

Health and Wellbeing Board

11 January 2023

Better Care Fund - Update, Planning for 23/24 and Adult Social Care Hospital Discharge Fund

Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

1. Note the progress of the Better Together Programme in 2022/23 to improve performance against the four national Better Care Fund areas of focus;
2. Support the approach to reviewing and agreeing the list of schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) for 2023/24;
3. Provide feedback 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;
4. Support the plan to be funded from the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund to 31/03/23, approved under delegation by the Health and Wellbeing Board Sub-Committee on 16th December 2022; and
5. Note that a further update will be provided to the Board, following publication of the national Better Care Fund Policy Framework for 2023/24.

1. Executive Summary

Performance Update

- 1.1 Locally our Better Care Fund plan for 2022/23 focusses our activities to improve performance in the four key areas which are measured against the National Performance Metrics. These being:
 - a. Reducing Non-Elective Admissions (General and Acute)
 - b. Improving the proportion of people discharged home to their usual place of residence
 - c. Reducing permanent admissions to residential and care homes; and
 - d. Increasing effectiveness of reablement

1.2 A summary of performance against the four national areas of focus using the most recent data available:

Metric	22/23 performance where available	Target	Status
Reducing Avoidable Admissions (General and Acute)	Quarter 2 Actual: 1,162	1,213	Under (better than) target
Improving the proportion of people discharged home to their usual place of residence	Quarter 2 Actual: 95.6%	95.5%	On target
Reducing permanent admissions to residential and care homes; and	Quarter 2 Actual: 131	182	Under (better than) target
Increasing effectiveness of reablement	2021/22 Actual: 94.5% YTD: Data for 22/23 not available until May 23	94.2%	N/A

Draft List of Schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund

- 1.3 Similar to previous years, a draft list of schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund has been prepared in advance during quarter three of the preceding year, to give sufficient time for discussions between partners to take place, contracts to be extended including those with staff to ensure continuity of service; or notice to be given of services to be decommissioned.
- 1.4 When preparing the list of schemes, the local authority and Integrated Care Board (ICB) has carried out an in-depth review of twenty of the thirty schemes currently funded from the Improved Better Care Fund. The context to the review is that the majority of schemes have been in place for a number of years now and cost pressures to both the local authority and ICB have been created by the ending of the national Hospital Discharge Grant (introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic) on 31/03/22. A similar exercise has also been carried out in Coventry. The review commenced in October 2022.
- 1.5 The review has focussed on assuring that schemes continue to meet the BCF conditions, are aligned to current system pressures/priorities, are demonstrating impact and are as efficient and effective as possible; taking into account whether there are alternative ways of achieving similar outcomes or alternative funding arrangements.
- 1.6 As the review is concluding at the time of writing this report, an update on the proposed list of schemes will be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board at the meeting on the 11th January 2023. In the meantime, key findings from the review so far indicate that potential efficiencies could be released to cover cost pressures, for some of the following schemes:

- W-IBCF 3 - Hospital Based Social Prescribing

- W-IBCF 4 - Trusted Assessors
- W-IBCF 6 - Hospital to Home Service
- W-IBCF 12 - OT capacity
- W-IBCF 22 - Provider Learning and Development
- W-IBCF 29 - Communications Support
- W-IBCF 30 - Support

1.7 Where possible, alternative funding, including more permanent funding arrangements are also being considered for the following schemes:

- W-IBCF 2 - Housing Hospital Liaison
- W-IBCF 8 – Integrated Community Equipment contract increases (WCC & ICB)
- W-IBCF 9 - Clearing/deep cleaning properties
- W-IBCF 14 - Falls prevention
- W-IBCF 15 - Mental Health Street Triage
- W-IBCF 16 - Adults with Autism
- W-IBCF 17 - Residential Respite Care Charging Policy
- W-ICBF 24 - Market Sustainability

1.8 A copy of the current list of schemes funded from the iBCF in 2022/23 is attached as Appendix 1. Proposed changes to this for 2023/24 will be provided at the meeting on the 11th January 2023.

Adult Social Care Discharge Fund

1.9 On the 18th November 2022, the allocations, conditions and metrics for the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund were published by the Department for Health and Social Care.

1.10 The fund can be used flexibly on the interventions that best enable the discharge of patients from hospital to the most appropriate location for their ongoing care, up to and including, 31st March 2023.

1.11 £1.862m was allocated to Warwickshire County Council Adult Social Care, and £6.715m allocated to Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board, with the split for Warwickshire to be agreed locally. 40% of the funding will be received in early December, with the remaining 60% to follow in January, subject to the conditions and reporting requirements being met. These funds are expected to be pooled with the Better Care Fund pooled budgets.

