

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

**Report to Director of Adult & Health**

**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Subject:** Telecare Annual Equipment Capital Spend for the Leeds Telecare Service 2021/22

Capital Scheme: **33088**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Are specific electoral wards affected?<br>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?<br>If relevant, access to information procedure rule number:<br>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. There is £1.2m remaining for 2022/23 (scheme 33260 - £600k) and 2023/24 (scheme 33261 - £600k).
- There is second capital scheme for the telecare transition from analogue to digital for £1.6m (scheme 33084) 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.
- Approval to spend £600k of the £1.6m (scheme 33084) in 2020/21 was agreed in March 2020. A separate report for the approval to spend a further £500k in 2021/22 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 and the second capital scheme.

- 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 2021 there are;

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Community Customers with equipment linked to the Alarm Receiving Centre | 9,864 |
| Customers with standalone equipment including care homes                | 2,596 |
| Sheltered housing schemes   |       |
| Customers with equipment  | 1,405 |
| Communal areas linked to the alarm receiving Centre                     | 847   |
| Smoke detectors linked to the alarm receiving Centre – monitored only   | 1,239 |

## 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 2020 – 25 – this work contributes making the Age-Friendly Leeds KPI by enabling people to live independently in a place of their choice and by help and support for people who want to use digital technology to make their lives better.

## 3. Resource Implications

- Capital funding for Telecare Equipment has been approved. There is £600k budget available for 2021/22 (scheme 33088).
- The available budget for 2020/21 is £600K. This is made up of £120.4K brought forward from 2019/20 and £479.6K from 2020/21 budget.
- The £120.4k from 2019/20 has been spent in 2020/21. The current expenditure from 2020/21 budget is £349k with a further £22k orders outstanding.
- The expenditure is projected to be £430K from 2020/21 budget by end March 2021, £349k already spent, £22k in committed orders and £59k orders to be placed.

## Recommendations

The Director of Adults and Health is requested to approve the authority to spend capital expenditure of £600k for equipment for the Leeds Telecare Service to be spent in 2021/22 budget.

### 1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek authority to spend the capital expenditure of £600K on telecare equipment for the Leeds Tele Care Service in 2021/22 in accordance with financial procedure rules.

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **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 2020 – 25 – 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 for 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 –

| Funding Approval :                                      | Capital Section Reference Number :- |               | 33088      |            |            |              |            |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme        | TOTAL                               | TO MARCH 2018 | FORECAST   |            |            |              |            |
|   | £000's                              | £000's        | 2018/19    | 2019/20    | 2020/21    | 2021/22      | 2022 on    |
|   |                                     |               | £000's     | £000's     | £000's     | £000's       | £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                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>   | <b>0.0</b>                          | <b>0.0</b>    | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b>   | <b>0.0</b> |
| Authority to Spend required for this Approval           | TOTAL                               | TO MARCH 2018 | FORECAST   |            |            |              |            |
|   | £000's                              | £000's        | 2018/19    | 2019/20    | 2020/21    | 2021/22      | 2022 on    |
|   |                                     |               | £000's     | £000's     | £000's     | £000's       | £000's     |
| LAND (1)  | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| CONSTRUCTION (3)  | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| FURN & EQPT (5)   | 600.0                               |               |            |            |            | 600.0        |            |
| DESIGN FEES (6)   | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| OTHER COSTS (7)   | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>   | <b>600.0</b>                        | <b>0.0</b>    | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>600.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |
| Total overall Funding (As per latest Capital Programme) | TOTAL                               | TO MARCH 2018 | FORECAST   |            |            |              |            |
|   | £000's                              | £000's        | 2018/19    | 2019/20    | 2020/21    | 2021/22      | 2022 on    |
|   |                                     |               | £000's     | £000's     | £000's     | £000's       | £000's     |
| LCC Supported Borrowing                                 | 600.0                               |               |            |            |            | 600.0        |            |
| Revenue Contribution                                    | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| SCE ( R )   | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| Departmental USB  | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| Corporate USB   | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| Any Other Income ( Specify)                             | 0.0                                 |               |            |            |            |              |            |
| <b>Total Funding</b>                                    | <b>600.0</b>                        | <b>0.0</b>    | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>600.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |
| <b>Balance / Shortfall =</b>                            | <b>0.0</b>                          | <b>0.0</b>    | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b>   | <b>0.0</b> |

Parent Scheme Number: 33088

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 21/22, 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 the authority to spend capital expenditure of £600k for equipment for the Leeds Telecare Service to be spent in 2021/22 budget.

#### **7.0 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.