

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health

DECISION NO:

15/00012

For publication**Key decision***

Affects all electoral divisions and expenditure of more than £1m.

Subject:

Integrated Community Equipment Services (ICES) tender and Section 75 Agreement between Health & Social Care.

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I agree:

- 1) That the Integrated Community Equipment Service be delivered as an integrated service from 1 December 2015, jointly funded by Kent County Council and NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups and delivered by a preferred bidder identified, as a result of a competitive tendering exercise; and
- 2) To delegate to the Corporate Director for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, responsibility to enter all necessary contractual arrangements to formalise the joint funding arrangements. These will include, but not be limited to,:
 - a. the signing and affixing of the Council seal to a section 75 agreement between Kent County Council and health partners.
 - b. the advertisement and management of a competitive tendering exercise and the award of contract to the preferred bidder, consulting the Cabinet Member as required by the Council's scheme of financial delegation.

Reason(s) for decision:

The tender of the Integrated Community Equipment Service supports major local and national strategies such as Facing the Challenge - Adult Social Care Transformation Programme (Kent County Council), and the changes required by the Care Act 2014 and the Children & Families Act 2014.

The way care is provided has to be transformed, and the ICES project contributes to key strategic outcomes through:

- Supporting access to the curriculum in education, reducing the need for additional care and support.
- Including equipment provision in the Education Health & Care Plans for eligible children and young people aged 0-25 years
- Reducing avoidable demand on health and social care services through early intervention and prevention
- Improving services for the most vulnerable people in the Kent County Council area
- Improving how the county council procures and commissions services for integrated health, social care and education.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision was discussed by the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 3 March 2015 and the proposed decision was endorsed.

Any alternatives considered:

Kent County Council has a statutory responsibility to provide some forms of community equipment and could do this independently of other organisations. This, however, would provide a more disjointed service for those users who access support from both social care and health organisations. Additionally, it would increase duplication across the public sector within Kent and reduce the ability of the provider to gain bulk purchase discounts from manufactures.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None



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signed

23 MARCH 2015

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date