

From: Diane Morton, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Richard Smith, Corporate Director Adult Social Care and Health

To: Adult Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee – 10 September 2025

Subject: **DECISIONS TAKEN OUTSIDE OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE MEETING CYCLE**

Classification: Unrestricted

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Summary: The following decision has been taken between meetings as it could not reasonably be deferred to the next programmed meeting of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee for the reason set out below.

Recommendation: The Cabinet Committee is asked to note that the following decision has been taken in accordance with the process in Part 2 paragraph 12.36 of the Constitution:

25/00055 - Kent Community Equipment Service - Direct Award of contract under Framework Y24008

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In accordance with the council's governance arrangements, all significant or Key Decisions must be listed in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions and should be submitted to the relevant Cabinet Committee for endorsement or recommendation prior to the decision being taken by the Cabinet Member or Cabinet.
- 1.2 For the reason set out below it has not been possible *for this decision* to be discussed by the Cabinet Committee prior to being taken by the Cabinet Member. Therefore, in accordance with process set out in Part 2 paragraph 12.36 of the Constitution, the following *decision has* been taken and published to all Members of this Cabinet Committee and the Scrutiny Committee.

2. Decision 25/00055 - Kent Community Equipment Service - Direct Award of contract under Framework Y24008

- 2.1 The Council has a statutory obligation to provide the community equipment service to support people with health and/or social care needs following discharge from hospital as detailed within the Care Act 2014.
- 2.2 The Kent Community Equipment Service ("KCES") plays an essential role for both Health and Social Care in meeting the needs of Kent residents and has a

significant impact on the smooth functioning of acute and community health services. Failure, even for a relatively brief period of time of the KCES would have severe and far-reaching consequences for people who use the service.

- 2.3 The decision may not be reasonably deferred because failure of the KCES contract, and therefore not having continuity of service provision, would detrimentally impact; the Council's ability to deliver against their statutory duties; delay hospital discharge; increase hospital admission; be a real risk to individuals and therefore safeguarding; increase pressure on Mental Health and Carers' services; and have a potential impact on increased costs to the health and social care sector. The timelines for securing continued service delivery do not allow for compliance with normal Executive Decision-making notice periods and arrangements.

3. Recommendation

3.1 Recommendation: The Adult Social Care and Public Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** that the following decision has been taken in accordance with process set out in Part 2 paragraph 12.36 of the Constitution:

25/00055 - Kent Community Equipment Service - Direct Award of contract under Framework Y24008

4. Background documents

[Decision - 25/00055 - Kent Community Equipment Service - Direct Award of contract under Framework Y24008](#)

5. Report Author

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