

So today, (21 June), is the longest day of the year, the nights are about to start drawing in again.

Let's hope that we at least get a few more days of sunshine before that though!

We seem to be moving in the right direction with Covid, most of our clients and all of the Care and Repair team have received vaccinations which will help to keep everyone safer from the virus. We have not relaxed though – we still continue to use full PPE and ask pre-visit questions when visiting clients. This is something we intend to continue even once the Covid emergency has finally finished.

TELECARE AND KEY SAFES

Our contract with South Lanarkshire Social Work to install community alarms, wireless peripheral devices, key safes and euro locks has now been approved. We have a 12 month contract in place with an option to extend for a further 6 months. This is really good for the South Lanarkshire Care & Repair and great for clients in South Lanarkshire who will continue to receive the high level of service we have delivered to both clients and Social Work.

SAFE AS HOUSES

We intend to change the Safe as Houses project and divide it into 2 separate services. Splitting the service will help us to apply for funds to run this free service as we can apply for funds to meet funders' priorities.

1. HOME SECURITY

This is the Safe as Houses project that has been running for a number of years now. This service operates for 1 day per week and helps clients who are victims of domestic abuse, assault or other crimes with home security advice and installation of security devices.

We assisted nearly 350 clients during 2020/21 and provided approximately £4,000 worth of equipment. We are continually fund raising to provide this equipment that is provided free of charge to clients.

We are applying for funding for 2021/22 to SLC Community Safety Partnership and have applied to Delivering Equally Safe for funding for 2022/23 & 2023/24 for this project.

2. HOME SAFETY

This is not an entirely new service – we have previously assisted clients by installing stair gates and carrying out low level home safety work. Eligible clients are:

- Anyone in the household over the age of 60 years
- Anyone in the household of any age living with a physical or mental disability
- Anyone who has been referred to the service as vulnerable

We intend to offer this service for 1 day per week and receive self referrals from clients and referrals from partner agencies. When asked to visit, we will carry out a home safety survey, identify hazards within the home and then suggest advice to clients and offer assistance to carry out the recommendations for the safety survey.

- Verbal advice
- Installation of safety equipment
- Portable electrical equipment testing (PAT)
- Relocation of furniture and mats/rugs
- Removal of (dangerous) hazards identified
- Referrals to appropriate agencies for further assistance

We are applying for funding for 2021/22 to SLC Community Safety Partnership for this project.

SMALL REPAIRS

This service is available to elderly and disabled clients and offers great value for money to clients and the opportunity to get small but important small repairs and maintenance jobs done around the house. Our Small Repairs Technicians can help with a variety of work and help with information about contractors if unable to assist.

**** SMALL REPAIRS PROJECTS ****

SOLAR LIGHTS

We were successful with a funding application to SLC Unintentional Injuries to provide solar powered lights to elderly and disabled clients across South Lanarkshire. These lights will provide automatic lighting for clients when they are outside in the dark and will hopefully reduce slip and falls caused by poor lighting.

FIRE DETECTION

We advertised the Care & Repair offer to provide and install wireless fire detection equipment that would be compliant with changes in fire legislation that come into effect in February 2022. We have currently taken around 60 calls requesting this service and began to install the devices this month.

OTHER NEWS

One of our technicians discovered a client at home who had passed away. Our technician contacted emergency services and performed CPR. Unfortunately these efforts were unsuccessful. It is inevitable that this situation will happen as we carry out in excess of 3000 home visits each year and a large number of these clients are elderly or living with a severe illness.

To assist our team, should they find themselves in this situation again, our Board decided that we should purchase AEDs (automated external defibrillator) for each team member to carry in their vehicles. We consequently purchased 4 refurbished AEDs and will have training on their use this month. The benefits of these types of devices have recently been highlighted by the cardiac arrest of footballer Christian Eriksen.

We would be delighted to hear from individuals or agencies with requests for assistance or from anyone who has a suggestion for a project that would suit Care and Repair and be of value to residents in South Lanarkshire.

Please call us on 01555 666200

or email us at enquiries@careandrepair-sl.co.uk

or write to us at 6a Hope Street, Lanark ML11 7LZ

Additional information can be found on our web site www.careandrepair-sl.co.uk

or on 