

West Sussex County Council

Proposed Executive Decision for **31 August 2021** call-in deadline **5 p.m. on 9 September 2021**

The following proposed key decision has been endorsed by an officer and will come into effect at the end of the call-in period unless the call-in procedure is activated.

Decision Title & Ref No:	Community Equipment Service Contract Extension OKD18 21/22
Officer responsible for Decision	Keith Hinkley - Executive Director Adults and Health
Electoral Divisions	All Divisions
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose	<p>West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) has a contract with NRS Healthcare (NRS) for the provision of Community Equipment Services (CES). The CES provides equipment as well as advice, guidance and support for Community Equipment prescribers, patients and customers. It supports people to live as independently as possible in their own home, facilitates hospital discharge, and prevents unnecessary hospital admissions.</p> <p>The CES contract is due to expire (subsequent to prior uptake of permissible extension periods) on 31 March 2022. The contract was awarded on 1 April 2015 for an initial period of 5 years with a 2-year extension option.</p> <p>An additional 12-months is required to enable the full contract re-commissioning to incorporate the key aspects of the Department of Health's 'Urgent Community Response' standards and to enable an Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) for West Sussex to be implemented (including the move to a pooled budget arrangement - with the associated process and financial efficiencies that this provides). It will also enable CES provision to be remodelled and the optimum re-commissioning strategy to be adopted for the next competitively tendered contract.</p>
Decision	The Executive Director of Adults and Health has approved a modification to the current Community Equipment Service contract to extend the contract by 12-months via a single tender waiver. The cost of this will depend on decisions made by the County Council and the West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group as part of budget preparations for 2022/23 but is not expected to exceed £10.5m.
Interest and nature of interest declared	None.
Service Contact	Chris Jones, Service Development Manager, Adult Services - Tel: 0330 022 28249

Democratic Services/ Call-in Contact	Erica Keegan Tel: 033 022 26050
Background Papers	See report for details