

## **Extension of the Lifeline Contract for Dispersed Community Alarms**

### **1. Purpose of this Report**

- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval for a 12 month extension of the Lifeline contract for dispersed community alarms.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that authority be delegated to the Housing Team Leader to extend the Lifeline contract for dispersed community alarms for a further 12 months.**

### **3. Links to Corporate Plan**

- 3.1 Housing is a Corporate priority
- 3.2 To enable the provision of responsive, accessible and fair services delivered with courtesy and care.

### **4. Background**

- 4.1 On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2003 Members resolved that Eldercare should be selected as provider of the Community Alarm System to private residents of North Wiltshire with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2003.
- 4.2 A Community Alarm provides a 24 hour service enabling vulnerable people to summon help at the touch of a button.
- 4.3 Eldercare has been providing this service to vulnerable members of the community under a three year contract which terminates on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2006.

### **5. Current Situation**

- 5.1 There are currently 617 vulnerable people in North Wiltshire who have a community alarm with Eldercare.
- 5.2 The service is provided under contract at nil cost to the District Council, service users are charged £38.77 per quarter (£33.00 for Registered Disabled).
- 5.3 The Housing Team would like to review this service to ensure that vulnerable members of the community in North Wiltshire have the most effective and efficient service possible.
- 5.4 It is anticipated that this review will be completed by December when a further report will be presented to the Executive Committee.

### **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report, the service is provided at nil cost to the Council

**7. Community & Environmental Implications**

- 7.1 This service improves the quality of life for vulnerable members of the Community in North Wiltshire and enables them to remain independent in their own homes.

**8. Human Resource Implications**

- 8.1 None arising directly from this report

**9. Legal Implications**

- 9.1 None arising directly from this report

**10. Equality & Diversity Implications**

- 10.1 The Community Alarm service provides a vital service to the most vulnerable members of the community.

**Papers used to prepare this report:**

- Community Alarm contract between Eldercare and NWDC

**REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC MANAGER  
TO THE EXECUTIVE – 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2006**

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