

Health and Wellbeing Board

5 March 2014

Better Care Fund



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Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the final Better Care Fund (BCF) (formerly Integration Transformation Fund) plan which has been provided to Durham, Darlington and Tees (DDT) Area Team by the deadline of 14th February 2014.

Background

2. In June 2013, the Government announced that it would be allocating £3.8 billion to a pooled budget, initially called the Integration Transformation Fund, now called the Better Care Fund (BCF). County Durham's allocation is £43.735m in 2015/16. The budget was to be deployed locally on health and social care initiatives through pooled budget arrangements from 2015/16. The BCF will support the aim of providing people with the right care, in the right place, at the right time, including a significant emphasis upon care in community settings, with the express aim of reducing admissions and readmissions to secondary care and alleviating pressures on the acute sector.
3. There is a requirement to prepare two-year plans, covering the period 2014/15 and 2015/16, which must be in place by March 2014. All plans will be subject to assurance which will be locally led by NHS England Area Teams with local government regional peers (which includes the chair of the North East Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and Director of Public Health), who will be responsible for assessing progress of all Health and Wellbeing Boards and identifying areas in need of support.
4. Nationally, the Local Government Association and NHS England will compile the local assurance reports from Area Teams and regional local government peers into a national overview report. Ministers will agree local plans and next steps based on the national summary reports; however they will not communicate directly with Health and Wellbeing Boards unless it is upon the advice of the national team.

5. There will be no funding penalty linked to performance and outcomes in 2015/16, as previous guidance has indicated; however, support from NHS England and the Local Government Association will be available for areas where Area Teams and local government peer assurance raise significant concerns about local plans. At present, no decision has been made in relation to any funding penalty based on performance from 2016/17.
6. Due to tight timescales the Health and Wellbeing Board received a report at its development session on 21 January 2014 relating to the Better Care Fund including the draft BCF plan templates:
 - Part 1 – a word document including the narrative
 - Part 2 – an excel spreadsheet which contained the metrics and finance elements in the BCF.
7. Each of the suggested work programmes has been developed based on a wide range of initiatives which meet the requirements of the Better Care Fund. The initiatives have also been aligned to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
8. The Health and Wellbeing Board agreed:
 - The vision for the BCF in County Durham
“Improve the health and wellbeing of the people of County Durham and reduce health inequalities”
 - The aim and objectives of the BCF:
Improve the health and wellbeing of the people of County Durham by innovating and transforming services with a focus on improved outcomes, prevention and integration, reducing reliance on long term health and social care, maintaining the independence of our population. The objectives outlined in the BCF plan are the same as those identified in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy as follows:
 - Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life
 - Reduce health inequalities and early deaths
 - Improve quality of life, independence and care and support for people with long term conditions
 - Improve the mental and physical wellbeing of the population
 - Protect vulnerable people from harm
 - Support people to die in the place of their choice with the care and support that they need

- The five priorities for transformation:
 - Intermediate Care
 - Support for care homes
 - Non Fair Access to Care Services (FACS) reablement
 - Combating social isolation
 - Seven day services

- The seven work programmes and levels of investment:
 - **Short term intervention services** which includes intermediate care community services, reablement, falls and occupational therapy services (**£13,427,741**)
 - **Equipment and adaptations for independence** which includes telecare, disability adaptations and the Home Equipment Loans Service (**£8,562,370**)
 - **Supporting independent living** which includes mental health prevention services, floating support and supported living and community alarms and wardens (**£5,004,959**)
 - **Supporting Carers** which includes carers breaks, carer's emergency support and support for young carers (**£1,361,000**)
 - **Social isolation** which includes local coordination of an asset based approach to increase community capacity and resilience to provide low level services (**£1,121,000**)
 - **Care home support** which includes care home and acute and dementia liaison services (**£1,774,000**)
 - **Transforming care** which includes maintaining the current level of eligibility criteria, the development of IT systems to support joint working and implementing the Care Bill (**£12,483,930**)

- The outcomes / metrics:
 - Permanent Admissions of older people (aged 65 and over) to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population
 - Proportion of older people (65 and over) who are still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services
 - Delayed Transfers of Care from hospital per 100,000 population (average per month)
 - Avoidable Emergency Admissions (composite measure)
 - The number of carers who are very/extremely satisfied with the support or services that they receive
 - The Number of People in receipt of Telecare per 100,000 population

- To delegate the final technical aspects of the BCF plan completion to the Corporate Director of Children & Adults Services, Durham County Council, the Chief Clinical Officer, DDES CCG, and the Chief Operating Officer, ND CCG in conjunction with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Better Care Fund

9. Further work has continued through the Better Care Fund Task and Finish Group, chaired by the Head of Finance, Durham County Council and includes senior finance and commissioning colleagues from the Local Authority, North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield CCG's and representation from the NHS England Area Team.

