

PRESS RELEASE

Monday 3rd December

New mobility service with a difference at Mount Gould

Elderly and disabled people will now be able to access information, advice and equipment at a brand new mobility showroom based at Mount Gould Local Care Centre.

Pluss, the largest social firm in the UK, differs from other mobility businesses in that it specialises in employing disabled people. It opened its new showroom today at the Local Care Centre ensuring people with a variety of health needs have immediate access to equipment such as wheelchairs, scooters, toileting and bathing equipment - where and when they need it most. Pluss also provide a full assessment, repair and maintenance service.

Over half of Pluss' 500 strong workforce have a disability themselves which gives them a unique understanding in to the healthcare and equipment needs of their customers helping them to maximise their independence.

Steve Waite, Director of Operations for the Primary Care Trust said:

“We welcome Pluss to the Local Care Centre as a valuable addition to the range of services based at Mount Gould. We need to ensure that people have access to the most appropriate support to help to maintain a safe home environment and this service is one of a range that will help to provide such information and advice. We look forward to working with the team.”

Stephen H, 29, works for Pluss repair and maintenance department and has a disability himself.

“Having a disability gives me a better understanding of what other people may have to go through. At Pluss, we don't focus on the disability. We look at what someone wants to do, come up with the solution and will help people do things they otherwise thought they couldn't do. One of our power scooters can even travel up to 26 miles. We also repair and maintain all types of equipment from walking frames to power wheelchairs and will visit people at home if needed to assess and repair on site. The most important thing to us is to always do whatever is best for the customer”

City Councillor Dr. David Salter, Cabinet member for Adult and Social Care and Plymouth representative on the Pluss board of directors opened the showroom today.

He Said "As both a former carer and a former Professor of Bioengineering I can really appreciate the great opportunity this new showroom will give to those who visit Mount Gould. There is an excellent range of aids to be seen and lots of good advice to be had".

-ends-

Notes to Editors

Pluss is the biggest provider of employment, training and equipment services in South West England.

We offer over 700 disabled people in Plymouth a range of training and recruitment services, and direct employment in our own mobility equipment and manufacturing businesses.

We have been providing work opportunities for disabled people for over 35 years and are a company limited by guarantee that does not distribute profits.

Pluss is owned by Plymouth City Council, Devon County Council, Somerset County Council and Torbay Council.

Pluss has two retail outlets in Plymouth providing disabled people with a range of specialist mobility equipment and daily living aids such as wheelchairs, scooters and hoists. Pluss also provide a comprehensive assessment, hire, repair and maintenance service.

Contact Pluss at Southway on 01752 306630 and Pluss at Mount Gould on 01752 566485.

Pluss' Community Equipment Service delivers repairs and maintains mobility equipment for the general public and through contracts with Social Services and the NHS.

In total we provide mobility and equipment services to over 125,000 across the South West.

Visit www.pluss.org.uk

For more information on Pluss please contact

Geraldine Scott-Smith / Monica Shillingford

01752 306657

geraldine.scott-smith@pluss.org.uk

monica.shillingford@pluss.org.uk