

ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL: OFFICER DECISION RECORD

Please use this form to record those executive decisions which are taken by officers and are **not** designated as 'Key Decisions' – or in other words those decisions which are **not** included in the Forward Plan. There is a separate form for recording Key Decisions.

You should also use this form to record decisions about those functions which are reserved to the Council or to its committees. The Constitution explains what these reserved functions are and who is responsible for them.

1. Title / Subject Matter:
Monitoring of Hand Arm and Whole Body Vibration.
2. Decision Reference No:
PAC-WAS-AB-ODR369
3. Decision Taken:
To purchase VK044 VibA8 with Standard Hand Arm Vibration and Whole Body Vibration sensors through the Neighbourhoods and Environment budget as a one-off pressure.
4. Reasons for the Decision:
<p>It has been identified that the existing Hand Arm Vibration (monitor used by Neighbourhoods and Environment) needs replacing as it is no longer fit for purpose.</p> <p>Due to the type equipment being used by operatives, such as ride on mowers, require whole-body vibration to be monitored not just hand and arms.</p> <p>The Council has a Duty under the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005 to assess and identify measures to eliminate or reduce risks from exposure to hand-arm and whole-body vibration.</p> <p>The Council's Health & Safety Officer has recommended the need for this equipment and identified a monitor they believe to be suitable.</p> <p>Cost of the equipment is £4287 plus VAT. There is no central budget for this equipment as such it will have to be unbudgeted spend.</p>

4. Alternative Options Considered / Rejected:

The Council could continue to use the existing equipment however this has been rejected as the Council would not be taking reasonable steps to protect its workforce.

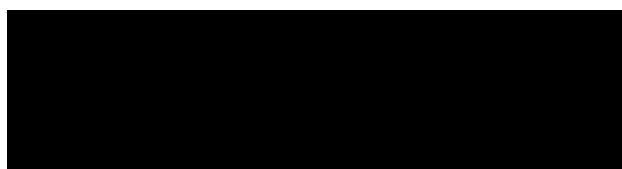
5. Implications

Legal – The Council has the power to enter into contracts in order discharge its functions (Local Government Act 1972, s111 and the Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997, s1). The Local Government Act 1972 requires the Council to have regulations for how it enters into contracts. In addition to complying with all relevant UK legislation every contract entered into on behalf of the Council must also comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Council's Financial Regulations

Finance – There is no budget for this proposal, so the purchase of the monitor would result in a one-off pressure of £4.3k. However, given that its use should lead to fewer financial claims against the Authority, resulting from hand-arm vibration and whole-body vibration, it should prove a sensible investment in the long run.

HR – The proposal to upgrade to current monitoring in place and whilst is a positive step for employees as we will be carrying out additional monitoring, employees and TU's should be made aware of this additional monitoring. Occupational Health have advised monitoring the vibration level will assist in identifying if someone is exceeding the recommended vibration level/limit which will enable advise to be provided.

Name / Title of the officer taking the Decision:



Theresa Hodgkinson, Chief Executive

Date: 18th October, 2021

Name / Title of the relevant Lead Cabinet Member consulted (if appropriate)

(This decision is not subject to call-in and is circulated for information only). **If a Cabinet Member has a conflict of interest relating to this decision, then this should be declared and a request for dispensation will be considered.**

Date:

Name / Title of the relevant Committee Chairman consulted (if appropriate)

(for non Executive/Council side function decisions)

Date:

The completed form should be emailed to the Democratic Services Team:

democratic.services@ashfield.gov.uk

They will arrange for it to be published on the Council's web site.

EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE DECISION

Use this section to share any confidential information that would not be published or placed on the Council's web site. The information will only be shared within the Authority, as appropriate.

For further support or guidance please contact Ruth Dennis, Director of Legal and Governance (and Monitoring Officer) r.dennis@ashfield.gov.uk or any member of the Democratic Services Team.