

Health and Wellbeing Board

28 July 2023

Better Care Fund 2022-23 Year End Report



Report of Michael Laing, Director of Integrated Community Services

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) with a summary of the Better Care Fund (BCF) 2022-23 year end performance metrics.

Executive summary

- 2 Performance against the four BCF metrics are measured against planned targets
- 3 The BCF plan contained the following metrics:
 - (a) avoidable admissions;
 - (b) discharge to normal place of residence;
 - (c) permanent admissions to care homes;
 - (d) reablement.
- 4 Positive performance is indicated in two out of four key metrics for County Durham

Recommendations

- 5 The HWB are recommended to:
 - (a) note the contents of this report;
 - (b) agree to receive future updates in relation to BCF performance.

Background

- 6 The BCF is the only mandatory policy to facilitate integration through a pooled budget and provides a mechanism for joint health and social care planning and commissioning by bringing together ring fenced budgets from health and funding paid directly to local government for adult care services
- 7 The BCF allocation for 2022-23 was £88.1m, which include the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) to support adult social care, reduce pressure on the NHS and Support the social care provider market

National Metrics

- 8 The BCF 2022-23 set out four key metrics for measuring performance:
 - Avoidable admissions to hospital
 - The proportion of people discharged from acute hospital to their normal place of residence
 - Rate of permanent admissions to care homes / 100,000 population (65+)
 - The proportion of older people (65+) who will still be at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services

Performance

- 9 Assessment of progress against the metric for the period is measured via several options, 'on track to meet target', 'not on track to meet target', 'data not available to assess progress'.
- 10 A traffic light system is used in the report where 'green' indicates 'on' or better than target, 'red' not on track to meet target or 'amber' where data is not available to determine performance.

Avoidable Admissions

Indicator	Planned	Progress against metric	Performance against plan
Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions	1,032	1,495	

- 11 There had been a significant reduction in avoidable admissions at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The rate of admissions has since increased although lower than the pre-pandemic position. During the pandemic there was a reduction in targeted disease management as clinicians had to be diverted to respond to the pandemic. As a consequence, a higher level of admissions occurred than was planned.
- 12 Chronic disease management has resumed alongside initiatives to support more patients with long term conditions in community settings.

Discharge to Normal Place of Residence

Indicator	Planned	Progress against metric	Performance against plan
Percentage off people who are discharged from acute hospital to their normal place of residence	91.9%	94.8%	

- 13 Our plan is to maintain this good performance.
- 14 Mature partnerships and positive integrated working have ensured that there is a strong focus on discharge.
- 15 Additional support has been provided to domiciliary care providers and care homes to help with sustainability.

Residential Admissions

Indicator	Planned	Progress against metric	Performance against plan
Rate of permanent admissions to residential care per 100,000 population (65+)	620	685.6	

- 16 Performance has declined against the BCF target for the first time in three years. We have recently reviewed and revised our methodology of data input into our case management system.
- 17 Whilst the number of people admitted to permanent care is the highest for three years, it remains lower than the years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 18 Whilst the rate of admissions has exceeded the target this should be considered in a context of increasing demographics and of people being admitted to permanent care homes later in life with length of stay increasing.

Reablement

Indicator	Planned	Progress against metric	Performance against plan
Proportion of older people (65+) still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services	84.9%	88.3%	

- 19 Our plan is to maintain current good performance.
- 20 Performance against this indicator remains high despite a very slight reduction on the same period last year (88.7%).
- 21 Current performance remains above target both regionally and nationally at 81.6% and 81.5% respectively.

Conclusion

- 22 This report provides members of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) with a summary of the Better Care Fund 2022-23 year end performance metrics.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None.

Finance

The BCF 2022-23 Pooled Budget was £88.0m.

Consultation

As necessary through the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

The Equality Act 2010 require the Council to ensure that all decisions are reviewed for their particular impact upon people.

Climate Change

Consideration of the impact by climate change in decision making and reporting has been considered.

Human Rights

None.

Crime and Disorder

None.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

Failure to meet BCF performance metrics could lead to increased scrutiny from NHSE/ I.

Procurement

None.