Appendix Two - Evaluation of the options for SDC and WDC

The information in the table below provides a summary description of three options identified for the permanent delivery model of home adaptations and improvements. Each of the options has been assessed against key criteria with regards to:

- Performance
- Customer experience / quality of service
- Capital and revenue costs
- Resilience of the service
- Influence/Control

Options Evaluation for future delivery of home adaptations (including Disabled Facilities Grants) and improvements

	Option 1 County Wide Shared Service - HEART	Option 2 South HAT Shared service (WDC / SDC)	Option 3 Pre-HAT service
Summary description	Shared Service delivering range of interventions; holistic approach to home adaptations and improvements Five year Partnership Agreement, with potential for Joint Committee	Shared service delivering range of interventions; holistic approach to home adaptations and improvements Similar to Option1 but for South of County only.	WDC return to pre pilot Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) service. WDC and Stratford District Council (SDC) dissolve partnership arrangements Return to two stage service (County Council assessment passed to District Council for grant process)
Proposed host	Hosted by Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC)	Hosted by Warwick District Council (WDC)	WDC and SDC deliver own service independently

Staffing structure and arrangements	See Appendix 5 WDC funds 1 x Housing Assessment Officer post Staff seconded to host (NBBC) initially for two years	Staff employed by WDC (excluding County Staff) and costs sharing arrangement with SDC. (Proposed) WDC Staff: 1 x South HAT Manager 1 x Technical Officer 2 x Housing Assessment Officer WCC Staff: Senior Occupational Therapist 4 x Occupational Therapists (OT)	Each authority employs own staff 1 x Senior Grants Officer 1 x Grants Officer 1 x Admin Support 1 x Occupational Therapist (part time)
Financial impact -	£33,090 (2016/17)	2 x Housing Assessment Officer £12,575	£5,779
revenue costs for WDC		= £100,075 Minus fee income of £87.5k (12.5% of £700k)	£93,279 Minus fee income of £87.5k (12.5% of £700k)
Performance	High	High	Low
End to end times and Stage times	Assumption – based on North and South HAT performance trends Staffing structure provides single line management	Assume continuation of improved performance	Process would need to accommodate time consuming handoffs, leading to delays

Quality of Service / Customer	High	High	Moderate - Low
Experience	Holistic service, capable of delivering range of interventions to meet customer needs. No hand-offs to other organisations. Customer has single point of contact for duration of their case. Assume continued improvement with Satisfaction levels as learning and improvement continues Assumes improved quality of work (adaptation work) as relationships grow with contractors	As per comments for Option 1.	Requirement for customers to deal with separate services; Warwickshire County Council (WCC) OTs and District Council Grant officers. Organisational handoffs (customers passed to different orgs) leading to delays and inefficient processes.
Capital (Better Care Fund) implications for WDC	Service designed to deliver rather of holistic / preventative services. This is in line with Better Care Fund (BCF) requirements	There are potential risks to accessing BCF as the alternative options have reduced capacity to deliver the full range of holistic, preventative services.	There are potential risks to accessing BCF as the alternative options have reduced capacity to deliver the full range of holistic, preventative services.
Resilience	Very High High resilience due to greater number of caseworkers in a County Wide service	High	Very Low Low level of resilience assuming return to Pre-HAT levels of staffing in SDC and WDC

Influence/Control	Moderate	High	Moderate
	Reduced influence / control for individual partner organisations due to implications of operating as part of a six partner shared service	Service Delivery No change in influence or control of service delivery as with current pilot arrangements	High level of control of grant administration side of service. Low level of control of OT assessments

Advantages	 Performance: Service Model (through HAT pilots) is well tested and proven to deliver significantly improved services for customers Single line management of service Customer experience: HEART caseworkers are skilled to offer wide range of interventions to support customer independence; customers able to deal with one point of contact Resilience: offers high levels of resilience in the event of staff absence Staffing resources: service is well resourced, skills and expertise available within the team (e.g. contractor management, technical knowledge) to provide quality service Limited requirement for WDC to provide support services for the service Consistent service delivered 	 Performance: Significantly improved performance, as demonstrated by the pilot service Customer experience: Caseworkers skilled and competent to deliver wider range of interventions High level of control of service Good levels of resilience 	High level of control and influence
	across CountyHEART project well progressed		

Disadvantages/ Risks

Potential for reduced control of service. However, the partnership agreement and proposed joint committee arrangements will provide protection for individual members

- about potential arrangements for accessing County Council OT assessments of customer needs were Options 2 or 3 to be favoured by WDC. This represents a risk to the feasibility of these options.
- Potential difficulties if single line management does not include OT's.
- Potential for inconsistent service developing within Warwickshire
- Greater requirement for WDC to resource support services for service
- Requirement for substantial work to be undertaken to implement this option
- The guidance on the Better Care Fund (BCF), which includes DFG funding, is clear there should be joint plan between all Better Care Fund partners on its usage. There are potential risks to accessing this funding if WDC does not enter the County wide HEART service as the alternative options have reduced capacity to deliver the full range of holistic, preventative services offered by Option 1.

- Currently there is uncertainty about potential arrangements for accessing County Council OT assessments of customer needs were Options 2 or 3 to be favoured by WDC. This represents a risk to the feasibility of these options.
- Performance: service performance deteriorates due to return to two stage process (slower response and end to end times)
- Low levels of resilience in the event of staff absence
- Customer experience: requirement to deal with multiple organisations (District and County Councils). No single point of contact
- Range of interventions is more limited compared to Option 1 or 2.
- Lack of consistent service model within Warwickshire
- Requirement for WDC to resource all support services for service
- The guidance on the Better Care Fund (BCF), which now includes DFG funding, is clear there should be joint plan between all Better Care Fund partners on its usage. There are potential risks to accessing this funding if WDC does not enter the County wide HEART service as the alternative options have reduced capacity to deliver the full range of holistic, preventative services.