

Health and Wellbeing Board

Warwickshire Better Together Programme

6th January 2021

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 To note the update on the Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2020/21.
- 1.2 To note the update on the Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2021/22.
- 1.3 To note the progress of the Better Together Programme in 2020/21 to improve performance against the four national Better Care Fund areas of focus.
- 1.4 To confirm sign-off arrangements by the Sub-Committee or deferral to the March Board.

2. Executive Summary

Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2020/21

- 2.1 Earlier in the year, the Health and Wellbeing Board was advised that the BCF policy and planning requirements would not be published during the initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic and local areas should prioritise continuity of provision, social care capacity and system resilience.
- 2.2 On the 4th December 2020 it was confirmed that, given the ongoing pressures on systems, formal BCF plans for 2020/21 will not have to be submitted to NHS England and NHS Improvement for approval. Instead local areas must, ensure that use of the mandatory funding contributions (Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) minimum contribution, improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) grant and the Disabled Facilities Grant) has been agreed in writing, and that the national conditions are met. This is currently in progress and due to the short timescales involved, an additional meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board Sub-Committee may be required if it is not possible to defer to the March Board.
- 2.3 In addition, Health and Wellbeing Boards will be required to provide an end of year reconciliation to NHS England / Improvement, confirming that the national conditions have been met, total spend from the mandatory funding sources and a breakdown of agreed spending on social care from the CCG minimum contribution.

- 2.4 In the meantime, as previously reported the schemes and priorities to be delivered this year, have already been agreed locally through the Better Together Programme and have continued to be commissioned and delivered, where possible to do so.

Discharge Policy Requirements

- 2.5 On the 21st August 2020, the updated NHS 'Hospital Discharge Service: Policy and Requirements' were published, which replaced the NHS 'COVID-19 Hospital Discharge Service Requirements' published during the initial COVID-19 emergency response on the 19th March 2020. This updated Policy set out the discharge requirements to 31st March 2021, for all NHS trusts, community interest companies, private care providers of acute, community beds and community health services and social care staff in England, and requirements around discharge for health and social care commissioners (including Clinical Commissioning Groups and local authorities).
- 2.6 In response the Better Together Programme has and continues to support, commissioners and delivery leads from Strategy and Commissioning and the Adult Social Care Team in the People Directorate at Warwickshire County Council, along with commissioners in the Clinical Commissioning Groups and delivery leads at South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust Out of Hospital Collaborative, to implement these requirements and in doing so support the acute hospitals to discharge patients requiring care and support safely.

Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2021/22

- 2.7 Areas have been advised that the Better Care Fund (BCF) Policy Framework will continue for a further year in 2021/22, supported by a one-year funding settlement. The Spending Review 2020 confirmed that the iBCF grant will continue in 2021 to 2022 and be maintained at its current level, and the Clinical Commissioning Group contribution will again increase by 5.3% in line with the NHS Long Term Plan settlement.
- 2.8 The Policy Framework is expected to be published in early 2021, although this is also dependent on and subject to change. At present it is unclear what changes there will be to the current conditions and metrics.

Project update

- 2.9 Some project activity also continues to progress. In December 2020 the Falls Prevention Project will commence a public campaign relating to healthy ageing which directly supports first or repeat fall prevention, as well as rolling-out frailty and falls prevention training and information for the workforce across the system about prevention support available for people at low, moderate or high risk of falls.

Performance update

- 2.10 Locally our plan for 2020/21 focusses our activities to improve our performance in the four key areas which are measured against the National Performance Metrics. These being:
- Reducing Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC) – currently suspended due to COVID-19
 - Reducing Non-Elective Admissions (General and Acute)
 - Reducing admissions to residential and care homes; and
 - Increasing effectiveness of reablement
- 2.11 A summary of performance against the four national areas of focus using the most recent data available:

Metric	Q2 20/21 performance where available	Target	Status
Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC)	Quarter 2 Actual: Data not available as not published by NHS E	44	n/a
Non-Elective Admissions	Quarter 2 Actual: 14,249	14,912	-0.1% (below / better than target)
Admissions to residential and care homes	Quarter 2 Actual: 155	182	-14.8% (below / better than target)
Effectiveness of reablement	2019/20 Actual: 94.5%	89%	5.8% (above / better than target)

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The programme and initiatives for its success are in part funded through national grants: Better Care Fund, Improved Better Care Fund and Winter Pressures Grant (2020/21: £57.6m). The former comes from the Department of Health and Social Care through Clinical Commissioning Groups, while the latter two are received by the local authority from the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. All three are dependent on meeting conditions that they contribute towards the programme and the targets, and that plans to this effect are jointly agreed between Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Local Authority under a pooled budget arrangement.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 None.

5. Supporting Information

Performance against the four national areas of focus using the latest confirmed data available.

b. Reducing Non-Elective Admissions (General and Acute)

- i) In quarter 2, Warwickshire non-elective admissions were 2.2% lower than the same period last year and 0.1% below target.

Non-Elective Admissions performance:

Quarter	Actual (lower is better)	Target	% over/below target
Q3 2019/20	14,520	14,031	3.5%
Q4 2019/20	13,717	14,120	-2.9%
Q1 2020/21	11,481	14,912	-23.0%
Q2 2020/21	14,249	14,912	-0.1%

NHS	65+ NEAs	All Age NEAs
SWCCG	-0.5%	-2.9%
WNCCG	-7.0%	-6.7%
Rugby	2.1%	8.7%
Total	-2.4%	-2.2%

- ii) All Age Non-elective admissions from Warwickshire North CCG have seen the greatest decrease in quarter 2 compared with the same quarter last year (-6.7%), compared to South Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group at -2.9% for all ages. Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group saw a 8.7% increase in all age non-elective admissions. Two of three areas also reported decreases in 65+ admissions. Warwickshire North CCG with the biggest decrease of 7.0% compared to the same quarter last year, South Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group being 0.5% lower than last year for the 65+ age group. Rugby saw an increase of 2.1% against the same period last year.

c. Reducing long term admissions to residential and nursing care 65+

- i) Permanent admissions were 9.7% lower than quarter 2 19/20 and 14.8% below target in quarter 2 2020/21.
- ii) The target for 2020/21 is 732 admissions per 100k population, which equates to a quarterly target of 182.

Quarter	Actual	Target (lower is better)	% over/below target
Q3 19/20	172	182	-5.5%
Q4 19/20	204	182	12.1%
Q1 20/21	144	182	-20.8%
Q2 20/21	155	182	-14.8%

d. Increasing the effectiveness of reablement

- i) This target measures the percentage of older people (65 and over) who are still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement or rehabilitative services. This target is an annual measure and performance for 2019/20 was 94.5%.

Year	Actual	Target (higher is better)	% over/below target
2017/18	93.0%	89%	4%
2018/19	96.8%	89%	8%
2019/20	94.5%	89%	5.8%

6. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 6.1 Members are requested to note the latest update on implementing the Better Care Fund in Warwickshire.

Appendices

1. None

Background Papers

1. None

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): None

Other members: Councillors Redford, Golby, Adkins and Roodhouse.