1.12 Spending plans needed to be agreed by both the local authority and Integrated Care Board and submitted to the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England by 16th December 2022.

Deadline	Requirement
16 Dec 22	Submission of agreed spending plans - completed
6 Jan 23	First of fortnightly activity reports, setting out what activities

	have been delivered in line with spending plan
2 May 23	Final spend report, as part of BCF End of Year Submission

1.13 To achieve this, in line with delegation of the Health and Wellbeing Board, a Sub-Committee of the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund Plan on the 16th December 2022.

1.14 A summary of Warwickshire’s plan is attached as Appendix 2.

2. Financial Implications

2022/23

- 2.1 - The Improved Better Care Fund allocation for 2022/23 is £15.132m.
- The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund allocation for 2022/23 announced on the 18th November 2022 is £5.960m, comprising of:
- £1.862m from the local authority allocation; and
 - £4.098m from the Integrated Care Board allocation.

2023/24

- The Improved Better Care Fund allocation for 2023/24 has not yet been published and so planning will commence based on the current allocation.
- The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund or equivalent allocation for 2023/24 has also not yet been published.
- 2.2 The iBCF is temporary. 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 adult social care spending and this would require replacement funding if the Better Care Fund was removed without replacement. This risk continues to be noted in Warwickshire County Council’s annual and medium-term financial planning.

3. Environmental Implications.

3.1 None.

4. Supporting Information

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

- 4.1 Reducing Avoidable Admissions (General and Acute)
Year to date (April 2022 to October 2022), unplanned hospitalisations for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions in Warwickshire were 11.9% lower than the same period last year and 0.1% below target.

Quarter	Actual (lower is better)	Target	% below target
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Q1 2022/23	1,212	1,213	-0.08%
Q2 2022/23	1,162	1,213	-4.4%

4.2 Improving the proportion of people discharged home to their usual place of residence

Year to date (April 2022 to October 2022), the proportion of people discharged home to their usual place of residence in Warwickshire was 0.1% lower than the same period last year and 0.25% above (better than) target.

Quarter	Actual (higher is better)	Target	% over target
Q1 2022/23	95.8%	95.5%	0.3%
Q2 2022/23	95.6%	95.5%	0.1%

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

Year to date (April 2022 to October 2022), permanent admissions were 25.4% lower than the same period last year and 3.1% above target.

The target for 2022/23 is 732 admissions per 100k population, which equates to a quarterly target of 182.

Quarter	Actual (lower is better)	Target	% over/under target
Q1 22/23	191	182	4.9%
Q2 22/23	131	182	-28%

4.4 Increasing the effectiveness of reablement

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 2021/22 was 93.7%.

Year	Actual (higher is better)	Target	% over target
2019/20	94.5%	89%	5.8%
2020/21	93.6%	89%	5.1%
2021/22	93.7%	91.7%	2%

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

Better Care Fund Plan 2022/23

- 5.1 At the time of writing this report, confirmation has still not been received from NHS England, that our Better Care Plan for this year has met the planning requirements and conditions and has been approved. The deadline for receipt of this was 30th November 2022.
- 5.2 As in previous years, a Section 75 Legal Agreement will underpin the financial pooling arrangements, including for the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund outlined in sections 1.9 to 1.13. This cannot be signed until our Plan has been nationally approved. The intention is that the Section 75 agreement will be finalised and signed by 31st January 2023.

Better Care Fund Policy Framework 2023/24

- 5.3 As the Health and Wellbeing Board is already aware, the Better Care Fund Policy Framework is not usually published in advance of the year it relates to. Therefore, as in previous years, until more detail is available and timescales are known, it is proposed to plan ahead as normal. At the time of writing this report the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) settlement for 2023/24 has not been published, and so the draft iBCF plan for 2023/24 will be prepared based on the current allocation. Following feedback from Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board, and Warwickshire County Council's Corporate Board later in January, the draft iBCF plan will then be amended before finalisation in early 2023.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1 - Current iBCF list of schemes and draft changes.
2. Appendix 2 – ASC Discharge Fund Plan to 31/03/23.

Background Papers

1. None.
2. None.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Rachel Briden, Integrated Partnership Manager	rachelbriden@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Becky Hale Chief Commissioning Officer (Health and Care)	beckyhale@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director for People	Nigel Minns	nigelminns@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care & Health	Councillor Margaret Bell	margaretbell@warwickshire.gov.uk

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

Local Member(s):

Other members: