

## Record of Officer Decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Extension of the Payment Cards for Direct Payments
<b>Date of decision:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Service Director for Community Wellbeing
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	Chief Executive Scheme of Delegation SA09 - Commissioning, quality assurance and contract management relating to all ages
<b>Ward:</b>	Countywide
<b>Consultation:</b>	This is a decision taken by the Service Director and therefore, does not require consultation.
<b>Decision made:</b>	To approve the extension of the Payment Cards for a further period of 2 months under the current contract until 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024 at a cost of £15,000.00
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>An extension is required for an additional 2 months of the extended 5 year plus 8 months contract with Prepaid Financial Services (PFS) which is due to end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 due to complications on-boarding to the new provider following the re-commissioning exercise.</p> <p>The nature of financial regulations and compliance has changed, resulting in new fixed timescales which were not known at the time of contract award to the new provider. This extended period would allow the council to meet these compliance timeframes and reduce the impact on the council's current customers of approximately 1,000 cardholders.</p>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	Direct award under the NEPO Framework was considered but rejected at this time on the advice of Commercial Services.
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None

Signed..... Date: .....