

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ADULT CARE AND HEALTH SERVICES

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| TO: | HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD | | |
| DATE: | 06 OCTOBER 2017 | AGENDA ITEM: | 13 |
| TITLE: | BETTER CARE FUND SUBMISSION & PERFORMANCE UPDATE | | |
| LEAD COUNCILLOR: | CLLR HOSKIN / CLLR EDEN | PORTFOLIO: | HEALTH / ADULT SOCIAL CARE |
| SERVICE: | ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH | WARDS: | ALL |
| LEAD OFFICER: | SEONA DOUGLAS | TEL: | 0118 937 2094 |
| JOB TITLE: | Director Adult Care and Health Services | E-MAIL: | seona.douglas@reading.gov.uk |

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Better Care Fund (BCF) submission.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the general progress to date.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is the biggest ever financial incentive for the integration of health and social care. It requires Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) and Local Authorities to pool budgets and to agree an integrated spending plan for how they will use their BCF allocation to promote / deliver on integration ambitions.
- 3.2 As in previous years, the BCF has a particular focus on initiatives aimed at reducing the level of avoidable hospital stays and delayed transfers of care as well a number of national conditions that partners must adhere to. These National conditions have been revised and streamlined for the 2017-19 period and are now as follows:
- Plans to be jointly agreed (Local areas must ensure that their Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan covers the minimum of the pooled fund specified, and the Plan should be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board or by delegated authority, and by the constituent councils and Clinical Commissioning Groups.
 - NHS contribution to adult social care is maintained in line with inflation (The NHS contribution to adult social care at a local level must be increased by 1.79% and 1.9% (in line with the increases applied to the money CCGs must pool) in 2017-18 and in 2018-19 respectively).
 - Agreement to invest in NHS commissioned out of hospital services, which may include 7 day services and adult social care

- Managing Transfers of Care through the adoption of the National best practice “High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfer of Care”

4. PROGRESS UPDATE

- 4.1 The BCF Submission documents were assembled under the oversight of the outgoing Integration Programme Manager, Tony Marvell.
- 4.2 A draft of the document was submitted to Reading’s NHS England Senior Relationship Manager, Kevin Johnson, on Thursday 31st August. During a feedback conversation on Friday 1st September, positive feedback was delivered praising the document’s content, together with some suggested areas that could be expanded.
- 4.3 This additional content was developed and inserted during the w/c 4th September 2017. A final draft was subsequently circulated amongst the CCG and LA Directors for comment / amendments, which were duly made.
- 4.4 A final draft was signed-off by Cllr Hoskin and Dr Winfield (Chief Officer of the North, West and South CCGs) and submitted to NHS England on Monday 11th September 2017.
- 4.5 Kevin Johnson has confirmed receipt of the submission, and has noted that the submission evidences a high level of joint effort from both the CCGs and the LA.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The BCF Submission documents will be considered by Kevin Johnson. In October, we will be informed as to whether the submission is:
 - Approved.
 - Approved with conditions - in which case the LA and CCGs will be given 3 months to improve the submission with active support from NHSE.
 - Rejected.
- 5.2 Members of the Health & Wellbeing Board who have been actively involved in the submission process (primarily the CCG Directors for South, North and West and the LA Director for Adults Social Care & Health) will be kept abreast of the outcome and any associated actions. Updates will provided at future Reading Integration Board & Health and Wellbeing Board meetings.

6. BCF PERFORMANCE

- 6.1 A dashboard report summarising performance against key targets for the Better Care Fund (such as delayed transfer of care rates) is attached, covering the period April - June 2017.
- 6.2 A dashboard report summarising performance against key targets for the Better Care Fund across Quarter 2 (July-September) will presented at December’s Health & Wellbeing Board.

7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 7.1 N/A - no new proposals or decisions recommended / requested.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 Members are under a legal duty to comply with the public sector equality duties set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The relevant provisions are as set out below.

Section 149 (1) - A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Section 149 (7) - The relevant protected characteristics are:

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

In order to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty, Members must seek to prevent discrimination, and protect and promote the interests of vulnerable groups who may be adversely affected by the proposals. Members must be therefore give conscious and open minded consideration to the impact of the duty when reaching any decision in relation to the Better Care Fund and Integration programmes. The Public Sector Equality Duty (S.149) to pay 'due regard' to equalities duties is higher in cases where there is an obvious impact on protected groups. This duty, however, remains one of process and not outcome.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 N/A - no new proposals or decisions recommended / requested.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The Reading Better Care Fund pooled fund is expected to see a small underspend of £115k. No new funding decisions are being requested through this report.

- 10.2 In line with the governance arrangements set out in the s75 pooled budget agreement, use of any underspends is subject to unanimous agreement of the contracting partners (CCG and LA). In line with these arrangements the Reading Integration Board will formulate and approve the use of any spends and update the HWBB, as required.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 BCF Dashboard.