| Report title: | Assistive Technology update - Dec 2019 |
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| Meeting: | Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission |
| Report owner: | Anne Canning – Group Director, Children, Adults & Community Health Services<br>Simon Galczynski – Director, Adult Services |
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## Executive Summary

In line with the Council's Manifesto Commitment to promote independence in Adult Social Care, Adult Services are delivering a programme of change aimed at delivering more personalised, strength-based support to people who have care and support needs in Hackney. This work is also looking at how we can prevent, delay and reduce the need for support in line with our statutory duties under the Care Act 2014 and our local Integrated Commissioning programme that has committed to spending more on preventative services.

As part of this work we are exploring how we can make more innovative use of Assistive Technology. Through the Assistive Technology Project we are aiming to provide people with equipment and technology that helps them stay independent, improve quality-of-life and manage their conditions to prevent or delay higher-level care needs. This work is being led by the needs of people in receipt of health and care services. Using this philosophy we are planning a series of pilots to trial Assistive Technology, which is being part-funded and monitored by the Integrated Commissioning Prevention workstream and the ICT Enabler workstream. We are co-producing this with service users and carers to ensure the tools we introduce are suited to the needs of people in Hackney.

Through this project we are hoping to expand the Assistive Technology that we offer so that it is more personalised to individual needs and aspirations. The first pilot has started, comparing a wrist-worn alarm device with the pendant alarm that we currently offer, to test whether it better supports and encourages independence.

Hackney Council is also jointly leading a project to develop a shared evaluation framework between boroughs so that local authorities can collaborate and share learning more effectively from our various local Assistive Technology pilots. This shared framework is also expected to set a standard for Assistive Technology evaluations that will support the development of a high-quality research base. Assistive Technology is also being embedded in the commissioning process, requiring providers to consider how they will use technology to support people. The appended report provides a detailed overview of the project, progress to date and next steps.