



Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Tuesday, 17 October 2023 at 9.00 am

Room 3 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

If you wish to view proceedings, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#).
However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.

Items for Decision

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on 24 October 2023 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

These proceedings are open to the public

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Reeves".

Martin Reeves
Chief Executive

October 2023

Committee Officer:

Committee Services

E-Mail: committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Note: Date of next meeting: 21 November 2023

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Items for Decision

1. Declarations of Interest

See guidance below.

2. Questions from County Councillors

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. Petitions and Public Address

Members of the public who wish to speak at this meeting can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.

Requests to speak must be submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting. Requests to speak should be sent to committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails, then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9 am 2 working days before the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.

4. Telecare (Pages 1 - 4)

Forward Plan Ref: 2023/214

*Contact: Ian Bottomley, Lead Commissioner – Age Well,
ian.bottomley@oxfordshire.gov.uk*

Report by Corporate Director: Adult Social Care.

Provision of telecare and assistive technology and associated emergency response in people's homes.

The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to approve the extension of the Telecare and Responder service for a year (2023-2024) as set out in the current contract.

Councillors declaring interests

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed 'Declarations of Interest' or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (i.e. payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member 'must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself' and that 'you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned'.

Members Code – Other registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your other registerable interests then you must declare an interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.

Other registrable interests include:

- a) Any unpaid directorships
- b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.

- c) Any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

Members Code – Non-registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under other registrable interests, then you must declare the interest.

In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:

- a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

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Divisions Affected -

CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

17 October 2023

Telecare and Responder Service

Report by Corporate Director of Adult Services

RECOMMENDATION

1. **The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to** approve the extension of the Telecare and Responder service for a year (2023-2024) as set out in the current contract.

Executive Summary

2. Oxfordshire County Council's (the council) Telecare and Responder service is provided by Careium, and the council have invoked the option to extend the current contract for a further year covering 2023-2024.
3. The Telecare service includes the assessment and set-up of tele-equipment and associated emergency response service. The emergency response service is provided at two levels, with one being monitored by a call centre and alerting a named responder, and the other being a visiting responder.
4. The contract extension was agreed by Adult Social Care Directorate Leadership Team for the period to 31 March 2024. As part of a recent review of decision making it has been identified that this is a Key Decision in line with the council's Constitution and so is presented for ratification by Cabinet.
5. **Decision table**

Board	Date	Decision
Adult Social Care Directorate Leadership Team	27 March 2023	Agreed
Key decision at Cabinet	17 October 2023	

Exempt Information

6. Not applicable.

Background

7. Careium provide the Telecare and Responder service within Oxfordshire. They install sensors and dispersed alarms in people's own home and provide the associated emergency response service.
8. The contract was awarded in April 2018 for a period of five years with an extension clause of two years (1yr + 1yr). The contract value was a fixed price for the term of the contract. Due to the timeframes for triggering the extension clause in the contract, the extension could only be achieved by agreement with the service provider.
9. The service provider indicated they would be in agreement to extend the contract for one year, but on the condition that additional funding is received for 2023-2024 to the original budget. Following negotiation, the contract price was agreed at £729,000 for a 1-year extension to the contract.
10. An options paper was reviewed by Adult Social Care Directorate Leadership Team (DLT) on 27 March 2023. DLT agreed that the contract should be extended by one year to 31 March 2024. During this period, the council will be reviewing the scope and impact of the contract and considering how the contract will support the move from analogue to digital exchanges announced by BT Open Reach in the period to 31 March 2025.
11. The Telecare and Responder service incorporates areas including
 - information and guidance on options available to support independent living.
 - supporting hospital discharges where appropriate.
 - preventing or reducing hospital admissions.
 - working in partnership with other services commissioned in Oxfordshire.

Corporate Policies and Priorities

12. The Telecare and Responder service aligns with the following local priorities
 - a. Oxfordshire County Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2025 includes prioritising the health and wellbeing of residents, support carers and social care system, and partnership working.
 - b. The Oxfordshire Way.
 - c. Oxfordshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2023.
 - d. Better Care Fund (BCF).

Financial Implications

13. The council enacted the right to extend the contact for a further year commencing 01 April 2023. Due to timeframes for enacting the extension, the service provider was required to agree to the extension of the Telecare and Responder Service. Following negotiation the contract price was agreed at £729,000 for a 1-year extension to the contract.

14. DLT agreed the new budget on 27 March 2023.

Comments checked by:

Thomas James. Finance Business Partner
Thomas.james@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Legal Implications

15. The Telecare and Alert Service supports the wellbeing principle within the Care Act 2014 and the importance of preventative services within the community.
16. The contract was awarded in April 2018 for a period of five years with an extension clause of up to a further two years.
17. Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR) provides that Contracts may not be modified during their contractual term without a new procurement unless one of the permitted circumstances as laid down by Regulation 72 are satisfied.

Relevant here is Regulation 72 (5) which permits a modification where the value of the modification is below both of the following values:

- (a) The relevant procurement threshold; and
 - (b) 10% of the initial contract value for the services
- Provided that the modification does not alter the overall nature of the Contract.

As the Services fall under Schedule 3 PCR – the relevant procurement threshold is £522,950 (net). The Contract value is £580,000 pa, which calculated over the term of the Contract is £4,060,000. Thus, the increase of £149,000, for 12 months of the Contract extension period does not breach the value of Regulation 72(5) (b). It is not considered that the modification alters the overall nature of the Contract.

Given the above, the contract modification is permitted under Regulation 72.

Comments checked by:

Bede Murtagh – Contracts Solicitor
Bede.murtagh@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Staff Implications

17. An independent provider provides the Telecare and Responder service. Therefore, there is no impact on the council's workforce as a result of the recommendation.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

18. The equality and inclusion implications have been considered. The Telecare and Responder service supports all people with protected characteristics who meet the required criteria.

Sustainability Implications

19. The Telecare and Responder service has no direct impact on sustainability. However, the service does align with Oxfordshire County Council Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025. This sets out the vision to lead positive change by working in partnership to make Oxfordshire a greener, fairer, and healthier county

Risk Management

20. There are minimal risks to the recommendations which are mitigated through business continuity plans and partnership working.
21. Not agreeing to the recommendations may have a negative impact on the provision and delivery of services which are a statutory requirement. There is a risk of people who may be vulnerable not being able to access telecare equipment and support in an emergency from the response service.

NAME

Karen Fuller, Interim Corporate Director for Adult Social Care

Annex: Nil.

Background papers: Nil.

Contact Officer: Ian Bottomley, Lead Commissioner – Age Well
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October 2023