

Subject:	Integrated Community Equipment Service		
Date of Meeting:	16 October 2014		
Report of:	Executive Director for Adult Services Chief Operating Officer, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group		
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Ward(s) affected:	All [If not All, insert affected wards]		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 This report is referred from the Health and Wellbeing Board to Policy & Resources Committee for decision as matters that involve externalisation (outsourcing) are reserved to Policy & Resources Committee. The Council currently jointly funds, commissions and provides the ICES service.
- 1.2 The report provides a summary of the Integrated Community Equipment Service report that was presented to the Health & Wellbeing Board on 9th September 2014 setting out future commissioning options for the service. The report is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.3 The Health & Wellbeing Board agreed to recommend to Policy & Resources Committee that Brighton & Hove City Council (B&HCC) and the Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) enter into a contract with the equipment provider selected by West Sussex County Council (WSSCC).

2 RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Policy and Resources Committee agree that the Council can enter into a contract, in partnership with the CCG, with the equipment provider selected by West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) as set out in Option 1 in 2.6 in Appendix 1, and delegates authority to the Executive Director Adult Care and Health to take all steps necessary to award the contract.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The equipment service is commissioned jointly between Brighton & Hove City Council (B&HCC) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The service has

been provided via a Section 75 agreement with Sussex Community Trust (SCT) since 2004.

- 3.2 The Council is the minority partner contributing 45% of the budget and employing only 6 of the 22 ICES staff with the remaining staff employed by SCT. Commissioning the service with a new provider will result in a TUPE event (Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment Regulations).
- 3.3 SCT have given notice on the contract and will cease to provide the service on 30th September 2015 or an earlier date if agreed by all parties. This is due to the considerable investment needed and because it does not fit with their clinical care strategy.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 sets out in detail the rationale for the recommended option and why the Council is not in a position to deliver the ICES service that includes:
 - 3.4.1 The increasing demand on the service and expectations of customers;
 - 3.4.2 The resources required to ensure the ICES building meets health and safety and infection control standards;
 - 3.4.3 The resources required to meet the information technology, logistical requirements and to provide a 7 day service.
- 3.5 Appendix 1 also sets out in detail the reasons for the recommended option to enter into a contract with the successful West Sussex provider that includes:
 - 3.5.1 West Sussex report extremely high levels of customer and prescriber satisfaction with their service and have consulted with customers and their needs and wishes have informed the specification, particularly around the need for timed deliveries and improved access to the service;
 - 3.5.2 Commercial equipment suppliers offer the best value price for equipment and share specialist equipment across different areas;
 - 3.5.3 There are efficiencies to be gained from the shared procurement and delivery of equipment across West Sussex and Brighton & Hove.
- 3.6 The report concludes that as SCT have given notice on their contract to provide equipment it is vital that a new service is commissioned before the end of September 2015. Commissioners from the CCG and B&HCC have been working closely with SCT for the last 3 years to ensure that the equipment service is able to provide an efficient service within budget. Both SCT and B&HCC have identified that significant investment would be needed for either organisation to be able to provide a modern, efficient 7 day service. Therefore the recommendation is that a service is commissioned externally and that B&HCC and CCG enter into a contract with the equipment provider selected by West Sussex County Council.

4. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The legal, financial and other implications are set out in the report to the Health and Wellbeing Board of 9th September 2014.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Integrated Community Equipment Service – Health & Wellbeing Board Report