SERVICE DESCRIPTION FORM

Department: Education and Social Care - Community Care
Service: Occupational Therapy Joint Equipment Service /Community Alarm

Income	**(£000s)**
NHS Change Fund grant	6

Description:

This service stores, maintains, repairs, fits, delivers, cleans and recycles all types of equipment that is essential to support people to live in the community and to prevent unnecessary admission to hospital or care home. The provision and installation of equipment makes a significant difference to the outcomes for an individual; it permits them to remain in their own home, and supports maximum independence within their daily environment. It is therefore an essential service offered by community care and makes a direct contribution to achieving our aim of supporting more people to live longer in their own homes as opposed to receiving permanent care or being re-admitted to hospital.

Equipment can include small items such as a tap turner and sock aid to large items including mobile hoists and hospital bed installations in the home. The equipment service also includes the supply of community alarms, telecare equipment and the installation of key safes.

In line with the shift in the balance of care from long-term residential care to more people with complex care needs living at home, there continues to be a year on year increase in demand for this service. The items which there most demand for are toileting equipment, community alarms, grab rails, bathing items, specialist seating, hospital beds and dressing aids.

Outcomes / impacts:

The OT equipment service makes a direct contribution to the realisation of the following Single Outcome Agreement national outcomes.

(i) National Outcome 6 - We live longer, healthier lives.
(ii)National Outcome 11 - We have strong resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions.
(iii) National Outcome 15 – our public services are high quality,   continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs