



Report

Report to:	Employee Issues Forum
Date of Meeting:	2 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

Subject:	Establishment of South Lanarkshire Council Personal Protective Equipment Distribution Hub
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Update the Employee Issues Forum on the Council's response to the supply of Personal Protective Equipment and the establishment of a South Lanarkshire Council Personal Protective Equipment Distribution Hub during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Employee Issues Forum is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic the volume of vital Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required across the Health Care Sector increased beyond the ability of providers to source sufficient amounts of equipment to meet the new demand required by the changes in safe systems of works due to the pandemic.
- 3.2. In recognition of this issue, the Council promptly established a Hub on 2 March 2020 to receive bulk supplies of vital Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be distributed to facilities in the Social Care Sectors across the authority, located at Newbery Rooney Day Centre in Hamilton. This facility has been resourced by staff from across Council Resources to ensure that all Care Facilities and registered private carers receive the appropriate levels of PPE.
- 3.3. Since July 2020, the Hub has also taken delivery and distributed PPE required by education facilities, to facilitate the return of schools in August 2020.
- 3.4. The PPE is being supplied through a mixture of deliveries from National Services Scotland (NSS) and from the Council's own supply chain.
- 3.5. The Scottish Government have committed to supplying PPE to the Social Care Sector until at least September 2021, therefore the Council will remain responsible for the operational delivery of PPE to individual Care Homes until this time.
- 3.6. The PPE delivery Hub at Newbery Rooney is staffed by Social Work, who deal with the administrative processes with NSS, Care Homes and the Council's Procurement Service. The operational side of the service has been managed by Housing and Technical Resources (H&TR) operatives who take receipt of the PPE, store it,

prepare the orders required for individual properties, and organise delivery of these. There is close co-operation between the Social Work and H&TR staff.

4. Current Provision

4.1. As the Council continues to organise deliveries of PPE to private sector social care homes until at least September 2021, a review was carried out taking into account the following issues:-

- ◆ should the Council have a store of PPE to guard against future disruption in the supply chain
- ◆ the ability of suppliers to deliver directly to those facilities which require PPE
- ◆ should the Council set up a storage and distribution network for PPE
- ◆ how appropriate Newbery Rooney is as a storage and delivery Hub
- ◆ are there any alternative locations which could offer a more efficient service
- ◆ If required, how would a Hub be resourced

4.2. Following consideration of these issues it was decided to establish the operational receipt and deliver of the Council's PPE from an industrial unit in Hamilton.

4.3. The operational delivery continues to be managed and, in the main, delivered by Housing and Technical Resources staff, consisting of 12 staff carrying out the following tasks:-

- ◆ 1 Hub Manager
- ◆ 1 Hub Supervisor
- ◆ 4 Stores Personnel; and
- ◆ 6 Delivery Drivers working on a full-time basis.

4.4. As part of the Council's Emergency Contingency Plan and resulting response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Hub has, from March 2020,

- ◆ Successfully taken delivery of, and distributed, items of PPE which include:-
 - ◆ Disposable Gloves,
 - ◆ Full Sleeved Gowns
 - ◆ Type IIR Surgical Face Masks (both adult and child sizes)
 - ◆ Lip Reading Face Masks
 - ◆ FFP2 Face Masks & FFP3 Face Masks
 - ◆ Re-usable Face Masks
 - ◆ Re-usable Aprons
 - ◆ Visors
 - ◆ Goggles
 - ◆ Over Sleeves Protection
 - ◆ Overshoes protection
 - ◆ Disposable waste bags
 - ◆ Anti-bacterial wipes
 - ◆ Hand Sanitiser; and
 - ◆ Blue Roll
- ◆ The Hub has delivered a total of 7,509,423 items of PPE to date, to Social Work establishments from March 2020, which equates to an average weekly delivery total of 163,248 items of PPE.

- ◆ The Hub has supported National Services Scotland by delivering a total of 16,509,056 items of PPE to private care providers which equates to a weekly delivery average of 434,448 items of PPE.
- ◆ The Hub has delivered a total of 1,874,198 items of PPE to date to our secondary schools, primary schools, ASN's & nurseries from August 2020, which equates to an average 4-weekly total of 211,332 items of PPE delivered to 161 educational establishments.
- ◆ Community and Enterprise (Amenities) have had 148,000 items of PPE delivered to date.
- ◆ The Hub has supported Community and Enterprise delivering 78,500 items of PPE to date.
- ◆ The Hub has supported Finance & Corporate Resources delivering 134,720 items of PPE to local offices.
- ◆ The Hub has supported Housing and Technical Resources delivering 40,000 items of PPE to its two stores within Hamilton and East Kilbride to date.
- ◆ The Hub has supported the Council meals delivery service, issuing PPE for staff as and when required.
- ◆ In total the Hub has, since March 2020, issued 26,215,389 items of PPE as part of the Council's emergency response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no significant employee implications from this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no significant financial implications within this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications in terms of the information contained within this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no other implications.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. This report did not require an EIACA.

Daniel Lowe

Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

10 February 2021

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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List of Papers Attached

None.