

**Health and Wellbeing Board**  
**Warwickshire Better Together Programme**

12 January 2022

**Recommendation(s)**

That Health and Wellbeing Board:

1. Consider and support the draft list of schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) for 2022/23; and
2. Consider and comment on the proposed schemes to ensure that these contribute to the wider Health and Wellbeing Board's prevention priorities as well meeting the iBCF grant conditions as set out in the current national Better Care Fund (BCF) Policy Framework; and
3. Requests that a further update be provided to the Board, following publication of the national Better Care Fund Policy Framework for 2022/23 or equivalent replacement.

**1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 Similar to previous years, a draft list of schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund has been drafted in advance during quarter three of the preceding year. This gives sufficient time to enable discussions between partners to take place, contract extensions to be made to existing contracts where possible and necessary and for staff to ensure continuity of service, or sufficient notice to be given of services to be decommissioned.
- 1.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board when reviewing the Better Care Fund Plan Submission for 2021/22 at its meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 requested more involvement and engagement on the draft Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) plan for 2022/23. This report summarises the proposed plan, which mainly comprises the continuation of existing schemes.
- 1.3 As the Health and Wellbeing Board is already aware, the Better Care Fund Policy Framework is expected to be replaced in 2022/23. However until more detail is available and timescales are known, it is proposed to plan ahead as normal. The funding settlement for 2022/23 was published on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021, and so the initial draft plan has now been updated to reflect this. Following feedback from Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group, and Warwickshire County Council's Corporate Board, the draft iBCF plan will be amended before finalisation in early 2022.

## **2. Financial Implications**

- 2.1 The local authority funding settlement announced on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 included an allocation of £15.1m for the iBCF 2022/23. This represents a 3% increase from the previous year and is the first inflationary increase in four years. This will enable national living wage, inflation and associated salary increases for the majority of existing schemes to be covered.
- 2.2 It has been assumed that the same or similar grant conditions will apply in 2022/23 to those in previous years. The grant conditions for the iBCF in 2012/22 state that the funding may only be used for the purposes of:
- Meeting adult social care needs
  - Reducing pressures on the NHS, including seasonal winter pressures
  - Supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready
  - Ensuring that the social care provider market is supported.
- 2.3 iBCF funding can be allocated across any or all of the four purposes of the grant in a way that the Local Authority working with Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group, determines best meets local needs and pressures. No fixed proportion needs to be allocated across each of the purposes. The grant conditions for the iBCF also require that the local authority pool the grant funding into the local BCF, and report as required through BCF reporting
- 2.4 The iBCF is temporary and is awaiting finalisation of the national Social Care funding review. In order to counter the risk inherent in temporary funding, all new initiatives are temporary or commissioned with exit clauses. There are, however, a number of areas where the funding is being used to maintain statutory social care spending and this would require replacement funding if the Better Care Fund was removed without replacement. This particularly relates to the Stabilising the Market condition: fee rate increases and Meeting Social Care Needs condition: direct funding due to adult social care demand pressures. This risk is noted in Warwickshire County Council's annual and medium-term financial planning.

## **3. Environmental Implications**

- 3.1 None.

## **4. Supporting Information**

- 4.1 Draft summary of schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund or equivalent replacement in 2022/23:

<b>IBCF Grant Conditions</b>	<b>22/23 Budget Request £000s</b>	<b>21/22 Budget £000s</b>	<b>Variance £000s</b>
<b>Reducing Pressure on the NHS</b>	<b>3,994</b>	4,098	-104
<b>Stabilising the Market</b>	<b>6,642</b>	6,071	571
<b>Meeting Social Care Needs</b>	<b>4,327</b>	4,238	89
<b>Enabling Resource</b>	<b>281</b>	281	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,244</b>	<b>14,688</b>	
<b>Budget</b>	<b>15,132</b>	<b>14,688</b>	
<b>Variance</b>	<b>+112</b>	<b>0</b>	

- 4.2 A detailed breakdown of schemes to meet each condition are detailed in Appendix 1.
- 4.3 The proposals for 2022/23 include the following changes to the 2021/22 schemes:
- 4.3.1 Funding for the existing Restricted Mobility Pathway is not included due to the current discussions taking place with the CCG to provide a more sustainable source of health funding for this scheme.
  - 4.3.2 New for 2022/23 - Potentially extending the hospital to home service to include patients discharged home with either Reablement or CERT support, to enable reablement/rehabilitation to commence the same day.
  - 4.3.3 New for 2022/23 - a small fund to sustain an existing pilot which supports discharge and admission prevention by covering clearing & deep cleaning costs to properties to enable domiciliary care and NHS Community providers to access properties and provide support at home.
- 4.4 In previous years, delays and underspends to schemes have meant new initiatives have been scoped and agreed by the partnership Finance Sub-Group in year, to ensure funds are spent as per the conditions of the grant. The draft iBCF plan in appendix A is £0.1m (0.7%) more than funding, to pre-empt the need for this.

