

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Monday, 16 January 2012

Decision No: (CAB 11/12 7683)

DECISION-MAKER:	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE
DIRECTORATE:	HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE
SUBJECT:	REVISION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN NHS SOUTHAMPTON AND THE COUNCIL FOR A COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT SERVICE
AUTHOR:	Donna Chapman

THE DECISION

- (i) To approve the revision of an existing partnership arrangement (in accordance with Section 75 (S75) of the National Health Service Act 2006) for a three year period (with the option of a further two year extension), between Southampton City Council and NHS Southampton to enable the City Council to become host agency for the pooled fund and assume lead commissioner responsibility for the services.
- (ii) To approve the revision of the service specification and re-procurement of the services to achieve improved quality and efficiencies through economies of scale.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. The Executive Director for Health and Adult Social Care is asked to approve the recommendations under a delegation granted by Cabinet on 20 December 2010. The delegation is 'To delegate to the Executive Director for Health and Adult Social Care, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health, authority to take any decision and/or develop approaches that commit Council resources that are within budget and policy to deliver better outcomes for local people and support the aims of the NHS White Paper – Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS'
2. The benefit of a Section 75 Partnership Agreement for jointly commissioning community equipment services is that it enables a joined up approach to meeting both health and social care needs to support people to achieve rehabilitation and independence at home and offers efficiency gains through economies of scale and increased purchasing power, whilst meeting the joint priorities and objectives of the Council and the NHS.

3. The reason for revising the agreement so that the City Council takes on the role of lead commissioner is that it will enable a local commissioning focus to be maintained during a period of substantial change in the NHS. The reason for revising the scope and specification for the service and testing the market is to:
 - Set clear requirements for service quality and response times which should help decrease the frequently long delays which impede patients discharge from hospital and inhibit their safety and confidence in coping at home.
 - Achieve further economies of scale through integrating other equipment budgets and functions which currently sit outside the service.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

1. To continue the current Section 75 Agreement with NHS Southampton City as the lead commissioner – not recommended on the basis that it was felt that by transferring the lead commissioning responsibility to the City Council, the Southampton City focus could be better maintained during a period of substantial change in the NHS.
2. To work with the existing service provider to redesign the service to deliver the new service specification – not recommended on the basis that the service is being significantly redesigned and other functions/services/ budgets are being integrated, such that it would seem sensible and justifiable to test the wider market.
3. To commission the service collaboratively with other authorities/ PCTs across SHIP over a wider area – this was explored with Portsmouth and Hampshire but not recommended on the basis that the other authorities are not at the same stage as Southampton in having a S75 already in place, having reviewed the service and being ready to procure a new service and to wait would bring about an unacceptable delay.
4. To dissolve the Section 75 Agreement and commission health and social care equipment separately – not recommended on the basis that economies of scale and efficiencies would be lost and services fragmented.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 16.01.11

Decision Maker:
Executive Director Health and Adult
Social Care

Proper Officer:
Sharon Pearson

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*