire Council and East Renfrewshire CHCP – August 2008
- Renfrewshire Council and Renfrewshire CHP – November 2008
- South Lanarkshire Council – scheduled for April 2009

**3.2** Proposed change of name was agreed as EQUIPU and copy of the new logo is attached for information. The rationale of the change reflects the partnership working across social work and NHS services together with the electronic methodology of ordering processing.

**3.3** As noted in 2.4 above a substantial capital investment of £950k was required in order to expand the existing facilities in order to support the increased service requirement from the partnership. This work was completed in October 2008 on schedule and on budget.

To mark this occasion it was agreed that the new expanded facility be officially opened and this will be formally done by Nicola Sturgeon MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for health and Wellbeing on the evening of Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at Baillieston (near Glasgow).

**3.4** It has been agreed that each partner will nominate 4 representatives to attend together with other invited guests including CoSLA; Director of the Joint Improvement Team and existing members of the Steering Group.

It is expected that the total number of attendees will be approximately 50.

**3.5** Nominees from West Dunbartonshire Council and West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership are as undernoted:

- Jim Finn – substituting for Iain Robertson, Leader of the Council
- Jonathan McColl – Convener of Social Work and Health
- William W Clark – Executive Director of Social Work and Health
- Keith Redpath – West Dunbartonshire CHP Director

In addition the 2 representatives on the Steering Group for West Dunbartonshire Council will be in attendance.

**3.6** The programme for the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009 will include the following:

- Formal opening speech by the Cabinet Secretary for health and Wellbeing
- Selection of short stories from front line staff and service users on the benefits of the joint equipment service
- Guided tour of the store

**3.7** An Implementation Plan (for the change of name) has been drafted and this outlines tasks and timelines for the change of name.

**3.8** Rebranding of the service includes the following:

- Store service signage
- Uniforms
- Livery on vehicles
- Customer leaflets

- Website
- Service information leaflets

This is not an exhaustive list but will cover key areas of service.

**3.9** The formal name change to EQUIPU will take place on the **9<sup>th</sup> March 2009**.

**3.10** A formal report on the opening of the expanded store facilities and rebranding is expected to be prepared and this can be presented to a future Committee meeting if required.

#### **4. Personnel Issues**

**4.1** There are no personnel issues for West Dunbartonshire Council.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

**5.1** There are no financial implications for West Dunbartonshire Council as a result of the expansion of the store.

**5.2** There are no costs for all partners as a result of the change of name from GGILES to EQUIPU as these have been funded from existing budgets within Direct and Care Services (DACS) who are the service provider for the partners.

**5.3** Costs will continue to be closely monitored including management charges.

**5.4** The expanded partnership will substantially increase the available items of equipment for recycling and this will be advantageous to and for all of the partners.

#### **6. Risk Analysis**

**6.1** There are no risks at this stage to West Dunbartonshire Council.

#### **7. Conclusions**

**7.1** The change in name from GGILES to EQUIPU updates the new generic equipment service name and logo and reflects the extended partnership's service distribution and the service users it serves.

#### **8. Recommendations**

**8.1** Members are asked to note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate to the Executive Director of Social Work and Health.

- 8.2** That a further report be presented to the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee on the progress of the rebranding and extended partnership arrangements and any impact arising for the service users within West Dunbartonshire Council.

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<b>Appendix:</b>	Implementation plan and EQUIPU logo
<b>Background Papers:</b>	Social Work and Health Improvement Committee May 2008  Health Improvement Social Justice Partnership Report November 2006  Social Justice Committee Report September 2006
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All Wards.