## **5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps**

- 5.1 To ensure continuity of service provision, a decision on the schemes funded from the existing iBCF grant is required by the end of quarter 4 of the preceding year (31/03/22) to ensure that there is sufficient time to give notice to commissioned services and staff of extensions or scheme closure.
- 5.2 Review and approval by both the Clinical Commissioning Group and Warwickshire County Council's Corporate Board will be progressed during January 2022.

## Appendices

1. Appendix 1 – Draft list of iBCF schemes for 2022/23

## Background Papers

1. None.

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

Local Member(s): n/a

Other members: ASCH OSC Chair and Spokes

APPENDIX 1 – DRAFT LIST OF IBCF SCHEMES FOR 2022/23

IBCF Grant Conditions	Scheme Ref:	Proposed Schemes	22/23 Budget Request £000s	21/22 Budget £000s	Variance £000s
<b>National Better Care Fund (BCF) Condition – Reducing Pressure on the NHS</b>			<b>3,994</b>	<b>4,098</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Reducing Length of Stay</b>  <b>Improving flow</b>  <b>Supporting discharge to usual place of residence</b>	W-IBCF 1-9	<p>Continuation of <b>existing schemes</b> including additional resources or support in acute or community-based hospital settings and schemes directly supporting discharge and flow. All schemes or services support South Warwickshire, Warwickshire North and Rugby Places unless indicated. This includes inflation and salary increases for:</p> <p><b>Hospital Based Schemes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social Care Staff working in the Hospital Social Care Team and resources to support Trusted Assessments</li> <li>- Housing Hospital Liaison Officers employed by District / Borough Councils</li> <li>- Hospital Social Prescribing Service</li> <li>- The Hospital to Home Service operated by Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Based Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commissioning staff working in the Domiciliary Care Referral Team, who broker and secure packages of care with the provider market</li> <li>- Moving on Beds (step down beds to support patient discharges with housing related and other complex issues)</li> <li>- Integrated Community Equipment (additional costs relating to inflation)</li> </ul> <p><u>New schemes</u> – extension to the hospital to home service and clearing &amp; deep cleaning costs to properties</p>	2,067	1,878	189
<b>Admissions Avoidance</b>	W- IBCF 10 - 18	<p>Continuation of <b>existing schemes</b> including specialist and targeted support and interventions in the community to support admission or readmission prevention. All schemes or services support South Warwickshire, Warwickshire North and Rugby Places unless indicated. This includes inflation and salary increases for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support for carers including short breaks for carers</li> <li>- Advocacy related services include the acute based advocacy service</li> <li>- Occupational Therapy team</li> <li>- End of Life rapid response team -</li> </ul>	1,927	1,848	79

		hospice costs - Falls prevention - contribution to community based care co-ordination for moderate and high risk - Mental Health Street Triage - Community Outreach Offer for adults with autism Residential respite - enabling the local authority to cease charging based on standard residential care protocols Joint Commissioning activity and resource - contribution			
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IBCF Grant Conditions	Scheme Ref:	Proposed Schemes	22/23 Budget Request £000s	21/22 Budget £000s	Variance £000s
<b>National Better Care Fund (BCF) Condition – Stabilising the Market</b>			<b>6,642</b>	<b>6,071</b>	<b>571</b>
<b>Fee rates / increases</b>	W -IBCF 19 - 21	Continuation of <b>existing schemes</b> and contributions to protect Adult Social Care older people community care budgets due to necessary fee rate increases, and NHS budgets by providing night support in Extra Care Housing Settings. All schemes or services support South Warwickshire, Warwickshire North and Rugby Places unless indicated.  <u><b>Contribution to base budget pressures</b></u> Residential and nursing care Care at home including domiciliary care, supported living and sleeping nights  Extra Care Housing waking nights cover including extension to an additional scheme - Farmers Court	5,752	5,199	553
<b>Market support and development</b>	W -IBCF 22 - 24	Schemes to support and stabilise the Provider Market. All schemes or services support South Warwickshire, Warwickshire North and Rugby Places unless indicated. This includes inflation and salary increases for:  The provider Learning and Development Partnership; and Additional OT and specialist quality assurance resource and expertise	890	852	18

IBCF Grant Conditions	Scheme Ref:	Proposed Schemes	22/23 Budget Request £000s	21/22 Budget £000s	Variance £000s
<b>National Better Care Fund (BCF) Condition – Meeting Social Care Needs</b>			<b>4,327</b>	<b>4,238</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Supporting adult social care pressures</b>	W -IBCF 25 - 28	Continuation of <b>direct funding contributions due to demand pressures</b> relating to older people community care budgets, social care capacity and housing related support; and <b>sustaining existing dementia schemes</b> (day opportunities, navigators and carers support).	4,327	4,238	89
<b>Enabling Resource</b>			<b>281</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Support</b>	W -IBCF 29 & 30	These schemes fund the resources (programme, project, analytical, insight and comms) to meet the BCF governance and reporting requirements relating to the Better Together Programme, Joint Commissioning Board, Housing Partnership and system wide operational improvements to support discharge.	281	281	0
<b>Total</b>			15,244	14,688	
<b>Budget</b>			15,132	14,688	
<b>Variance</b>			<b>112</b>		