

**DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICER UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE LOCAL
AUTHORITIES EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENT REGULATIONS 2012**

Officer: David Vitty/Phil Hornsby (on behalf of Adult Social Care Senior Management Team)

Service Unit: ASC-S

Date of Decision: 13 October 2016

Title: Changes to Servicing and Maintenance of adaptations provided under a Disabled Facilities Grant.

Decision(s) Taken: The Council would cease to offer to routine servicing and maintenance to both existing and future adaptations funded under a Disabled Facilities Grant, (DFG), when the current lift/hoist maintenance service is retendered.

Threshold Trigger: (please delete as required and give background)

- (i) **Decision taken in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and**
- (ii) **Decisions having a substantive effect on the provision of local services, e.g. fees/charges**

Reason for the Decision:

This decision was taken prior to retendering the contract for the provision and maintenance of our community ceiling track hoist contract in partnership with PHP. The current contract was to also include the provision and maintenance of stair lifts for PHP.

For non-PHP residents Stair lifts are often provided through the disabled facilities grant and as such are the property of the person not the authority. Historically, though ASC-S have agreed to service and repair stair lifts owned by people in the community who were assessed as nil contributors when the DFG grant was made.

The Council have no duty to do this, but historically, it was seen as good practice as these people may struggle to afford to maintain the lift themselves. This service covered approximately 200 lifts a year at an approximate cost of between £16,000 – 20,000 with additional spend on call out repairs.

Most other authorities, (including Bournemouth), have ceased to routinely offer this service.

Due to financial pressures and proposals under the Medium Term Financial Plan, the decision agreed would be that under the new contract that the Council would cease

to offer to service both existing and future stair lifts and pass this responsibility to the individual should they wish to continue to have their lift routinely serviced.

The Council would initially expect the person to cover the costs of any repairs. However, under the contract a price for spot purchasing repairs and servicing with the agreed contractor and we will keep a small budget aside to cover these costs for exceptional cases of hardship. Guidance around this will be drawn up.

In addition, a three month notice period was also given from the date that letters were to be sent out.

Declaration of Interest(s), to include:

(Record of any conflict of interest declared by any Officer consulted by the Decision Maker and/or a note of any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service relating to the Decision).

None noted.

Report/Information Considered:

SMT members were asked for support/ comments regarding this proposal in October 2016. Support was also received from the Service Unit Head, Commissioning and Improvement - People Services.

Alternatives Considered:

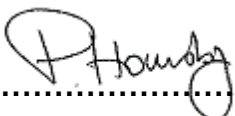
Do Nothing – This was discounted as would not support MTFP.

Budget Implications:

Predicted reduction in cost between £16,000 - £20,000 per annum.

Signed: 

Dated: 04 August 2017

Signed: 

Dated: 07 August 2017