

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	1984
Author:	Wendy Griffiths
Department:	Children and Families
Contact:	Wendy Griffiths (Job Title: Head of Commercialisation, Sales and Performance, Email: wendy.griffiths2@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158763505)
Subject:	Adult Provision and Health Integration - Purchase of Just Checking Units using Building Community Capacity Grant
Total Value:	£39,000 (Type: Capital)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>To authorise access to part of the £100,000 Building Community Capacity Grant to purchase 20 additional Just Checking Units for use within the Telecare and home care teams (10 in 2014/15 and a further 10 in 205/16) at a total cost of £39,000.</p> <p>To grant dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.1, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29, to enable the purchase of Just Checking Units.</p>

Within Nottingham City Council we currently have 10 Just Checking units which are used by the Telecare team which are installed into a citizens home once a referral request had been made via a social worker or an occupational therapist. The units themselves help to monitor movement in and around a citizens home via wireless sensors that are easily installed and removed. We have 9 single person units and one multi person unit which can be used to monitor the movement where there maybe more than one citizen in the property.

Over the last three years there has been an increase in the number of users in this service area. In December 2012 there were 3,342 users, which increased to 4,740 in December 2013, and increased again to 6,284 in December 2014. This continuous increase in users combined with the cuts in resource could have a strain in the level of service provided to citizens, but this could be prevented by introducing technology to aid assessments.

Data available from Just Checking shows that usage of the current systems has been consistent between July and September 2014 averaging 72.7% usage, which increased to an average of 81.8% during the period October to December 2014. A usage of 70% and above is considered an efficient use of the systems, as the non-usage figure reflects the time taken to install the system at the point of assessment, the removal of the system at the end of assessment, and a period of time to clean, check and redeploy the system.

Just Checking units are an invaluable resource that can avoid a citizen being placed into residential care unnecessarily.

The systems can also be used for assessments which may show that a home care and Telecare are not a suitable solution for the citizen and admission into residential care is required. Over all the units can help to find the most suitable care packages for citizens.

Activity monitoring systems have many benefits including:

Assessments are more accurate avoiding and unnecessary admissions to residential care

They can help to reduce the amount of time spent in residential care; when used for assessments in services such as Jack Dawe if the system found that the citizen would be able to move back into their own home with the correct Telecare facilities

They can be used to prevent admission into nursing care

The units will provide a more accurate care package in return showing cost savings as staff may be required to provide less care

The systems can help with medical diagnosis, it may be that patterns emerge in the charts that upon further investigation help with previously unrecognised medical conditions

For dementia patients it is sometimes more important and better for their well being if they stay within their home environment these systems can make this possible

Under the Care Act that comes into place in April 2015 there is a requirement to provide more support to carers and activity monitoring systems will support this

It helps to support Nottingham City Councils Citizens at the Heart charter, the Dementia Friendly Technology Charter and the National Dementia Strategy

Dispensation has been requested because, although 3 quotes have been obtained, it is not possible to progress with the cheapest provider because the functionality is not suitable for the particular client group that the units are being purchased for. Just Checking is the preferred system as this is already in use by Nottingham City Council and therefore wouldn't involve any additional implementation and training costs as it is all part of the package we receive. The system has many benefits including:

It refreshes every five minutes whereas other systems on the market refresh overnight or every 24 hours

Multi person units are available

Reporting functionality is available to allow us to monitor usage

Secure online evaluation forms can be completed for assessment purposes and produce reports to demonstrate any savings that have been achieved and number of assessments made

Citizens families are able to request access so that they also have visibility of the movement charts

Tailored training sessions are available as part of the subscription

This price includes a three year subscription to the web service so that we are able to log in and view movement charts and reporting facilities. Purchasing the units in this manner as a bundle rather than renewing the subscription annually allows us to make a saving of £435 per unit.

Other Options Considered: Doing nothing was rejected as it could increase the number of citizens moving into residential care much earlier than necessary.

Background Papers: N/A

Published Works: N/A

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: N/A

Dispensation from Financial Regulations: Yes

Consultations:
Date: 23/01/2015
Other City Council Bodies: Assistive Technology Officer Dave Miles and Commissioning lead Steve Oakley
Agreed in principle.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: Not applicable. However the Just Checking units installed will have a positive impact if any by reducing the number of police calls regarding missing persons due to the alarm triggering if a vulnerable citizen has left the property.

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: Already purchased 10 units earlier as part of a successful pilot, this is now being extended.

Social Value Considerations: N/A under £50,000 and contract through the Telecare team already in place.

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 19/05/2015

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice: This report does not raise significant legal issues. Three quotes have been sought for the units. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 20/02/2015.

Finance Advice: The funding is available for this proposal. The terms and conditions of grant have been checked and the expenditure is eligible. - see attachment for Finance Advice.
Advice provided by Dee Fretwell (Finance Analyst) on 11/02/2015.
Advice documents: Building Community Capacity Grant Just Checking Units - Financial Comments.doc

Procurement Advice: The Procurement Unit supports the recommendations of the decision.
Advice provided by Paul Ritchie (Procurement Category Manager) on 14/04/2015.

Signatures
Alex Norris (PH Adults, Commissioning and Health)
SIGNED and Dated: 11/05/2015
Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults)
SIGNED and Dated: 01/05/2015
Theresa Channell (Head of Corporate and Strategic Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 24/04/2015
Chief Financial Officer's Comments: