

Shaping the Council 2015-16 and beyond: Savings Business Case

Business Case Title	Equipment and Assistive Technology		
Revision No:	1	Date:	04/07/14
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Critical friend/Exec Bd			
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Section 1: Summary

Savings Proposal

Assistive Technology - Adult Social Care is currently funding £39k for AT practitioner we are reviewing use of this post

Thurrock Council as part of the Multi Agency Management Board purchases equipment through Essex Equipment Store (with Essex County Council leading) has negotiated a new agreement which will produce savings.

Assumptions are this will lead to £60k - savings

Strategic rationale

It must be recognised demand on equipment has grown as this is seen as a preventative measure that will generate savings in the longer term. More people are living at home with complex needs and this will create a growth in demand for equipment.

Assistive Technology is one of a number of preventative services. It aims to keep people at home, reduce admissions to hospital and residential care and reduce reliance on services. Demand has increased by 15% (growth in this area was encouraged as a preventative measure) and this has increased spend.

Approximate Cost Savings

OT Equipment contract - £60k

Assistive Technology - £40k

Timescales

Activity	Timescale
<p>1. Essex County Council new agreement being entered into which will produce savings. Current assumption £60k - £75k savings</p> <p>2. Review funding of AT post (funded through BCF) potential £39 k but part of Fieldwork restructure paper)</p>	<p>Implementation during 2014</p> <p>As part of whole ASC Fieldwork review by end of June 2014</p>

Risks /Consequences

Specific risks:

1: Risks of losing AT post is potential loss of promoting assistive technology and early intervention and prevention. Loss of performance and skills. Loss of expertise to take other initiatives forward. Politically sensitive. Loss of opportunities to avoid dependency, admissions etc which could lead to more falls etc. This will lead to increase in waiting list which has been reduced significantly after extensive process work

General risks:

Reducing current levels of investment to meet demand will lead to:

- introduction of waiting list for equipment once budget is fully committed
- increased risk to vulnerable people
- increase hospital admissions (falls)
- lack of prevention offer will increase demand for other more intensive ASC services
- increased complaints etc
- failure to meet statutory need
- impact of raised demands on carers
- more significant pressure in the system due to increase in dependency levels – loss of specialist knowledge/poor performance
- Politically sensitive

Mitigation

Integrated Community Equipment Service project and shared service agreement with Essex County Council.

Risk management approach to ensure critical equipment provision prioritised

Self assessment to promote / improve access to equipment.

Increase information and advice for self funding options

Explore income generation opportunities (delivery of moving and handling training / approved assessor training / reablement training)

Section 2: Finance, savings and costs

Financial summary

General Fund budget 2014-15

	Staff £000s	Premises / Transport £000s	Supplies/ Services £000s	Direct Payments £000s	Third Party Payments £000s	Total Expenditure Gross £000s	Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
2014/15			859					859

Staff Related savings

Current number of posts (FTE and headcount)	1
Number of posts to be deleted (FTE and headcount)	1
Amount of salary saving (inc on-costs)	£40K

Non- Staff Related savings

Premises and buildings (inc utilities)	0
Transport	0
Supplies and services	£60k ICES
Other (please specify)	0

Third Party Related savings/income

Commissioning/contracts	0
Charges to the HRA/DSG/PHG (NB can be negative)	0
Increase fees & charges	0
Grants/additional funding streams	0
Other (please specify)	0

Benefits – non financial

Asset Based Community Development / Self serve / promote independence / improve speed of access to support services / reduce face to face assessments and more self serve / encourage community prosperity / choice and control

Costs & Resources to deliver the savings

Direct costs	0
Redundancy costs	0
Accommodation costs	0
Procurement and/or Legal costs	0
Other HR costs	0
Other (please specify)	

Section 3: Impact/Consequences of proposal – not covered in financial section

Impact on Corporate Priorities/objectives/ performance targets/standards

Give details regarding any/all that are relevant – Risk/mitigation is next section

Priority 1. Create a great place for learning and opportunity	
Priority 2. Encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity	Self Assessment promotes local business / stimulate market in equipment / Asset Based Community Development / engage in ULO
Priority 3. Build pride, responsibility and respect to create safer communities	Support Asset Based Community Development / community hubs etc
Priority 4. Improve health and well-being	<p>Positive impact: increased independence and access to equipment / early intervention and prevention support.</p> <p>Negative impact: Reducing current levels of investment to meet demand will lead to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - introduction of waiting list for equipment - increased risk to vulnerable people - increase hospital admissions (falls) - lack of prevention offer will increase demand for other more intensive ASC services - increased complaints etc - failure to meet statutory need - impact of raised demands on carers - more significant pressure in the system due to increase in dependency levels – loss of specialist knowledge/poor performance
Priority 5. Protect and promote our clean and green environment	
Well-run organisation - financial & governance; staff; customers	

Impacts on partners

Reduce service offer may impact on Housing, Health & Social care services. Impact on partners with Essex CC and partners in relation to ICES. Impact on partners who deliver range of assessment and support services

Impacts on customers / community and equality/diversity implications

Self assessment plans will promote choice and control, self serve. However, negative impact will include:

- introduction of waiting list for equipment once money is used
- increased risk to vulnerable people
- increase hospital admissions (falls)
- lack of prevention offer will increase demand for other more intensive ASC services
- increased complaints etc
- failure to meet statutory need
- impact of raised demands on carers
- more significant pressure in the system due to increase in dependency levels – loss of specialist knowledge/poor performance

Has an EqIA been undertaken?

NO

Date: Outstanding

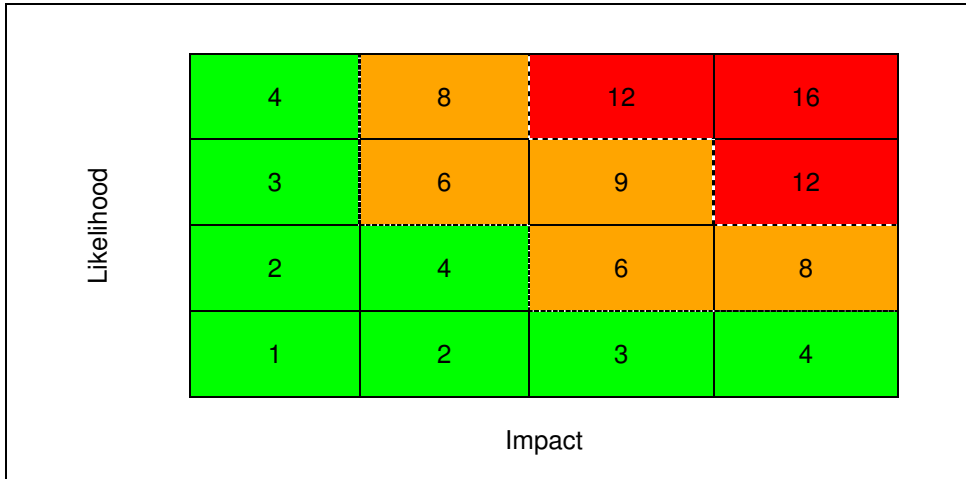
Other impacts/implications

Section 4: Risks and Mitigation

Delivery risks				
Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Rating	Management or Mitigating Action
Risk that prevention agenda is upheld and decisions made not to reduce prevention offer				This will be considered at DMT once business case written and risk considered
Of ULO not engaging	2	2	4	Active engagement is ongoing and they are actively participating, project plan agreed and in place

Service risks				
Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Rating	Management or Mitigating Action
E.g. failure to maintain current levels of investment to meet demand will lead to:	2	2	4	Integrated Community Equipment Service project and shared service agreement with Essex County Council.
introduction of waiting list for equipment	2	2	4	Risk management approach to ensure critical equipment provision prioritised
increased risk to vulnerable people	2	2	4	Self assessment to promote / improve access to equipment.
increase hospital admissions (falls)	2	2	4	Working with ULO to facilitate self assessment and equipment availability via local suppliers.
lack of prevention offer will increase demand for other more intensive ASC services	2	1	3	
increased complaints etc	2	2	4	Robust reviewing of what is critical and substantial and consultation with ULO and key stakeholders.
failure to meet statutory need	2	1	4	Increase information and advice for self funding options
raised demands on carers	2	2	4	Explore income generation opportunities (delivery of moving and handling training / approved assessor training / reablement training)
more significant pressure in the system due to increase in dependency levels – loss of specialist knowledge/poor performance	2	2	4	

For information on the ratings criteria guide, please see <\\Thurdata01\data\THURROCK\EXCHANGE\ROM>



Section 5: Assumptions, Dependencies & Exclusions

Timeframes Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	ULO engagement and consultation / service demands and priorities remain consistent / resource availability to maintain demand
Benefits Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	Self Assessment is successful
Costs Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	ICES project assumptions / existing activity mix between simple and complex aids remain / full potential of Self Ax uptake is reached
Other/ General Assumptions/ Dependencies/Exclusions	

Section 6: Stakeholder Engagement Requirements

		Approximate timelines
Staff/Unions NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with staff in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Jackie Hinchliffe	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Portfolio Holders/Members NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with staff in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Directors Board	X	DMT report for July
Partners NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with partners in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Directors Board	X	DMT report for July
Residents/Public NB. Services should not be undertaken consultation with staff in isolation – all such activity should be co-ordinated through Directors Board	X	DMT report for July
Other – please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Section 7: Any other comments to support savings proposals