

**Bolsover District Council**

**Meeting of the Executive on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Independent Living Service and Community Alarm Service**

**Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing**

<b>Classification</b>	This report is public
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**PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT**

To inform Executive of an offer to extend two contracts from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and to decide if they should be accepted. These are the Independent Living Service Contract and the Community Alarm and Telecare Contract. These together are delivered by Bolsover District Council through the Care Line Service.

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**REPORT DETAILS**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 Bolsover District Council has operated the Independent Living Service (Care Line Service) within the District for many years.
- 1.2 The Service is offered to a mix of tenants and private customers. Although the majority of people pay for the service, the contract with DCC provides the service for people who are on low income.
- 1.3 Within the Council's Care Line Service is the alarm and telecare monitoring service. The majority of people pay for this service themselves however DCC provides the service for people where there is an eligible health or social care need as required by the Care Act (2014).

**2. Details of Proposal or Information**

- 2.1 The Council was offered an Inter-Authority Agreement to deliver the DCC funded part of these services in 2019. The initial contract was for a period of 2 years, with a subsequent extension until March 2023.
- 2.2 Derbyshire County Council have served an extension of contract notification, offering the Council a contract extension of both contracts until March 2024 – i.e. an extension of 12 months. No further extension would be permitted after this time.

- 2.3 The combined contracts will result in an income of £382,000 into the Council to continue to provide the service and assist with the analogue to digital switchover in 2024.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The services are well regarded by residents and Bolsover District Council are a trusted provider.
- 3.2 Accepting the offer of a contract extension for both contracts is a positive outcome for customers and for the Council.
- 3.3 The Council continues to extend the service and attract more customers, the majority who self-fund. This is part of a strategy to ensure that the Council are not dependent on DCC funding to operate the service, but would be self-sufficient if we were not successful in winning future tenders.
- 3.4 In order to ensure the Council is not reliant on any further DCC funding, the service continues to be extended, improved and promoted for paying customers.
- 3.5 The offer of a contract extension provides certainty until March 2024 and should be accepted.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 Not to accept the contract extensions. Rejected as this would have a detrimental impact on vulnerable customers.

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## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

1. That Executive accept the offer of a 12 month contract extension to continue to provide an Independent Living Service to people within the District.
2. That Executive accept the offer of a 12 month contract extension to continue to provide a Community Alarm and Telecare Service to people within the District.

Approved by Cllr Sandra Peake, Portfolio Holder for Housing

### **IMPLICATIONS:**

**Finance and Risk:**            Yes ☒            No ☐

**Details:**

It is estimated that the contract extension will bring in an additional income of £382,000

Not accepting the contract extension would in effect invite an alternative provider into the District who may also compete for other services against the District Council.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

**Legal (including Data Protection):**      Yes ☐      No ☒

**Details:**

None specifically, this is an extension to existing contracts

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

**Staffing:**      Yes ☐      No ☒

**Details:**

There are no staffing implications arising from this report as the existing service will continue. Any future funding options for the service affecting staff will be subject to a further report if required.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## DECISION INFORMATION

<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:  <b>Revenue - £75,000</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Capital - £150,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	Yes
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	Yes

<b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>	(please state which wards or state All if all wards are affected)
<b>Consultation:</b> <b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SLT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Members</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Details:</b>  Portfolio Holder for Housing

## Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.

C07 – Install 150 lifeline units within the community per year

DOCUMENT INFORMATION	
Appendix No	Title
	n/a

Background Papers
<i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>
None