

REPORT OF THE
Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health
PART II

1. COBOTS IN CARE PROGRAMME

- 1.1. On 11 January 2021 the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health granted approval to spend up to £4.1million over 5 years to source Cobots to support the delivery of the Hampshire Cobots transformation programme.
- 1.2. Adults' Health and Care undertook an initial pathfinder throughout 2020 to explore the viability of using Cobots in care settings. A cobot is a device that is worn by a person (in this case around the lumbar region) that assists the wearer to carry out normal manual functions, like moving an object or person, with more ease. The purpose of the Pathfinder was to establish the extent to which Cobots could contribute to greater efficiency in care delivery, in particular impacting on the levels of 'double up care' delivered (where two formal carers are required). Based on findings from the pathfinder evaluation, there is a strong economic and outcome efficacious business case for the mainstream deployment of Cobots across both internal and external Social Care settings.
- 1.3. A desktop review of double-up older adult care packages suggests that there is significant scope to reduce double-up care packages with the support of Cobots. The findings were used to develop a set of conservative assumptions that between 13% and 26% of double up packages could be reduced using Cobots. The £4.1million approved is the maximum expected spend over the 5 year period based on a final volume of Cobots of 127. However, it is planned that the increase in Cobots to this level will be gradual and phased over the first two years. It is planned to procure future devices on the basis of lease in the first instance with the opportunity to review commercial arrangements once the Cobots programme is embedded and delivering against outcomes including financial targets.

2. DEMAND MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION GRANTS

- 2.1. On 11 January 2021 the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health granted approval to award grants under the Local Solutions Grant scheme, the Rural Connections Grant scheme and the Community Based Support Grant scheme. These grants to voluntary and community sector organisations support the demand management and prevention strategy, aiming to reduce the need for social care services.
- 2.2. The Local Solutions Grants approved will impact communities within East Hants, Havant, Hart, Test Valley and Basingstoke, and are based on local stakeholder engagement. The areas covered in this grant round build on those covered in previous Local Solutions grant rounds.

- 2.3. The Rural Connections Grant scheme is aimed at organisations that provide a service that develops and supports local volunteers in rural settings to provide information and advice for vulnerable adults in their communities, and to facilitate connections with other services and assets (e.g. community groups and buildings). In particular, the focus would be on supporting people at risk of social isolation and loneliness. A grant of £20,000 was awarded to Age Concern Hampshire for a period between April 2021 and March 2022 to expand the Village Agent service they deliver.
- 2.4. The Community Based Support Grant supports a county-wide service for Hampshire residents over the age of sixty-five, who are at risk of social isolation and diminished independence. The grant aims to increase social connectivity and exercise opportunities for residents, supporting them to improve their health and wellbeing. Services would be based both in local community venues across Hampshire for face to face activities and also through the phone and online, enabling remote service options. MHA were awarded a grant totalling £480,000 to cover a 2 year period between April 2021 and March 2023.

Further details can be found at the link below:

[Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health Decision Day 11 January 2021](#)

COUNCILLOR LIZ FAIRHURST
Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health