



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET
6 JUNE 2006

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services

ITEM 11

Derby Preventative Technology Grant Strategy 2006 – 2009

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Derby Preventative Technology Grant Strategy will fund the future development of this service. A strategy is essential in order to ensure that a proper process is in place to deliver the aims of the project and to manage the investment plan appropriately.
- 1.2 Subject to any issues raised at the meeting, I support the following recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To approve the Derby Preventative Technology Grant Strategy 2006-2009.
- 2.2 To approve the 2006-2009 investment plan for the Preventative Technology Grant.
- 2.3 To re-appraise options for service continuation on cessation of the Preventative Technology Grant.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The development of Preventative Technology is seen as an opportunity to enable older people and adults with disabilities to remain more independent at home for longer.
- 3.2 Additional funds have been provided by Government to promote this development, which, over time, is expected to lead to the more cost effective use of available resources.
- 3.3 Derby has a good platform to further develop Preventative Technology given the availability of the Care Link service.



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Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services and
Deputy Chief Executive

Derby Preventative Technology Grant Strategy 2006 – 2009

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Corporate and Adult Social Services (CASS) receives a Department of Health, Preventative Technology Grant, from 1 April 2006. It is a two-year grant with the total Derby determination being £375,435. Preventative Technology encompasses a range of Telecare solutions, mainly sensors, which, with an appropriate infrastructure and reliable support, can enable vulnerable people to remain living more independently at home, safely and securely.
- 1.2 Derby has benefited from an accredited Care Link service for 20 years. Care Link provides the infrastructure necessary to meet the Telecare needs of over 4000 people who have sensors fitted in their homes linked to a monitoring centre. Care Link is responsible for the assessment, installation and maintenance of equipment and has a support team who respond to alerts.
- 1.3 A multi agency Project Team was established in November 2005 to plan the expansion of this service utilising the Preventative Technology Grant, targeting those most in need living in their own homes. Housing and Advice Services and CASS provide project support within existing budgets.
- 1.4 The grant is provided to Adult Social Services to enable Councils to invest in Telecare to help an additional 160,000 older people nationally to remain independent at home. Care Link and the Project Team estimate that an additional 600 to 750 vulnerable people in Derby can be supported by the grant over two years.
- 1.5 The Department of Health states that grant beneficiaries are people with long term conditions and disabilities, who will be able to maintain more effective control over their independence, dignity and health, older people living alone who may be able to remain independent and in more control for longer. The Derby project will target those vulnerable people who are eligible for adult social care. Where appropriate, Telecare will be offered to existing users and carers at the point of review.

- 1.6 The annual Delivery and Improvement Statement (submitted to the Commission for Social Care Inspection by Corporate and Adult Social Services) requires councils to monitor Telecare provision to those aged 65 and over from 1 April 2006. Derby has extended provision to include all vulnerable adults who are eligible for social care support and their carers. The project is therefore inclusive of all those aged 18 and over irrespective of user group, whether they have learning disabilities, mental health or physical and sensory disabilities or be older people.
- 1.7 The project was endorsed by Council Cabinet in December, Older People's Partnership Group in February and in March by the multi-agency Integrated Community Equipment Partnership Board. It went live on April 1 backed by a series of multi agency staff briefings. Early referral information indicates positive take up from both assessors and vulnerable adults and their carers.
- 1.8 Allowable expenditure is detailed in DH Circular 2006 (5) and the Delivery and Improvement Statement. Key categories are expenditure on infrastructure, defined as staff training, additional staff, information for users and carers, publicity and administration costs. ICT development is allowable under the grant and will be monitored together with the amount spent on equipment and on providing the service.
- 1.9 As with other items of equipment for eligible service users, the equipment will be provided free of charge. Monitoring charges will be paid for 6 weeks but after this service users will be required to pay these themselves, as is the case for all current Care Link recipients.
- 1.10 The Project Team will monitor progress monthly with quarterly reporting to the multi agency Integrated Community Equipment Partnership Board.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2 The Department of Health require Councils with Social Services responsibilities to develop a Preventative Technology Strategy and spend the grant.

For more information contact:	Trevor Wright 01332 256733 trevor.wright@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 - Derby Preventative Technology Grant Strategy 2006 – 2009

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1.1	Projected costs per year	2006 / 7 £	2007 / 8 £	2008 / 9 onwards £
	Staff	55,500	57,820	59,500
	Equipment	64,500	97,750	130,000
	Equipment recycle (estimated)			(30,000)
	Response mechanisms	0	50,000	75,000
	Marketing	11,250	18,400	10,000
	Contingency	9,875	10,000	0
	TOTAL	141,125	234,310	244,500
	Grant Fund	141,125	234,310	0
	Other Funding	0	0	See 1.3 below
	Housing Income	47,580	118,950	214,110

1.2 Those supported under the grant from 2006- 2008, who then continue to have eligible needs, will continue to be supported once the Department of Health discontinues the grant. In reality, the equipment will already have been purchased from the grant and monitoring fees levied by Care Link will contribute to the costs of the necessary infrastructure and support post-2008.

1.3 The options for the service after the grant is withdrawn are as follows:

- a) Stop the scheme.
- b) Independent guidance is available to support joint Health / Social Services funding. Early indications from the Audit Commission from test sites are that savings are accruing equally to Health and Social Services.
- c) Social Services funding to continue from savings made in long term care placements and Home Care services provided, eg one long term placement saved is approximately £12k p.a.

Legal

- 2 The Department of Health has confirmed that the legal position, including free equipment provision and the laying of monitoring charges, is Department of Health compliant.

Personnel

- 3 All staffing costs will be contained within the Grant.

Equalities impact

- 4 All eligible vulnerable adults can access support under the Grant. The application of eligibility criteria is consistent with the main social care access framework for adult care. (Fair Access to Care Services).

Corporate priorities

- 5 This accords with the Council's priority of **building healthy and independent communities**. It supports low level preventative strategies and the Healthier Communities and Older People block of the refreshed 2006 Local Area Agreement.