



Report of Shona McFarlane, Deputy Director Social Work & SC Service

Report to Director of Adult & Health

Date: 25th March 2020

Subject: Telecare Equipment for the Leeds Telecare Service 2020/21

Capital Scheme: **33089**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary

1. Main issues

- In February 2019 Executive Board agreed to an annual capital expenditure of £600k for telecare equipment for Leeds Tele Care Service. This has been injected into the capital budget until 2021/22. This was an increase of £100k from the £500k budget agreed for 2019/20.
- The annual spend on Telecare equipment for 2019/20 is currently at £680K and is projected to be £729k by the end of March 2020.
- £79k was carried forward from an underspend in 2018/19. This gives a budget of £579k for 2019/20.
- There is a further £600K in the capital programme in the 2020/21 budget. The release of an additional £150k into 2019/20 budget from the 2020/21 capital programme would provide a 2019/20 budget of £729K which would cover the predicted expenditure in this financial year.
- There is second capital scheme for the telecare transition from analogue to digital for £1.6m which was approved in March 2019. This includes start-up cost of replacing the analogue ARC as well as the replacement of the Telecare equipment installed in customers' homes.

- A separate report for the approval to spend £600k of the £1.6m in 2020/21 will be presented to the Director of Adults and Health at the same time as this report.
- The Leeds Tele Care service commenced the purchase and installation of digital units in September 2019. These units cost more than the analogue units which has resulted in the increased expenditure.
- The funds have been used to purchase telecare equipment to meet the demand resulting from an increase in requests for telecare from assessors. This increase in requests is the outcome of increased awareness of the benefits of technology to support older and disabled people to live independently, and of the promotion of telecare to assessors across health and social care as a cost effective, non-intrusive support, and the continued development of the range of types of telecare sensors available. In April 2010 there were 2,069 customers using telecare. In February 2020 there are 8,500 customers using telecare in individual properties with an additional 4,450 dwellings in sheltered housing schemes supported with telecare.

2. Best Council Plan Implications (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

- Council Business Plan – this work contributes the outcome of people being able to live with dignity and stay independent for as long as possible.
- Best Council Plan 2019 – 20 – this work contributes making the Age-Friendly Leeds KPI by enabling people to live independently in a place of their choice

3. Resource Implications

- Capital funding for Telecare Equipment has been approved. There is £579k budget available for 2019/20. The annual spend on Telecare equipment for 2019/20 is currently at £680k and is projected to be £729k by end March 2020.
- There is a further £600K in the capital programme in the 2020/21 budget. The release an additional £150K into 2019/20 budget from the 2020/21 capital programme would provide a 2019/20 budget of £729K which would cover the predicted expenditure in this financial year. Due to digital switchover already commencing some equipment had to be purchased in 2019/20 causing the £150k over spend. To mitigate this £150k from the 20/21 budget is being realigned.
- This will leave £450k for 20/21 but this will be sufficient because any digital equipment now needed will be purchased from the new capital scheme 33084, for the transition from analogue to digital switchover, which will be available from 2020/21. This will provide a further £600k budget in 2020/21.

Recommendations

- The Director of Adults and Health is requested to approve to spend additional capital expenditure of £150k on telecare equipment for the Leeds Tele Care Service for 2019/20 budget, taking the total expenditure to £729k from £579k. This will be

funded by transferring £150k from 2020/21 year leaving spend of £450k on scheme 33089 for 2020/21 in accordance with financial procedure rules.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek authority to spend the capital expenditure of £150k on telecare equipment for the Leeds Tele Care Service for 2019/20 and £450k for 2020/21 in accordance with financial procedure rules.
- 1.2 Due to digital switchover already commencing some equipment had to be purchased in 2019/20 causing the £150k over spend. To mitigate this £150k from the 20/21 budget is being realigned. This will leave £450k for 20/21 but this will be sufficient because any digital equipment will be purchased from the new capital transition scheme 33084.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 Telecare is the continuous, automatic and remote monitoring of real time emergencies and lifestyle changes over time in order to support vulnerable people living independently. It is a development of the community alarm equipment which Leeds has provided for older and disabled people since 1986 through the “Care Ring” Service. Community alarms are considered as the “first generation” of monitoring equipment. Telecare is referred as the “second generation” of equipment.
- 2.2 Telecare sensors are placed around the home on ceilings, doors and walls or may be worn by the service user in the form of a pendant, watch or belt. Sensors include smoke detectors, flood detectors, fall sensors and medication dispenser’s alerts.
- 2.3 If a telecare sensor activates in an individual’s home an alert is automatically raised to the Council’s 24 hour Tele Care response centre, who will make contact with the service user to check on their safety. Often practical advice and reassurance is all that is required, but on some occasions a personal visit and or physical help may be needed. On these occasions the response centre staff will arrange the appropriate support by contacting a family member, providing a visit by the Tele Care mobile response service, or, if necessary, contacting an emergency service. The response centre holds relevant personal information about the service user and can identify which sensor in the home has activated to ensure the appropriate responses are arranged promptly.
- 2.4 Leeds City Council took the opportunity to develop telecare through the Preventative Telecare Grant which was announced by the Department of Health in 2004 and was paid to Local Authorities in 2006. As a result a new service was established and significant experience and expertise has been gained.
- 2.5 In December 2008 a report was provided to ASC Directorate Management Team which outlined the progress made and provided the justification for the Tele Care Service to be supported by mainstream funding after the Preventative Technology grant expired.
- 2.6 The main financial justification for the Tele Care Service to attract mainstream Adult Social Care funding was the demonstration of the financial benefit that using telecare equipment was shown to make to other community care budgets.

