

## Equality Impact Assessment

Reference: EQIA167544961

Submitted: 13 January 2020 13:40 PM

### Executive summary

**Title of policy or decision:** Direct Award of the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES)

**Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):** Equipment Service (ICES) is provided by both health and social care to allow the frail, elderly and physically disabled to live independently in their own home. The service delivered 138,000 items of equipment to in excess of 66,566 service users within the areas of Essex County Council (ECC) and Thurrock Council in 2018/19.

The award being sought incorporates a direct award to ECL to 31st March 2023, with the possibility of a two year extension. This will ensure continuity of service for all those using the provision. The service will continue integration between health and social care under a Section 75 arrangement for the duration of the requested contract award. ECC currently hosts the Equipment Services contract on behalf of ECC, Thurrock Council, a number of NHS clinical commissioning groups (Castle Point and Rochford, Basildon and Brentwood, Thurrock, Mid Essex and Mid Essex Hospital Trust and East Suffolk North Essex NHS Foundation Trust. The current contract value is £12,700,000

The contract will not change eligibility for the service, and is designed to improve the experience for the end user with innovations and developments implemented throughout the life of the contract.

**What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?:** Help people get the best start and age well, Transform the council to achieve more with less

**Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well:** Help keep vulnerable children safer and enable them to fulfil their potential, Enable more vulnerable adults to live independent of social care, Improve the health of people in Essex

**Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less:** Develop the capability, performance and engagement of our people, Re-imagine how residents' needs can be met in a digital world

**Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?:** a change to an existing policy, practice or project

**Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqIA relates:** Cabinet Paper for Direct Award of the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) in January 2020

**Please upload any documents which relate to this EqIA, for example decision documents:** Cabinet Paper for Direct Award of the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) in January 2020

### Assessing the equality impact

**Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision):** This service will not change any eligibility to receive community equipment

from the current offer and service. It is designed to enhance the experience, and for innovation and opportunities to be taken that will allow more effective system working.

## **Does or will the policy or decision affect:**

**Service users:** Yes

**Employees:** Yes

**The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities:** No

**Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?:** All Essex

**Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?:** Yes

**Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?:** No

**Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?:** Yes

## **Description of impact**

**Description of Impact.** If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank. You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page: No impact on any of the above groups

**I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics:** I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

**Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics:** As mentioned, it will not change the offer to anyone in receipt of community equipment

## **Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts**

**Does your EqlA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?:** No

## **Details of person completing the form**

**I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance:** I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

**Date EqlA completed:** 13/01/2020

**Name of person completing the EqlA:** Sam Graves2

**Email address of person completing the EqlA:** Sam.Graves2@essex.gov.uk

**Your function:** Adult Social Care

**Your service area:** Commissioning

**Your team:** Older People

**Are you submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team?:** No

**Email address of Head of Service:** moira.mcgrath@essex.gov.uk