

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

**Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care  
and Public Health**

**DECISION NO:**

15/00045

**For publication**

**Key decision\***

Affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions

**Subject: Award for Kent community hot meals contract**

**Decision to be taken:**

- a) award the Kent community hot meals delivery contract to the preferred bidder identified in the exempt appendix to this report, once the negotiations described are successfully concluded. The contract will commence on 1 October 2015; and
- b) agree that the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other suitable delegated officer, undertake the necessary actions to implement this decision.

**Reasons for decision:**

The Kent wide contract for community hot meals delivery was awarded in 2006 and has been extended 4 times. Any further extensions would leave KCC open to potential legal challenge.

The existing contract is linked to volume, the decline in numbers of people requiring the service has led to KCC being charged more as unit cost was linked to set volumes. It was therefore decided to tender for a contract in which KCC will pay a unit price per meal and this would not be linked to set volumes.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The proposed decision will be discussed by the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 10 July 2015 and the outcome of this included in the decision paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

**Any alternatives considered:**

**End the community meals delivery contract**

This option would have meant that for those people who are currently in receipt of a delivered hot meal, KCC would need to provide an alternative arrangement such as replacing with a lunchtime domiciliary care call to prepare a meal which would be significantly more expensive.

**Extend the current community meals delivery contract**

This would have meant that KCC could be open to legal challenge due to non-compliance with procurement law. This option also did not provide value for money for KCC due to the decline in volume being likely to continue.

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

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signed

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date