GUIDELINE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PRESCRIPTION OF EC EQUIPMENT
In North Thames

Environmental Control Systems enable people with severe physical disabilities who cannot use conventional equipment (e.g., telephone, door entry intercom, television remote controls) to maintain a degree of independence.

Provision is indicated by;

1. **EC equipment prescription is required for substantial need;**
   e.g. Alarm or other means of summoning assistance, especially in emergency
   Control of door access
   Control of motorised bed or chair for comfort or pain relief
   Independent control to ensure mental and emotional wellbeing

2. **Unable to control environment by any other means**
   (including unable to use standard adaptations or large button controls)

3. **Physically and cognitively able to operate an EC system independently**

4. **Motivated to use an EC system and would gain some benefit of independent control of their immediate environment**

5. **To be registered with a GP within England**

6. **To have a long term and substantial disability caused by disease, injury or congenital defect.**

7. **Agree to abide by the locally determined conditions of the loan of the equipment.**

Guidance Notes on Criteria

- These criteria are guidelines and each case will be assessed and prioritised on its own merits. Those with rapidly deteriorating conditions and those living or left alone for substantial periods are considered high priority.

- Prescription on grounds of health will take into account mental, emotional and social needs. It is recognised that in some instances there is a requirement for some independent control, even in the presence of full-time carers. Also that provision of a device which reduces the need for personal care can result in increased social isolation. These factors will be taken into account at assessment and prescription.
GUIDELINE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PRESCRIPTION OF EC EQUIPMENT
In North Thames (continued)

- Provision may continue where the need is less than substantial, but where such use may be required and added at a later date as use of the system develops.

- If there is any doubt about the individuals ability or motivation to use an EC system, a trial of a temporary unit may be provided as part of the assessment process.

- There are no age limits for EC provision, but prescription for young children and the elderly will have regard to the degree of independence likely to be obtained.

- EC equipment is not suitable for control of life sustaining equipment (eg: respirator) or to relieve the requirement for medically critical care.

- In the case of appeal of an assessment outcome, a second opinion may be sought from a neighbouring assessor.

- **Peripheral equipment** e.g. profiling beds, riser/recliner chairs, curtain controls, door/window openers, appropriate door locks, page turners computers etc may be controlled, if compatible, via the EC system **but must be funded through other sources**.

- **Additional electrical power sockets** and telephone sockets required for EC provision are **not** provided by RECES.

- **Integrated systems**

  Where the user has, in addition to the need for EC, a requirement for equipment for communication and/or power mobility, RECES will liaise with others to facilitate an integrated approach to assessment and selection of systems as appropriate. However RECES is not provided with routine funding for Communication Aids or Power mobility control systems.