

<b>To:</b>	Chair Burley and Members of the Committee of Management
<b>Committee Date:</b>	July 9, 2019
<b>Subject / Report No:</b>	LTCR-CM-29-19
<b>Title:</b>	Request for Unbudgeted Capital Project-Nurse Call Corridor Displays
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Karen Kraus, Executive Director
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Kim Wingrove, CAO
<b>Status:</b>	

## Recommendation

1. **That Report LTCR-CM-29-19 regarding the unbudgeted purchase of nurse call corridor displays at Rockwood Terrace be received; and**
2. **That staff be directed to negotiate a single source contract with KR Communications Ltd.; and**
3. **That the purchase cost of \$25,164 plus applicable taxes be funded from the Rockwood Terrace reserve.**

## Executive Summary

The Care Community is required to provide a resident-staff communication and response system.

The current system makes it difficult for staff to easily identify what room is requiring assistance and is costly to maintain.

Staff are recommending the installation of additional corridor displays to eliminate the need for staff to carry and monitor hand held devices that are costly to replace and to provide a more reliable method for staff to be notified of calls.

Staff are recommending that the project be awarded to KR Communications LTD. as this firm provided, installed and maintains the current Nurse Call System.

## Background and Discussion

Currently Personal Support Workers can receive nurse call messages a couple of different ways. The first is via pager. These units have a very small screen that is not lit very well and therefore must be held at just the right angle to see the message. The pagers do not last very long (in 2018 we replaced 21) and cost \$200 each to replace.

PSWs on second floor also have the option of using iPhones to receive nurse call messages. The concern with these devices is that sometimes the signal is not strong enough and the message does not come through.

Additionally, in the main hub of each floor, is a display that makes a brief, low, audible sound that shows what room needs assistance. The concern with this display is that there is only one for the entire floor.

To improve timely and fool-proof awareness of call bell notifications, staff recommend that the number of display boards in each hall be increased at a cost of \$25,164 plus applicable taxes, thereby eliminating the need for hand held devices.

Staff also recommend that this project be completed by KR Communications Ltd. as this is the company that provided, installed and maintains the current nurse call system and the existing display board on each floor.

## Legal and Legislated Requirements

The Care Community is required to have a resident-staff communication and response system. Staff recommend the single sourcing of the displays required for this project. Single sourcing is a method of procurement whereby there is more than one vendor potentially able to supply a good or service and a contract awarded without a competitive bidding process. Grey County's procurement policies permit single sourcing in cases where there the compatibility of a purchase with existing equipment, product standards, facilities or service is a paramount consideration.

Rockwood Terrace currently has a working response system; however, the installation of the additional displays will reduce operational costs on a go forward and provide a more reliable method for staff to be clearly notified of calls.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The cost of this project including supply and installation of sixteen new corridor displays, will be \$25,164 plus applicable taxes. It is recommended that the project be funded from the Rockwood Terrace Reserves that is anticipated to have a balance at year end of \$1,347,802.

## Relevant Consultation

Internal Evan Davis, Information Technology, Mike Alquire, Purchasing Manager, Mary Lou Spicer, Deputy Treasurer

External KR Communications Ltd.

## Appendices and Attachments

None