



## Cobot enhanced care

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Department: Adults' Health and Care

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## Description of current service/policy

The introduction of 'Cobot enhanced care' across Hampshire represents an opportunity to transform the way care is delivered to Older Adults in the community, by adjusting the level of support service users require based on an assessment of:

Individual person's needs  
Environment  
Equipment  
Technology e.g. Cobots

Innovative new cobot technology will be deployed to enable care workers to deliver more single handed care, freeing up additional care workers to provide care to other vulnerable adults.

Geographical impact: All  
Hampshire

## Description of proposed change

The overall aim for Cobot enhanced care is to optimise independence and confidence for both care giver and receiver through use of cobot technology, specialist equipment and training that enables personalised packages of care to be commissioned and delivered safely, effectively and consistently, with fewer care workers.

Enabling more single handed care delivery improves capacity for care providers to address the demand for care and improves service user experience: improving overall dignity and privacy, wellbeing, quality

## Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

## Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

The views and feedback from service users was sought as part of the evaluation of the HCC cobot pathfinder project that concluded in September 2020. The majority of service users that experienced care delivered by a care worker wearing a cobot were positive about their experience. Many reported that they were supportive of anything that helped make the job of their care worker easier. In preparation for larger scale deployment of cobots in care delivery, the views of service users will be sought via the creation of an external user focus group and any changes to care delivery will be based on a comprehensive assessment of user needs.

<b>Statutory considerations</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Age:</b> Positive	Service users will be impacted as this will positively change the way they receive care. Ideally they get to keep the care worker they know, receive their full attention and are able to be helped by one, rather than multiple care workers, improving their overall dignity and privacy. It also reduces their exposure to cross-infection and gives them more control over when their care is arranged and delivered.  Packages of care will be personalised, based on assessment of need, overall environment and availability of technology and equipment, such as cobots to ensure safety of the client, the family and the care workers.	

<p><b>Disability:</b> Positive</p>	<p>Service users will be impacted as this will positively change the way they receive care. A focus on more one to one care will mean the service user receives the full attention of their care worker and are able to be helped by one, rather than multiple carer worker, improving their overall dignity and privacy. It also reduces their exposure to cross-infection and gives them more control over when their care is arranged and delivered, as care is no longer organised to coordinate multiple different carer workers.</p> <p>Packages of care will be personalised, based on assessment of need, overall environment and availability of technology and equipment, such as cobots to ensure safety of the client, the family and the care workers.</p>	
<p><b>Sexual orientation:</b> Neutral</p>		
<p><b>Race:</b> Neutral</p>		
<p><b>Religion and belief:</b> Neutral</p>		
<p><b>Gender reassignment:</b> Neutral</p>		
<p><b>Gender:</b> Neutral</p>		

<b>Marriage and civil partnership:</b> Neutral		
<b>Pregnancy and maternity:</b> Neutral		
<b>Other policy considerations</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Poverty:</b> Neutral		
<b>Rurality:</b> Positive	Care provision is often harder to source in rural areas, therefore by using technology that helps rural providers with their staffing capacity, this aims to ensure more rural residents can potentially be supported.	

## **Neutrality statement (if all considerations have a neutral impact)**

### **Any other information**

The introduction of innovative physical assistive technology, such as cobots into care delivery is likely to benefit a whole range of older vulnerable adults who require physical care assistance and in time, and based on evidence of success may also benefit a wider age range of service users who have physical care needs.