

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal Procurement of Meals on Wheels
Originator Mawdsley, Alexia
Email address Alexia.Mawdsley@hants.gov.uk
Department Adult Services
Date of Assessment 18 Dec 2017

Description of Service / Policy

To procure a contract for a Meals on Wheels service from 1 October 2018. The contract would run for an initial term of three years, with an option to extend by up to a total of two years.

Geographical impact* All Hampshire

Description of proposed change

The current Meals on Wheels contract ends 30 September 2018. The procurement of a new Meals on Wheels contract would enable continuation of service to existing customers: 55+ years who meet HCC criteria regarding risk of malnourishment. The proposed contract would also broaden service provision to include those who are 18+ years with learning disabilities, physical disabilities or a mental health issue, and meet HCC criteria regarding risk of malnourishment.

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

Two market engagement events have been held: on 4 September and 13 December 2017.

Specific issues raised by providers included inclusion to under 55 year olds in regard to likely volumes and increased caloric amounts, assumptions as to the likely growth of customer, price point and sensitivity of customers to increases, quality standards and the most appropriate bodies to use as reference, key performance indicators and monitoring. The comments have been used to shape the draft service specification and the organisation attending the second event noted now comments from the first event had been taken into account.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Statutory considerations

Impact

Age Impact Positive
It is proposed that, from 1 October 2018, the Meals on Wheels service is available not only to individuals 55+ years who are at risk of malnutrition (as described by Hampshire County Council criteria in the service specification and online referral form) but also to those from 18+ years who have learning disabilities, physical disabilities or mental health issues.

Disability Impact	Positive Disability is of high relevance to the service as the majority of people currently using the service have physical and mental disability, including dementia, sensory loss and frailty. It is proposed that, from 1 October 2018, the Meals on Wheels service is available not only to individuals 55+ years who are at risk of malnutrition (as described by Hampshire County Council criteria in the service specification and online referral form) but also to those 18+ who have learning disabilities, physical disabilities or mental health issues.
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Sexual Orientation	Neutral
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Race	Neutral
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Religion and Belief	Neutral
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Gender Reassignment	Neutral
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Gender	Neutral
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Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral
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Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral
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Other policy considerations

Poverty	Neutral
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Rurality	Neutral
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Additional Information

Please be aware that the Meals on Wheels service currently has a positive impact on age, religion and belief and rurality. The proposed new contract would enable this vital service to continue. Therefore, the effect is neutral because the beneficial service can continue. Should the contract not be procured, there would be a high negative impact on age, religion and belief and rurality.