Final BCF plan

10. The completed BCF plan for County Durham, which has been sent to the DDT Area Team to comply with the 14th February 2014 deadline can be found in Appendix 2, Part 1 and 2.

Section 256 agreement

11. At the meeting on 15th November 2013, the Health and Wellbeing Board agreed that Social Care Funding transferring from NHS England (under a Section 256 agreement) for 2013/14 would be used under the following broad headings:
 - Eligibility (£4m)
 - Prevention (£3.1m)
 - Short term assessment & intervention (£3m)
12. It was also noted that the Council and the CCG's agreed in principle that the Section 256 agreement could be extended to cover the financial period 2014/15 as the proposed spending plans would not vary significantly.
13. Since this report was submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board, Section 256 funding for 2014/15 has been confirmed as £12.936 million and it is proposed that the Section 256 agreement for 2014/15 is updated to reflect this.
14. It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board delegate the power to update the s256 schedule for 2014/15 to the Corporate Director, Children and Adult Services, Durham County Council, the Chief Clinical Officer, DDES CCG and the Chief Operating Officer, ND CCG in consultation with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board as outlined in the BCF plan.

Next Steps

15. Next steps in relation to Better Care Fund plan are outlined below:

- **5 March 2014** - Health and Wellbeing Board to receive finalised BCF plans and related local performance indicators for ratification.
- **4 April 2014** - Final BCF plan submitted to NHS England by the Area Team.
- **Week commencing 21st April** – Plans and support requirements signed off by Ministers and communication to local areas and regional peers

Recommendations

16. The Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to:

- Ratify the Better Care Fund Plan for County Durham
- Delegate the power to update the s256 schedule for 2014/15 to the Corporate Director, Children and Adult Services, Durham County Council, the Chief Clinical Officer, DDES CCG and the Chief Operating Officer, ND CCG in consultation with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - The report sets out proposals for the deployment of the pooled budget arrangements in 2015/16 linked to the establishment Better Care Fund (BCF) to be deployed locally on health and social care through pooled budget arrangements from 2015/16.

The national allocation, which has been top sliced from existing funding streams received by local authorities and CCG's, is £3.8 billion.

On 18 December 2013 the Local Government Finance Settlement covering the period 2014/15 and 2015/16 was published. Social Care funding allocations to DCC in 2014/15 were as expected (£12.936m) and the revenue element of the BCF in 2015/16 (which includes the DCC Social Care Funding of £12.936m) was confirmed as being £39.193m.

Indicative 2015/16 capital allocations for Disabled Facilities Grant (£2.970m) and Community Capacity Grant (£1.572m), which also form part of the pooled budget, have been released. The BCF planning total is therefore £43.735m in 2015/16.

The new funding will, at least in part, be required to offset / protect adult social care services from the impact of on-going austerity programme cuts on local government funding.

Staffing - Workforce capacity and capability has been highlighted as an issue across the health and care system when the BCF plans are implemented.

Risk - The Health and Wellbeing Board need to jointly agree a local BCF proposal for County Durham, which sets out how the pooled funding will be used and the ways in which the national and local targets attached to the performance-related £1 billion will be met. The new funding arrangements facilitate a £1.9 billion funding transfer from the NHS (CCG's) current budgets to facilitate joint working with and ease pressures on adult social care budgets and as such requires careful planning.

All plans will be subject to local assurance by NHS England Area Teams with local government regional peers and where significant concern are raised support will be available from NHS England and the Local Government Association.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - As a public body, the Council must take into account the Equality Act 2010, a consolidating Act which brings together previous Acts dealing with discrimination. Decisions must be reviewed for potential impact on persons with "protected characteristics". An Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment will need to be carried out, as appropriate.

Accommodation - No implications at this stage.

Crime and Disorder - No implications at this stage.

Human Rights - No implications at this stage.

Consultation - Consultation will be undertaken through the Health and Wellbeing Board, Officer Group and within the respective partner authorities.

Procurement - No implications at this stage.

Disability Issues - No implications at this stage

Legal Implications - The report sets out the requirement to establish a plan for how the Better Care Fund (BCF) will be deployed in County Durham in order to meet the Governments requirements.