

West Sussex County Council

Proposed Executive Decision for **30 September 2022** call-in deadline **5 p.m. on 11 October 2022**

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:	Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Direct Award OKD31 (22/23)
Officer responsible for decision	Director of Adults and Health (Alan Sinclair)
Electoral Divisions	All Divisions
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose	<p>Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards ('DoLS') is the legal framework that protects people's human rights if they are deemed to be 'deprived of liberty' in a hospital or care home. To meet high levels of demand for DoLS assessments, West Sussex County Council uses a range of in-house and externally commissioned DoLS assessors. From Autumn 2019 a significant tranche of this work has been carried out by a national provider: Action First Assessments Ltd, via a framework agreement created by Nottinghamshire County Council.</p> <p>Approval for this arrangement was initially agreed until 31/03/21. The agreement was then extended for a further period until 31/08/22. The Nottinghamshire CC framework agreement has now ended and therefore West Sussex County Council is seeking to directly award the contract from 31/08/22.</p> <p>Future contracting decisions are being made in the context of legal changes which will be implemented in the coming years. These changes will replace DoLS with a new legal framework: the Liberty Protection Safeguards. As yet government have not confirmed an implementation date but this new scheme could come into effect from October 2023 onwards.</p> <p>To deliver business as usual DoLS workload and manage waiting lists ahead of the legal changes, the Director of Adults and Health will be asked to approve a direct contract award for a further 19 months until 31st March 2024. This will ensure continuity of service. A revised timetable will allow the County Council to review viability of future delivery models and explore opportunities to enhance the service offer to meet increased customer need.</p>
Decision	The Director of Adults and Health has approved a contract by way of direct award for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) for a period of 19 months effective from 1 st September 2022 to 31 st March 2024, via a single

	tender waiver at a cost of circa. £1.267m.
Interest and nature of interest declared	None.
Service contact	Loretta Rogers, Assistant Director (Adult Operations) - Tel: 033 022 27985
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Background papers	See report for details