

Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **public sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the council to better understand the potential impact of the budget proposals and consider mitigating action.

Name or Brief Description of Proposal	HOU 20 - Supported Services: Increase in charges to private tele/CAREline customers.
Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)	<p>The CAREline Alarm provides an emergency telecare alarm service 24 hours a day, every day of the year to any resident living in Southampton.</p> <p>It is a personal alarm button, which can be worn as a necklace or a wrist strap at home. In an emergency, when you press the button, it automatically dials the CAREline service. It is for use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at any age • if there are long term health needs • for older people and the elderly frail • people with a disability <p>Costs and Services: The setup fee includes demonstration of the alarm unit, installation and advice from CAREline staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £10 plus VAT if you live within Southampton • £20 plus VAT If you live outside the city. <p>After set up two levels of service are offered:</p> <p>Silver service – monitoring: This service is available to anyone within a 20 mile radius of Southampton. The service contacts a keyholder.</p> <p>Gold service - monitoring and response: Gold service</p>

	<p>is only available to residents living within the Southampton. A professional team of CAREline responders, employed by Southampton City Council, will be sent to visit where appropriate to the emergency.</p> <p>There are 554 silver tele/CAREline customers and 1233 gold tele/CAREline customers.</p> <p>Current charges are £2.50 per week for Silver and £3.50 per week for Gold. Charges have not been increased since 2005.</p>
Summary of Impact and Issues	<p>The proposal is to increase the charge for this service. This could potentially increase the risk of financial hardship on vulnerable residents.</p> <p>It may also result in customers terminating this service leading to increased risks in terms of health and safety in the home and peace of mind for relatives / carers.</p>
Potential Positive Impacts	Increase in income to fund and develop the service.
Responsible Service Manager	Jean Brown
Date	28 th October 2015

Approved by Senior Manager	Nick Cross
Date	28 th October 2015

Potential Impact

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
Age	This is a targeted service - for older people and elderly frail.	
Disability	This is a targeted service - for disabled people.	
Gender Reassignment	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Pregnancy and Maternity	No identified negative impacts.	N/A

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
Race	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Religion or Belief	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Sex	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Sexual Orientation	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Community Safety	No identified negative impacts.	N/A
Poverty	Increase in charge.	Proposed charges are still within the average local market rate. Charges kept below the rate of inflation as no increases since 2005.
Other Significant Impacts	Reduction in number of customers and subsequent effect on other services e.g. Health and Social Care.	Marketing and promotion of the benefits of the service.