RECORD OF EXERCISE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY OFFICER PURSUANT TO REGULATION 13 OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS) (MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 & THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014

SUBJECT OF DECISION

To agree a contract with SKYGUARD LIMITED T/A PEOPLESAFE for Lone Worker Protection and Associated Services.

DECISION REFERENCE	SOURCE OF AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE (i.e. Committee/ Constitution/Minute No. etc.
DO/04/2025 (AB)	
	Constitution 3D.1 b) and c)
	Constitution 3D2 a) and b)
DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER (Name and Job Title)
29th May 2025	Alastair Blunkett – Assistant Director Environment and Enforcement
	Alestav Glunkett

RECORD OF THE DECISION

a) The issue

NBBC currently relies on a supervisor or manager to monitor the team's arrivals and departures of appointments at properties or sites. There is a danger that in some cases this is not happening, there are also operatives working alone across the Borough carrying out activities such as litter picking who rely on their own personal devise to keep in contact with their line manager. The Council currently has no bodycam provision for staff, this will be addressed through this contract.

b) The Decision

The approve the provision of a Lone Worker Mobile Technology Solution from PeopleSafe via the Procurement for Housing Lone Worker Protection Framework Agreement.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The use of this technology will provide a safeguard for lone workers to ensure that the Council is meeting its duties to employees. While there are no immediate savings from the investment, employees who feel unsafe are more likely to leave their employment therefore use of this technology will likely support recruitment as well as improve retention through increased wellbeing.

PeopleSafe are the first ranked supplier on the framework which was identified following a premarket engagement exercise following by a small trial.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED IN MAKING THE DECISION

The Council could carry using the above approach which relies on a supervisor or manager to monitor the team's arrivals and departures of appointments at properties or sites, this necessitate many phone calls to the manager and will be time consuming. The use of a supervisors/managers time for team members to check in and out when undertaking visits etc. is an inefficient use of resources. There is a danger that in some cases this is not happening, and hence if an incident occurs on a site visit, there may be considerable delay in a manager being alerted to this.

In addition currently there:

- is no instant process for alerting the manager or emergency services that an employee is in a dangerous or distressing situation or incapacitated.
- no GPS tracking via a SIM, should an employee not check in.
- no personal alarm for public facing employees on visits that can be activated without the other party knowing.
- is not a consistent approach to monitoring across service units.

The existing approach has been rejected.

WARD RELEVANCE

N/A

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The project is funded Corporately to ensure that a 'one council' approach is taken for all employees in accordance with the approved business case.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN WITH MEMBERS/OFFICERS

A level 2 business case has been approved at Senior Leadership Team.

ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED BY ANY MEMBER CONSULTED

N/A

IN RESPECT OF ANY DECLARED CONFLICT BY A CABINET MEMBER, ANY DISPENSATION GIVEN BY THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE (Note if the decision is a nonexecutive decision, no dispensation can be given).

N/A

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS (including any Equality Impact Assessment)

Full training will be provided and where necessary, reasonable adjustments made so as to enable their use by all employees.

The Policy on Lone Working will be amended as the associated EIA updated to reflect the use of this system.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

The system will be managed through existing resources, with those using the system, along with their line managers (after initial training) seeing less time managing long working.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The project will be funded Corporately to ensure that a 'one council' approach is taken for all employees. The necessary funding has been allocated so as to allow the project to be delivered.

HEALTH EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None

SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The project has been support through a level 2 business case with revelent steps take to managing any risk.

SME (SMALL/MEDIUM ENTERPRISES) & LOCAL ECONOMY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The equipment will be maintained and disposed off as per manufactures instructions.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act, Public Contract Regulations 2015 (as via a framework procured under those regulations, and Contract Procedure Rules.

N/A

PLEASE RETURN TO THE MONITORING OFFICER AS SOON AS A DECISION IS MADE OR AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE THEREAFTER