

Please Note: this is a draft impact assessment on a budget proposal. Final impact assessments will be published with final budget papers for the full council meetings taking place in February 2013

Budget Proposals 2013/14: Major Decision: Business Unit: Adult Social Care

Combined Impact Assessment: Full assessment (Part 2)

The council and its partners are facing a significant challenge in the savings it needs to make over the next couple of years. This Full Impact Assessment has been developed as a tool to enable business units to fully consider the impact of proposed major decisions on the community. As a council we need to ensure that we are able to deliver the savings that we need to make from the 1st April and be able to justify our decisions through any legal challenge.

This full assessment, combined with the initial review, will evidence that you have fully considered the impact of your proposed changes and carried out appropriate consultation on those changes with the key stakeholders. The Combined Impact Assessment will allow Councillors to make informed decisions as part of the decision-making process regarding the council's budget.

Name: Malcolm Dicken

Position: Head of New Ways of Working

Business Unit: Torbay and Southern Devon Health & Care NHS Trust

Department: Operations

Date Commenced: November 2012

Date: January 2013 v4

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Summary from Overall Proposal (Updated as required)

Proposals – Outline	Savings 2013/14		Implementation Cost Include brief outline + year incurred	Delivery In place 01/04/13 If earlier or later state date	Risks / impact of proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential risks • Impact on community • Knock on impact to other agencies 	Type of decision*		
	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
Introduce policy that alarms have to be funded privately after the first 3 months of provision unless there are exceptional circumstances .		30			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 900 Service users who have historically been provided with an alarm on an on-going basis will have to decide whether they wish to manage without an alarm or choose to pay to fund the alarm (circa £3 per week) privately. 2. Potential that some clients who currently live on their own may need to have an increase in other Care Packages. 3. Potential that some clients who are currently able to remain at home due to the support that a community provides may have to consider residential care. 4. New Clients that require a 			

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	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
					community alarm beyond the initial 3 months will need to fund the service from their own funds			

Section 1: Purpose of the proposal/strategy/decision

No	Question	Details
1.	Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal	<p>The proposal is to implement a revised policy in relation to the community alarms service. The alarms are currently funded on an on-going basis through the adult social care budget; the proposal is to limit the provision of the community alarms call service by only providing alarms free of charge for 3 months unless there are exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>After the initial 3 months provision the client will be able to decide if they would like to continue with a community alarm in which case they will have a choice to continue with the current service or to source an alternative provider. If the client decides to retain the current service then there would not be an additional installation fee, however a different provider may still want to raise an installation fee and we will then make arrangements to have the funded alarm removed.</p> <p>The proposal ensures that for short term crisis intervention, clients will still be provided with a funded service but this will be time limited to a period of 3 months, after which, the client will be expected to fund the services themselves if they wish to keep the alarm (The cost of privately funding is circa £3 a week). It also ensures that where a community alarm forms part of a TeleCare service it will continue to be funded by Adult Social Care</p>

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No	Question	Details
		The policy will include the ability to continue funding alarms where circumstances dictate that this is appropriate.
2.	Who is intended to benefit / who will be affected?	<p>The key stakeholders affected by this proposal are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clients who are already in receipt of this funded service (approx 900 clients – of which there may be approximately 100 who will retain an on-going service due to exceptional circumstances) 2. Clients who in the future will require the provision of a funded community alarm 3. Frontline Care Professionals who will need to make a decision on which clients are entitled to the provision of a time limited service and those that do not 4. Staff at the Community Alarm Centre that will be have to invoke the new process
3.	What is the intended outcome?	<p><i>It is important to identify the specific outcomes that this proposal intends to deliver.</i></p> <p>The outcome to be achieved is to change the current policy for community alarms resulting in a £30,000 saving against the current budget allocated for the provision of community alarms.</p>

Section 2: Equalities, Consultation and Engagement

Torbay Council has a moral obligation as well as a duty under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, promote good relations and advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not.

The **Equalities, Consultation and Engagement** section ensures that, as a council, we take into account the Public Sector Equality Duty at an early stage and provide evidence to ensure that we fully consider the impact of our decisions/proposals on the Torbay community.

Evidence, Consultation and Engagement

No	Question	Details
4.	Have you considered the available evidence?	Research has been undertaken on how other authorities approach the provision of community alarms. The proposal to provide the service free of charge for 3 months in a crisis is slightly more generous than other authorities. The provision of a community alarm to support TeleCare is unaffected by this policy.
5.	How have you consulted on the proposal?	<p>Advice has been sought from the OT/Social Care leads and the Heads of service.</p> <p>A policy has been drafted by Adele Tithecott (Operational Transformation Lead) and is currently undergoing ratification.</p> <p>Awaiting a decision on how the various Cost Improvement Schemes will proceed to public consultation, will these be individually consulted on or will they be grouped.</p>
6.	Outline the key findings	<p>Through initial research and checking on the policies of other authorities we have concluded that Torbay is in a minority in the on-going funded provision of a Community Alarm.</p> <p>Below is the policy statement from Devon County Council which is representative of many other authorities.</p> <p>Devon County Council:</p>

