

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 5 October 2023

Report of the Executive Director of Adult Services and Health & Wellbeing

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;

Technology Enabled Care Policy

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Brief Summary

The Technology Enabled Care Policy sets out the county council's strategic approach to Technology Enabled Care.

This new policy outlines how technology will support and enable adults and children to prevent and delay the need for formal care. This is in recognition of the fact that there is, and is likely to be, a growing range of technology including devices that use Artificial Intelligence and machine learning to predict and prevent harm. The county council wishes to exploit new technology for the benefit of all Lancashire residents when this is appropriate to do so.

The Technology Enabled Care Policy follows on from Cabinet's approval of the Changes to the Telecare Services report in September 2022 which recommended that, with effect from 3 April 2023, a three tier, non-means tested, charging structure be introduced.

The Technology Enabled Care Policy also supports Lancashire County Council's draft 'Going Digital – A Technology Enabled Care Strategy for 2026' which is currently being developed.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the draft Technology Enabled Care Policy as set out at Appendix 'A'.



Detail

The Technology Enabled Care Policy provides the legal framework as to how Lancashire County Council will deliver Technology Enabled Care, with a focus on prevention that is available to all.

The county council's vision is to have digital Technology Enabled Care at the heart of our social care and health offer, to:

- Ensure people live safely in their own community and stay connected socially.
- Improve outcomes for people by focusing on prevention, anticipation and supported self-management.
- Empower people to improve their wellbeing and maintain their independence for as long as possible.

Technology Enabled Care provision supports the wellbeing principle within the Care Act 2014, which highlights the importance of preventative services within the community and enhancing individual's control over their own lives. Preventative interventions can help people to live safely and reduce the need for care and support.

It is anticipated that the Technology Enabled Care Policy should assist in meeting the county council's Public Sector Equality Duty responsibilities, particularly in terms of advancing equality of opportunity, and improving participation in public life for those who require it, which are more likely to be people in the age (older people) and disability protected characteristics groups.

Appendices

Appendix 'A' is attached to this report. For clarification it is summarised below and referenced at relevant points within this report.

Appendix	Title
Appendix 'A'	Technology Enabled Care Policy

Consultations

Wider public consultation on the Technology Enabled Care Policy has not been necessary as the policy reflects new duties and requirements placed on the county council under the Care Act 2014.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The Care Act Statutory Guidance sets out that the county council should develop and maintain policies in relation to a number of subject areas covered in the Act. If



the recommendation is not taken forward, the county council may be at risk of future legal challenges.

Financial

There are no additional financial implications to those detailed in the report agreed by Cabinet in September 2022 on Changes to the Telecare Service.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

