

## RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

### \*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted *[if applicable]*

#### SERVICE DIRECTORATE: CUSTOMERS

##### 1. DECISION TAKEN

- 1.1 To procure Doro IP digital assistive technology equipment through the Northern Housing Consortium Framework Agreement- TECS Lot 1 D A - Dec 2020

##### 2. DECISION TAKER

- 2.1 Jo Dufficy, Service Director - Customers

##### 3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

- 3.1 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

##### 4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 Digital alarms are a core component of assistive technology and the service that Careline provides to support independent living. The market for digital IP alarms is still in its infancy with limited manufacturers involved in this market.
- 4.2 Doro Care has been the supplier of these devices under an ESPO framework however that Framework has now ended. The same devices are available via the Northern Housing Consortium Framework. The new framework agreement offers value for money whilst ensuring the widest catalogue of available products.

##### 5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 An open tender exercise was considered but a recently run procurement exercise for complex needs assistive technology equipment produced very little interest and there is a risk we would secure less favourable terms from this limited option base.

##### 6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 The product range is currently part of the assistive technology offering and we are not proposing to change the options available.
- 6.2 Consultation has been carried out with the Leader and Deputy Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health in the absence of the Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health.

##### 7. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The previous ESPO framework agreement under which Doro Care equipment was purchased came to an end in January 2020 and ESPO did not introduce a

replacement framework. We therefore need to procure this equipment under a new contract and framework agreement, work with the Procurement Officer identified Northern Housing Consortium as an appropriate alternative framework.

- 7.2 NHDC are working with Hertfordshire County Council to expand the service provision to become the single supplier for HCC. This will involve a transfer of existing clients and a likely increase in numbers of new clients, all of which will require physical technology to be installed or replaced as part of the new arrangement. The new contract with Northern Housing Consortium allows for the expected increase in stock with the expanded service.

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The Service Director – Customers has delegated authority to enter into contracts to carry out works and/or for the supply of goods and services within approved budgets as per section 14.6.4(a)(ii) of the Constitution.
- 8.2 The Contract Procurement Rules require the publication of a Decision Notice for any procurement with a value of above £50,000.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The expenditure is on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council who have delegated their authority to NHDC to provide assistive technology equipment to Hertfordshire residents. NHDC will draw down the funding through the existing Section 9EA agreement to purchase the equipment.
- 9.2 The contract value has been calculated at £1.8m to take into account the increase in client base as a result of the expanded service, due to commence in early 2021/2022. The majority of costs associated with this will be underwritten by HCC through the Section 9EA any residual will be funded through the maintenance element of self-funded clients service charge.

## **10. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Failure to procure a supplier of digital Assistive Technology equipment would put in jeopardy the supply of service to vulnerable residents within Hertfordshire, due to the change of telecommunications network from analogue to digital. The Council also has to ensure sufficient supplies due to EU Transition.

## **11. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 The service provides support to vulnerable elderly and disabled residents of Hertfordshire.
- 11.2 There are no other equalities implications.

## **12. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 The Social Value Act and Go Local Policy do not apply to this decision

## **13. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 None

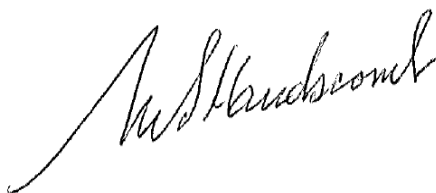
## **14. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 14.1 None

**15. NOTIFICATION DATE**

08 January 2021

**Signature of Executive Member Consulted**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. St. Hubert', written in a cursive style.

**Date** 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. St. Hubert', written in a cursive style.

**Signature of Decision Taker**

**Please Note:** that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.

**Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**