

Annual capital expenditure of £600k for telecare equipment for Leeds Tele Care Service

Date: 24th April 2024

Report of: Shona McFarlane, Deputy Director Social Work & Social Care Service

Report to: Director of Adult & Health

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

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 £600,000. available in scheme 33406.

The service requires this scheme to be made available to spend in 2024/25.

Recommendations

- a) For the Director of Adults and Health to approve the authority to spend capital expenditure of £600k for equipment for the Leeds Telecare Service to be spent in 2024/25 budget.

What is this report about?

- 1 Telecare is the continuous, automatic, and remote monitoring of real time emergencies and lifestyle changes over time 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.
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.
If a telecare sensor activates in an individual's home an alert is automatically raised to the Council's 24-hour Tele Care Alarm Receiving Centre (ARC), who will contact 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 ARC 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.

The telecare equipment is purchased using the Telecare equipment framework.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 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.

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.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 3 The service directly contributes to the Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan and its priority to make Leeds the best City for Health and Wellbeing by 2030. This is achieved by supporting service users to live safely. The service will contribute to the best city ambition by:

Supporting self-care, with more people managing their own health in the community.

Ageing Well – by supporting preventive solutions to promote healthy and active lifestyle which helps people to stay well for longer.

This contract evidence Leeds working with our neighbouring local authorities, providing best value for money and joint partnership.

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.

Working with People

Providing Telecare equipment gives customers independence, choice, and control within their daily life. It allows customers to get the assistance they require when they need it.

Referrals for Telecare are received from across the Health & Social care system, including housing and GP's.

Telecare is provided to all age groups.

Providing Support

Tele Care is a 24-hr service. Customers can use their equipment at any time. A high percentage of alerts are for reassurance.

Tele Care work in partnership with West Yorkshire Ambulance service and the Enhanced Community Response to provide a tier 1 falls response service for YAS patients who have a noninjury fall.

Tele Care offer a mobile response service for customers to respond to an alert.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 4 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 in the development of the services.
The user group are invited to be part of in the evaluation of products as part of the procurement process.

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 groups of people within the city by the proposal.

Appendix 1 Equality Impact Assessment screening tool

What are the resource implications?

- 5 Capital funding for Telecare Equipment was approved in February 2019.
There is £179k. remaining from scheme 33261 of £600k. for 203/24.
There is £600k budget available for 2024/25 (scheme 33406). This is the last of the £600K available from the capital injection in 2019.
A request for further injection in the capital scheme will be required in 2024.

Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2024 £000's	FORECAST				
			2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	2026 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
INTERNAL DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER FEES / 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 2024 £000's	FORECAST				
			2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	2026 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	600.0				600.0		
INTERNAL DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER FEES / COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	600.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	600.0	0.0	0.0
Total overall Funding	TOTAL	TO MARCH	FORECAST				

(As per latest Capital Programme)	£000's	2024 £000's	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	2026 on £000's
LCC Supported Borrowing	600.0			0.0	600.0		
Revenue Contribution	0.0						
Capital Receipt	0.0						
Insurance Receipt	0.0						
Lottery	0.0						
Gifts / Bequests / Trusts	0.0						
European Grant	0.0						
Health Authority	0.0						
Private Sector	0.0						
Section 106 / 278	0.0						
Government Grant (Specify)	0.0						
Departmental Borrowing	0.0						
Any Other Income (Specify)	0.0						
Total Funding	600.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	600.0	0.0	0.0
Balance / Shortfall =	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 6 Without the release of further capital, the service would not be able to meet the demand for Telecare installations in 24/25 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.

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.

What are the legal implications ?

- 7 The decision highlighted in this report will be taken by the Director of Adults and Health in line with the officer delegation scheme as detailed in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution. This is a Significant Operational Decision to approve the authority to spend the capital and was approved at the Forward Plan meeting on 20 February 2024. It is therefore not subject to call-in.

The report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

Options, timescales and measuring success.

What other options were considered?

- 8 The service already recycles 80% of returned stock. So, products only have a limited use and require replacing annually. There are no other options other than to purchase stock to keep up to demand.

How will success be measured?

9 Success will be measured by the number of referrals installed as set out by the KPI's.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

10 The proposed timescale to commence on 1st April 2024.

The Service Delivery Manager- Assisted Living Leeds will be the officer responsible for the implementation.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Equality Impact Assessment screening tool

Background papers

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