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No	Question	Details
		<p>If you find it hard to pay</p> <p>If you are over 65 and need a community alarm because you are at risk, it is very possible that you would qualify for Attendance Allowance. This is a non-means-tested benefit designed for people who need help with daily tasks.</p> <p>The policy that has been drafted for Torbay will mirror the above statement and training to frontline staff will ensure that clients are either directed to the fact that they can use either an existing benefit such as 'Attendance Allowance' or their individual budget.</p>
7.	<p>What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?</p>	<p>Until this has proceeded to public consultation it is very difficult to say what amendments may be required and therefore to date we have not had to make any significant changes to the proposed new policy.</p> <p>The ability to provide a Community Alarm for a fixed period of time (up to 3 months) for a crisis intervention has been agreed as this forms a vital cost effective part of a package of care for two reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can be used to prevent an unscheduled admission and therefore maintain the client at home 2. Part of a re-ablement following a crisis that can reduce both: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Time in Hospital or Care Home b. Reliance on Domiciliary or Care Home support

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Positive and Negative Equality Impacts

No	Question	Details		
8.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups	<i>It is not enough to state that a proposal will affect everyone equally. There should be more in-depth consideration of available evidence to see if particular groups are more likely to be affected than others – use the table below. You should also consider workforce issues. If you consider there to be no positive or negative impacts use the ‘neutral’ column to explain why.</i>		
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact
	All groups in society generally			After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
	Older or younger people	A small proportion of the 900 current users may establish that they are able to claim additional benefits such as Attendance Allowance.	There is a financial impact on the current 900 users who will be reviewed and then required to fund the service themselves at £2.99 per week	The predominant supply of a Community Alarm is provided to people who are generally over 65
	People with caring responsibilities		There could be a consequence to Carers and realistically this would be considered on case by case basis	
	People with a disability		There could be a consequence to people with a disability and realistically this would be considered on case by case basis	
	Women or men			After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a

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No	Question	Details	
			positive or negative impact
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)		After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
	Religion or belief (including lack of belief)		After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual		After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
	People who are transgendered		After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership		After consideration it is concluded that the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
	Women who are pregnant /		After consideration it is concluded that

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No	Question	Details	
	on maternity leave		the current service does not discriminate against any particular group or that it has sufficient data to suggest that this would have either a positive or negative impact
9.	Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?	<p>It has been decided that as community alarm could be a vital part of an overall care package of care either to prevent or to support a crisis intervention that we will fund the service for a period of up to 3 months.</p> <p>We will also be signposting those that wish to have a community alarm longer than the initial 3 months to find an on-going service either through the use of their individual budget or to apply for additional benefits that they may be entitled to.</p>	

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Section 3: Steps required to manage the potential impacts identified

No	Action	Details
10.	Summarise any positive impacts and how they will be realised most effectively?	<p>It has been decided that as community alarm could be a vital part of an overall care package of care either to prevent or to support a crisis intervention that we will fund the service for a period of up to 3 months.</p> <p>We will also be signposting those that wish to have a community alarm longer than the initial 3 months to find an on-going service either through the use of their individual budget or to apply for additional benefits that they may be entitled to.</p>
11.	Summarise any negative impacts and how these will be managed?	<p>One major negative is that clients may decide not to fund the service themselves and make themselves vulnerable to risks that could otherwise be mitigated (such as those continuing to live alone and independently but are liable to falls and then falling and unable to call for assistance in a timely and safe manner). If a client insists that they are unable to fund the service and we believe that the provision of the alarm is in their best interest then the policy makes an allowance for that.</p> <p>We have assumed that there will always be a number of clients that will have their alarm funded.</p>

Section 4: Course of Action

No	Action	Details
12.	<p>State a course of action</p> <p>[please refer to action plan on page 9]</p>	<p><i>Clearly identify an option and justify reasons for this decision. The following four outcomes are possible from an assessment (and more than one may apply to a single proposal). Please select from the 4 outcomes below and justify reasons for your decision - If '3' please provide full justification :</i></p> <p>Outcome 2: Adjustments to remove barriers – Action to remove the barriers identified in relation to equalities have been taken or actions identified to better promote equality.</p>

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Section 5: Monitoring and Action Plan

No	Action	Details
13.	Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of your proposals	When this proposal is implemented, clients will have the choice to purchase with their own funds a service from several different private providers so we will be unable to track effectively if clients have continued with a similar service and their group as categorised by this EIA. If the client chooses an alarm from the Torbay Lifeline Service then we will be able to track and monitor the number of clients who have transferred and also the specific groups as specified in this EIA where the information is recorded.

Please use the action plan below to summarise all of the key actions, responsible officers and timescales as a result of this impact assessment

Action plan

Please detail below any actions you need to take: -

No.	Action	Reason for action / contingency	Resources	Responsibility	Deadline date
1	Monitor the number of clients who continue to receive a Social Care Funded Community Alarm	Ensure that those who are vulnerable but unable to afford an alarm continue to receive the service	Alarm Service Database	Alarm Service Manager	Ongoing
2	Monitor the number of clients who transfer from Social Care Funded to Private Funded within the Torbay Lifeline Alarm Service.	Ensure that the policy does not negatively impact the number of users of the service who can afford the service.	Alarm Service Database	Alarm Service Manager	Ongoing
3					
4					

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