

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health
Date:	22 July 2022
Title:	Meals on Wheels Service
Report From:	Director of Adults' Health and Care

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1. The decision:

1.1 That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health approves spend of up to £30m (Inclusive of VAT) over a maximum ten-year period (5 years + a period or periods of up to 5 years) on a service contract for a Meals on Wheels service commencing 1 October 2023 as outlined in this report

2. Reasons for the Decision

2.1 The current contract commenced in October 2018. Procured on an initial 3-year term with option to extend by up to a further 2-years, this option was exercised in June 2021 to take the current contract expiry to 30 September 2023.

2.2 The contracted service is provided to customers who need support in the form of nutritious meals. A referral may be made by frontline care practitioners, including teams seeking to discharge people from hospitals. Referrals can also be made by individuals self-referring into the service or by friends and relatives of individuals seeking support. Individuals are required to confirm they meet the eligibility criteria outlined in appendix 1 when completing their application. For some people, the service helps meet a need to manage and maintain nutrition, while for others it is a preventative service that helps maintain independence.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1 In house provision - At present, Hampshire County Council in house facilities are not able to provide the volume of meals required.

3.2 Allow the current contracts to expire - This option could lead to a significant increase in price. Hampshire County Council would have no control over price and quality and there would be no guarantee that all eligible residents would be served.

3.3 Allow the current contracts to expire and commission a community meal provision - This option would have the risks identified above and would also require Hampshire County Council funding for community meal provision.

3.4 Procure a Meals on Wheels service under a concession contract - A concession contract could ensure a reliable service 365 days a year for all eligible residents. However, Hampshire County Council would not have the current level of control over price and different VAT arrangements would apply.

4. Conflicts of interest

4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: Not applicable

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

22 July 2022

**Councillor Liz Fairhurst
Executive Member for Adult Services and Public
Health**