

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

12 SEPTEMBER 2017

BETTER CARE FUND

Report from: Ian Sutherland: Director of Children and Adults Services

Authors: John Britt: Head of Adults' (25+) Partnership Commissioning and Better Care Fund

Summary

This report presents Medway's Better Care Fund plan for 2017 – 2019.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is an ambitious programme spanning both the NHS and local government. It is the only mandatory policy to facilitate integration between health and care to deliver person centered and coordinated services.
- 1.2 The BCF encourages integration by requiring CCGs and Local Authorities to enter into pooled budget arrangements and agree an integrated spending plan.
- 1.3 The Better Care Fund (BCF) in Medway is a joint plan between NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG) and Medway Council with Medway NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) as a key stakeholder.
- 1.4 A pooled budget for the Better Care Fund is administered in accordance with a Section 75 agreement between the CCG and the Council. For 2017 – 2018 the proposed BCF budget is £24,531,862 incorporating £3,962,308 additional funding for iBCF.
- 1.5 The proposed pooled BCF budget for 2018 – 19 is £26,368,341 incorporating iBCF funds of £5,151,562.
- 1.6 The current BCF planning phase covers two years, 2017 – 2019. A revised BCF policy framework was issued on 31 March 2017, however, the final planning template, full guidance, funding details, and approval and submission dates were delayed until July 2017.
- 1.7 The submission date for the return of the completed template to NHSE is 11 September. This means that the BCF plan return has to be with NHSE before it can be reviewed and supported by the Health and Wellbeing Board. We have told NHSE that this support will be confirmed later.

2. Background

- 2.1 Until the Spring Budget announcement, it is important to note that BCF funding was not new money, but a transfer of money between the NHS and Local Authorities. The funding can be used to support existing or new services or develop transformation programmes, where such programmes are of benefit to the wider health and social care system and positive outcomes for service users have been identified.
- 2.2 The new iBCF grant has a number of conditions attached, to ensure that the money is spent on adult social care services and supports improved performance at the health and social care interface. These include:
- (i) The funding is to be spent on adult social care and used for the purposes of meeting adult social care needs, reducing pressures on the NHS, including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready and stabilising the social care market.
 - (ii) A recipient local authority must:
 - a) Pool the grant funding into the BCF
 - b) Work with the relevant clinical commissioning group (CCG) and providers to meet National Condition 4 (Managing Transfers of Care) in the Integration and BCF Policy Framework and Planning Requirements 2017-19; and
 - c) Provide quarterly reports as required to the Secretary of State
- 2.3 Medway's Joint Commissioning Management Group (JCMG) was established to lead on all elements of joint commissioning between the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group, including BCF. This has enabled the sharing of information to inform local plans across the system and provided the flexibility to adapt to changes in need, performance or circumstance. This joint approach also ensures that the separate CCG and Council governance processes are fully informed e.g. the Health and Wellbeing Board, Medway CCG's Governing Body, Medway Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.
- 2.4 A number of innovative programmes have been initiated through the Medway BCF to reduce the pressure across the health and social care system. These include:
- The introduction of a new Care Navigation Service in May 2015.
 - The reconfiguration of Medway's equipment service into one cohesive offer: Medway Integrated Community Equipment Service – MICES from July 2016.
 - The introduction of Home First, Medway's 'discharge to assess' initiative in April 2016 which enables the focus to move from a bed-based health and care economy towards one which is needs-based.
 - The commissioning of a new Intermediate Care and Reablement service in October 2016.
 - Working with the Acute Trust and the community providers to develop the next stage of community discharge services, which will provide community-based support for assessments out of the acute setting from October 2017.

2.5 BCF initiatives also aim to improve the experience of those Medway residents in receipt of support from the health and social care system. Much effort has been made to ensure that respective parts of the health and social care system do not work in silos:

- The use of the NHS number across systems has been a BCF National Condition since inception, Medway Council is now 98% compliant with this condition in terms of the records relating to people supported. This means that the information about the service people receive from the Council is in line with services provided by the health economy.
- The Care Navigator service has been expanded to include discharges from IDT, engagement with the Home First service, and has the potential to impact positively on aspects of the Patient / Family Choice process which is a key cause of delayed discharge.
- Support for community-based programmes such as MEGAN and DERiC has been enhanced.
- We continue to work with Carers and Carer organisations in Medway to understand how the co-production of a new carer's strategy can be achieved.
- A new Young Carer's service has been commissioned.

3. Development of BCF Plan for 2017 – 2019

3.1 Due to the announcement of a general election on 8 June, there was uncertainty to the date of publication for final BCF guidance and this meant the final planning template was delayed until July 2017. The submission date for our final agreed plan is 11 September.

3.2 There are four national conditions which our BCF plan must meet:

- 1: A jointly agreed plan.
- 2: NHS contribution to social care is maintained in line with inflation.
- 3: Agreement to invest in NHS-commissioned out-of-hospital services.
- 4: Implementation of the High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfers of Care.

The BCF plan for 2017 – 2019 includes:

- Confirmation that the plan is jointly agreed between the Council, the CCG and the partners involved in delivery such as the Acute Trust.
- The iBCF plan details how the additional funds are being used to support discharge through enhancing provision in the care market.
- The proposals to trail a community discharge hub to enhance the care of frail and vulnerable people to make sure the care they receive is tailored to their needs.
- How we will continue to drive down discharge delays to ensure Medway meets the agreed target.

The proposed budget for the BCF 2017 – 2019 is set out below:

Funding	2017/18	2018/19
DFG gross contribution	£1,854,496	£2,017,933
Local Authority Contribution	£1,854,496	£2,017,933
iBCF Contribution	£3,962,308	£5,151,562
CCG Minimum Contribution	£16,860,562	£17,180,913
TOTAL	£24,531,862	£26,368,341

The budget may change in that the funding for the Transforming Care Programme, which is yet to be finalised, will also be included within the BCF for governance purposes.

4. Risk management

- 4.1 Risk management is an integral part of the BCF plan and there is an embedded risk management plan within the Section 75 pooled budget agreement which has previously been endorsed by this Board.
- 4.2 The pooled fund for 2017 – 2019 will be managed through the creation of a new S75 agreement.
- 4.3 The majority of services within the BCF Plan are currently operational, and risks already assessed and owned. In the case of new services or major variations to existing services, business cases will be developed to ensure that they are fully costed, outcomes clearly stated and risks fully assessed. Business plans and Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) will be agreed by the Joint Commissioning Management Group. These plans will include robust mobilisation plans for each project, including key milestones, impacts and risks.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The BCF plan for 2017-19 has been drafted by the Council and CCG in partnership and draws on existing consultation and needs analysis. Key projects within the BCF will each develop Project Initiation Documents which will require a focus on engagement with service users and carers in line with best practice.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1 The finances of the BCF are contained within a Section 75 agreement. It is proposed that this will be extended to include the additional funds made available through the iBCF programme.

7. Legal implications

7.1 There are no legal implications for the Board arising from this report.

8. Recommendations

8.1 The Board is requested to note the report and support Medway's BCF plan for 2017-19.

Lead officer contact

John Britt, Head of Adults' (25+) Partnership Commissioning and Better Care Fund
Telephone: 01634 337219 E-mail: john.britt@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1 - BCF narrative plan – Appendix to follow

Background papers

None.