



PRESS RELEASE 5th May 2010

EASTERN BEACH MOBILITY SERVICE

The Care Agency provided facilities on Eastern Beach last year enabling people with temporary or permanent disabilities, access to the sea and beach with ease during the summer period, providing new services to individuals with disabilities, thereby allowing a far greater integration into society and greater enjoyment for everyone.

On the afternoon of 05th May 2010, at Bleak House, the Minister for Family, Youth and Community Affairs, the Hon. Mr. J. Netto will open a presentation given by Staff Nurse Karen Symons of the Care Agency, with an overview of the Eastern Beach Project 2009 and what is expected for 2010. Mr. Netto will speak about how the project had come about, before it came to fruition and how it was developed. Also in attendance will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Care Agency, Carmen Maskill and the Clinical Standards Compliance Director, Jennie Allison who coordinated the Project.

The facilities will include a reception pergola which will be manned by Staff from the Care Agency who are fully trained, some of whom worked on the Project in 2009. The specialized equipment will include amphibious chairs, hoists and a wheelchair to assist with people wishing to access the service from their cars parked on the nearby car park. There will be 3 Beach Tents available which can be used by visitors to the service.

The service will run from 13th June 2010 until 11th September 2010, for the summer season, giving any person with restricted mobility the opportunity to access the southern part of Eastern Beach and the sea (last year it was on the North Side), whether they are visiting Gibraltar or they reside here.

Leaflets outlining the service are being distributed at various locations in Gibraltar, such as Morrison's, the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Tourist Board and the Hotels, giving details of the location and a map to help those people not familiar with Gibraltar, showing how to get there.

We would like to give a huge 'thank you' to all of the people who contributed such invaluable help and support, not only in last years Project, but again this year. Too numerous to mention individually, however the Gibraltar Disabilities Society, the Gibraltar Tourist Board, Staff at Latino's Beach Bar, the Royal Gibraltar Police, the Domestic Staff at Eastern Beach, the MOD Fire and Rescue Service

and the Care Agency Staff deserve our special thanks, all of whom have enabled the service to be maintained.

If the community spirit shown by everyone involved in 2009 is as forthcoming this year, then it is felt that the service will be a great success for the people of Gibraltar and those visiting 'The Rock'. Serving disabled persons is of the utmost importance for the Care Agency.