

CASE STUDY

Essex County Council

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Background

Essex County Council (ECC) selected Lone Worker Solutions and strategic partner Mitie, the facilities management giant, to protect team members when they are working alone or out-of-sight of colleagues.

ECC is one of the UK's biggest councils employing approximately 9,000 staff. Council services include education, social care, waste and recycling, transport and highways, libraries, and leisure and tourism. Many of the staff who deliver these services work by themselves or out-of-sight of colleagues and can be in challenging customerfacing roles.

ECC has lone workers in many departments. Roles with a particularly high-risk profile include those where staff work directly with residents and businesses such as trading standards officers, social workers, park wardens, officers who make site visits and even librarians in some of the smaller facilities across the county. Many of these team members are often in isolated locations, using potentially hazardous machinery or facing aggressive and violent behaviour from the public. The council identified all the staff roles that included a lone-working component, conducted a risk assessment, and established a health and safety profile for each one.



Usability

Essex County Council selected Totalmobile to protect their team members when they are working alone or out of sight. Totalmobile's lone worker protection platform empowers council staff with the ability to receive the support they need when an incident occurs with instant access to device alerts.

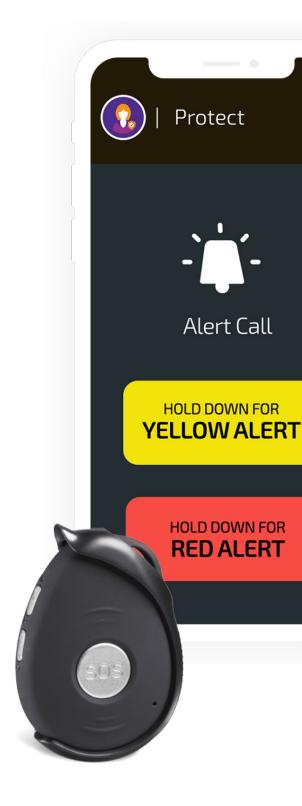
SOS Fob to the rescue

Totalmobile selected the SOS Fob as the best fit for ECC staff who wanted a discreet device. SOS Fob is small and can be carried in a pocket or worn on a specially developed identification badge holder, produced on demand via 3D printing.

All workers identified as high-risk have a dedicated device. However, many staff in low-risk roles, or who work alone occasionally, are allowed to share. Although many suppliers don't support device-sharing, an advanced feature of Safe Hub is that each team member has a bespoke profile which can be 'ported' across to any device in a matter of minutes.

Smartphone app

Along with the SOS Fob, Totalmobile provided access to an advanced smartphone app, so employees who don't want to carry an extra device are still fully protected. It is the leading app system when it comes to providing support on PCs, all mobile handsets, BlackBerry devices, all smartphones (the system works seamlessly on Android, iOS and Windows) and Android smartwatches.



Health & Safety

ECC established a working group as a sub-division of the Health & Safety Board, to review existing procedures and consider future options.

The group was charged with considering the wide range of lone worker profiles within the council. This included identifying the particular risks associated with each role, and mitigating factors, by developing individual risk assessments and lone worker profiles. The group conducted an audit of the legacy protection system that was in place, and the findings demonstrated a very low take-up among staff members.

The Benefits

The system offers lone workers multiple levels of support:

Emergency

 A Red Alert button connects the lone worker immediately with the ARC, who can dispatch blue light services, directing them to the worker's exact GPS location

Proactive

 Worker Down uses motion and impact sensors which are monitored by the system. When an impact is detected the alarm is automatically raised with the ARC and escalation procedures implemented

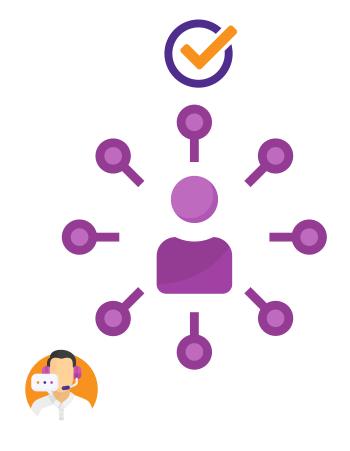
Reactive

 Safe Check sends a periodic voice, text or email message at pre-set intervals requesting an identity code to confirm that the individual is 'OK'. If all is well, the system resets until the next message response is due



The Future

The National Security Inspectorate (NSI) has approved LWS for BS8484:2016 Gold, the British Standard Code of Practice for the provision of lone worker device services, under its Guarding Gold scheme. The system will continue to monitor staff 24/7 through Mitie's state-of-the-art Alarm Receiving Centre Mitec; approved to NSI Quality Schedule BS5979 Gold Category II.





What's Next?

To learn more about our products & solutions, visit

https://www.totalmobile.co.uk

or contact us via the details on the back of this document.



Totalmobile is market leader in field service and mobile workforce management technology, helping organisations deliver more service, of the highest quality and at reduced cost.

Our SaaS based software provides a range of innovative products that deliver a step change in field service performance, mobile worker empowerment and management control.

This unlocks transformative cost savings, capacity gains, productivity improvements and empowers allows mobile workers to focus on consistently delivering the best service.

Belfast Office

Pilot Point 21 Clarendon Road Belfast BT1 3BG +44 28 9033 0111

Derby Office

Ironstone House Kedleston Close Belper Derbyshire DE56 1TZ +44 (0) 1773 596

Rochdale Office

2C Crown Business Park, Cowm Top Lane, Rochdale OL11 2PU

Birmingham Office

The Mint, 96 Icknield Street, Birmingham, B18 6RU

Bury St Edmunds Office

22 Park Farm Fornham St, Genevieve Bury St Edmunds IP28 6TS +44 (0) 1284 330 164