- 2.7 From 1st April 2009 the Leeds Telecare Service has been a mainstream service funded by Leeds Adult Social Care.
- 2.8 In 2014 a range of assistive technology (AT) services provided by the Council and the NHS were co-located in a single building to provide a “one stop shop” for customers and assessors and more joined-up, cost effective services for providers of AT. Work is now underway to relocate this joint offer to a larger location that will allow for further developments to promote and extend the use of care technology in the delivery of health and social care in the City.

3.0 Main issues

- 3.1 The direction of travel is to further stimulate demand for telecare via a process of increased promotion to service users and citizens in Leeds and training to staff in health and social care. Assessors are required to consider the merits of using telecare as a standalone service or part of a care package to support people to remain living independently in all their case work.
- 3.2 The increased use of telecare is part of a wider strategy to support older and disabled people in their homes for longer and to maximise the opportunities to effectively employ new technologies in health and social care.
- 3.3 The projected capital spent on Telecare equipment for 2019/20 is £729k.

4.0 Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 Two service user representatives from the user involvement group (the Equipment and Telecare Service User Group) sit on the Leeds Community Equipment and Telecare Service Advisory Group and are involved at all levels in the governance and development of the services.
- 4.1.2 The user group are involved in the evaluation of products as part of the procurement process.
- 4.1.3 Telecare equipment is selected, following an assessment, to meet the needs of the individual customer, and a range of equipment is available which is appropriate for use and cost effective.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening tool has been undertaken for the purposes of this recommendation, and has indicated that an EIA does not need to be carried out. There will be no adverse effect on any particular groups of people within the city by the proposal.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1 The service contributes to National Indicator 142: the percentage of vulnerable people supported to achieve independent living.
- 4.3.2 Council Business Plan – this work contributes to the target to increase the number of people successfully completing a programme to help them relearn the skills for daily living; increase proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home

91 days after leaving hospital into rehabilitation services; increase the percentage of service users who feel that they have control over their daily life.

4.3.3 Best Council Plan 2015 – 20 – this work contributes to the Better Lives programme and to the breakthrough project of making Leeds the best place to grow old.

4.4 Climate Emergency

4.4.1 At Full Council on 27 March 2019, Leeds City Council passed a motion declaring a Climate Emergency. In addition, the Leeds Climate Commission have proposed a series of science based carbon reduction targets for the city so that Leeds can play its part in keeping the increase in global average surface temperatures to no more than 1.5°C.

4.4.2 Environment and Sustainability considerations were taken into account while developing the specification. Provisions are included which advises that the service will work with suppliers to ensure that they assist Leeds City Council to achieve their carbon reduction targets and reducing emissions across its fleet and operations.

4.4.3 In terms of specifics for this contract, the provision of telecare equipment is a preventative measure that may reduce or eliminate the need for additional transport for the customer to hospital and also may reduce the package of care to the customer therefore reducing the number of visits from homecare staff. Both of these impacts are carbon positive in as much as they are removing the need for unnecessary journeys.

4.5 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.5.1 Capital programme for Telecare

Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2018 £000's	FORECAST				
			2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Authority to Spend required for this Approval	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2018 £000's	FORECAST				
			2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	600.0			150.0	450.0		
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	600.0	0.0	0.0	150.0	450.0	0.0	0.0
Total overall Funding (As per latest Capital Programme)	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2018 £000's	FORECAST				
			2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022 on £000's
LCC Supported Borrowing	600.0			150.0	450.0		
Revenue Contribution	0.0						
SCE (R)	0.0						
Departmental USB	0.0						
Corporate USB	0.0						
Any Other Income (Specify)	0.0						
Total Funding	600.0	0.0	0.0	150.0	450.0	0.0	0.0
Balance / Shortfall =	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Parent Scheme Number: 33089

Title: Telecare Adult Social Care (Parent)

4.5.2 Telecare products are purchased through a framework contract.

4.6 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.6.1 No Legal implications. This is a key decision subject to call-in.

4.6.2 The Director of Adults and Health has delegation which relates to preventative services; and general delegations in relation to finance and procurement to be able to give the authority to take financial and contracting decisions to meet those service needs.

4.7 Risk management

4.7.1 Without the release of further capital, the service would not be able to meet the demand for Telecare installations in 19/20, and would have to rely totally on recycling used equipment. This would result in a waiting list for installations with impact on risks to customers including those leaving hospital.

4.7.2 The service would also not be able to buy new telecare products which are needed to meet individual complex needs or to make sure that the service is using new technologies that come into this market.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 By agreeing to release further capital will enable the Leeds Telecare Service to continue to meet the demand for telecare equipment.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 The Director of Adults and Health is requested to approve to spend additional capital expenditure of £150k on telecare equipment for the Leeds Tele Care Service for 2019/20 budget, taking the total expenditure to £729k from £579k. This will be funded by transferring £150k from 2020/21 year leaving spend of £450K on scheme 33089 for 2020/21 in accordance with financial procedure rules.

7.0 Background documents¹

7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.