Access to Computer Technology Provision within Specialised Environmental Control services (D01/S/c)

This document sets out the interpretation of the NHS England Service specification (D01/S/c Environmental Control Equipment for Patients with Complex Disability) and should be read in conjunction with the specification. Clients must meet the referral criteria to the service (see service specification "Profound and potentially complex physical disability, such that they are unable to operate standard controls for functioning independently in the home.").

Additional Referral criteria/clarifications. The client:
- Is unable to access their computer through standard means (mouse, keyboard etc) but would expected to be able to use the equipment with the provision of suitable aids or adaptations;
- demonstrates an intention to require access to IT to support independence and daily living;
- does *not* have computer access difficulties *solely* related to sensory disabilities (i.e. visual or hearing impairment);
- does not intend to use the computer primarily for use in educational or work situations or environments;
- has a level of computer literacy adequate for the tasks they wish to be able to achieve, or have on-going access to adequate training and support to achieve this. (eg through local therapist or other service provider))
- In some cases, provision of appropriate seating equipment to ensure the necessary postural position and support is a pre-requisite of computer access provision. The seating equipment is to be supplied by other services and therefore may delay Computer access provision

Potential Provision by specialised service:
- Specialised computer access equipment
- Training in use of the specialist equipment provided by the EC service

Not provided:
- Standard or non-specialised computer access equipment
- Standard of non-specialised computer modifications – e.g. standard operating system adjustments.
- The computer device (unless this is part of communication aid or environmental control being otherwise provided).
- Training in general computer or IT use.
- seating equipment necessary to achieve appropriate postural positioning and support

Specialised computer access equipment:
- Is designed specifically to allow computer control by individuals with severe physical disabilities.
- Is not a standard computer peripheral
- Is not a standard operating system setting
- May require custom manufacture or modification
- May be hardware and/or software.