

Health and Wellbeing Board
Better Care Fund Plan Progress Report

7 July 2021

Recommendation(s)

1. The Board notes and comments upon the progress of the Better Together Programme in 2020/21 including reasons for changes in performance, against the national Better Care Fund areas of focus.
2. The Board notes and comments upon the update on the 2020/21 end of year report on the Better Care Fund.
3. The Board notes and comments upon the update on the Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2021/22.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund Plan, known locally as the Better Together Programme, includes the plan for resources made available through the additional social care monies (iBCF), Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and Clinical Commissioning Group contribution.

Better Together Programme Performance Update (Quarter 4 2020/21)

- 1.2 Locally our plan for 2020/21 focussed activities on improving our performance in the key areas which are measured against the National Performance Metrics. These being:
 - a. Reducing Non-Elective Admissions (General and Acute)
 - b. Reducing admissions to residential and care homes; and
 - c. Increasing effectiveness of reablement
- 1.3 A summary of performance against the national areas of focus, using the most recent data available, is provided below:

Metric	Q4 20/21 performance	Target	Status
Non-Elective Admissions	Quarter 4 Actual: 14,133	14,912	5.2% below (better than) target
Admissions to residential and	Quarter 4 Actual: 209	182	14.8% above target

care homes			
Effectiveness of reablement	2020/21 Actual: 93.6%	89%	5.1% below (better than) target

Discharge Policy Requirements

- 1.4 As previously advised the Better Together programme has continued to support implementation of the updated NHS 'Hospital Discharge Service: Policy and Requirements' published on the 21st August 2020. This updated Policy set out the operational 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). The programme will continue to support NHS and social care colleagues to deliver the requirements as well as implement any further changes required in the 2021/22 guidance.

Better Care Fund 2020/21 End of Year requirements

- 1.5 The Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on the 29th January 2021, approved the Better Care Fund Plan for 2020/21, and noted that whilst formal BCF plans did not have to be submitted to NHS England and NHS Improvement for approval, Health and Wellbeing Boards would for the first time, be required to provide an end of year reconciliation to NHS England / Improvement, confirming that the national conditions have been met, with total spend from the mandatory funding sources and a breakdown of agreed spending on social care from the CCG minimum contribution.
- 1.6 The Better Care Fund 2020/21 End of Year Template published on the 14th April 2021, set out the template for Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) to provide a summary end of year report on their Better Care Fund (BCF) plans. Our report was reviewed and approved prior to submission before the deadline of the 24th May 2021 by the following:
- a. Warwickshire County Council, People Directorate Leadership Team;
 - b. Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group; Executive Leadership Team
 - c. Warwickshire Joint Commissioning Board; and
 - d. Councillor Caborn, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board

Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2021/22

- 1.7 The Policy Framework is expected to be published during quarter 1 2021, although this is subject to change. At present whilst it is unclear what changes there will be to the current conditions and metrics, it has been confirmed that Health and Wellbeing Board areas will be required to submit Better Care Fund plans for approval by NHS England and Improvement.

Better Care Fund Plan for 2021/22

1.8 As well as continuing with existing schemes from the 2020/21 Better Care Fund plan, the Warwickshire Joint Commissioning Board have agreed that the following new schemes will be piloted in 2021/22:

- piloting a Mental Health / Learning Disability / Autism practitioner or professional resource in the Quality Assurance Team (c£42k); and
- following implementation of a new falls prevention pathway in December 2020, a contribution of £34k for the new falls care-coordination and Multi-Factorial Assessments approach delivered via the Integrated Single Point of Access for patients at moderate to high risk of falls.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 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: £59.2m). 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.

3. Environmental Implications

None.

4. Supporting Information

Performance against the three national areas of focus, using the latest confirmed data available, is provided below

It should be noted that performance across the four quarters in 2020/21 has been impacted by the associated phase/wave of the Covid 19 pandemic.

4.1 Reducing Non-Elective Admissions (General and Acute)

- i) In quarter 4 2020/21, Warwickshire non-elective admissions were 3% higher than the same period last year and 5.2% below (better than) target.

Non-Elective Admissions performance:

Quarter	Actual (lower is better)	Target	% over/below target
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Q1 2020/21	11,481	14,912	-23.0%
Q2 2020/21	14,249	14,912	-0.1%
Q3 2020/21	14,403	14,912	-3.4%
Q4 2020/21	14,133	14,912	-5.2%

NHS	65+ NEAs	All Age NEAs
SWCCG	3,540	6,785
WNCCG	2,466	4,888
Rugby	1,097	2,460
Total	7,103	14,133

- ii) SWCCG saw a 2.2% increase in all age admissions compared to the same quarter last year, however there was a minimal decrease in 65+ admissions (0.75% decrease). WNCCG also saw an increase in all age admissions against Q4 19/20 with a 4.5% increase, which was mainly due to an increase in 65+ admissions (+3.4%). Rugby also saw a +2.5% increase for all age admissions and a 2.4% increase in 65+ admissions compared to the same period last year.
- iii) Noting the impact of the Covid pandemic, the Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to consider how partners could support the identification and sharing of other reasons behind performance changes including, for example, increases in all age admissions.

4.2 Reducing long term admissions to residential and nursing care 65+

- i) Permanent admissions were 2.5% higher than quarter 4 19/20 and 14.8% above target in quarter 4 2020/21.
- ii) The target for 2020/21 was 732 admissions per 100k population, which equates to a quarterly target of 182.

Quarter	Actual	Target (lower is better)	% over/below target
Q1 20/21	144	182	-20.8%
Q2 20/21	155	182	-14.8%
Q3 20/21	196	182	7.6%
Q4 20/21	209	182	14.8%

4.3 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 2020/21 was 93.6% which was 5.1% better than target.

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%
2020/21	93.6%	89%	5.1%

5 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

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

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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

Local Member(s): None

Other members: Councillors Golby, Holland, Drew and Rolfe