

**Report of: NHS Islington Clinical Commissioning Group**

<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b>	<b>Date: 22 November 2018</b>	<b>Ward(s): All</b>
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**SUBJECT: Better Care Fund 2018 / 19**
**1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme spanning both the NHS and local government which seeks to join-up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing, and live independently in their communities for as long as possible.
- 1.2 The BCF represents a collaboration between NHS England, Department for Communities and Local Government, Department of Health and the Local Government Association (LGA). The four partners work closely together to help local areas plan and implement integrated health and social care services across England, in line with the vision outlined in the NHS Five Year Forward View.
- 1.3 The BCF encourages integration by requiring CCGs and local authorities to enter into pooled budgets arrangements and agree an integrated spending plan. Annually, over £6 billion is pooled in the BCF nationally. Locally, the Islington pool is as below. Note that the current plan is in year two (2018/19) of a two year plan.

**Table 1: Source of BCF Funds**

	<b>2017/18 Gross Contribution (£k)</b>	<b>2018/19 Gross Contribution (£k)</b>
Total Local Authority Contribution exc iBCF	£1,451	£1,584
Total iBCF Contribution	£7,339	£10,157
Total CCG Contribution	£17,398,	£17,729
<b>Total</b>	<b>£26,189</b>	<b>£29,471</b>

**Table 2: Application of BCF Funds**

<b>Scheme Name</b>	<b>2017/18 Expenditure (£k)</b>	<b>2018/19 Expenditure (£k)</b>
Protection of Adult Social Services	£7,861	£7,861
Reablement	£1,200	£1,200
Carers	£246	£246
Care Act	£663	£663
Disabled Facilities Grant	£1,452	£1,584
Information Technology	£600	£600
Out of Hospital Services	£6,828	£7,159
Improved Better Care Fund	£1,269	£6,457
Additional Funding for Social Care	£6,070	£3,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>£26,189</b>	<b>£29,470</b>

(discrepancies due to rounding)

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To Note the update on the local Better Care Fund for 2018/19.
- 2.2 To Note that we are not yet bringing forward plans for 2019/20 for the Better Care Fund. This is because national guidance for the BCF for beyond April has not yet been made available.

## 3. Background and Achievements to Date

- 3.1 The governance arrangements for the Better Care Fund are overseen by the Section 75 Pooled Budget Group between the Local Authority and the CCG.
- 3.2 Currently, as of Q2, the BCF is forecasting successful delivery of 3 of 4 key targets as follows. Numbers given after each target indicates the performance as of Q2 against target.
  - Non Elective Admissions (4905 against 5038 target)
  - Admissions to Care Homes (30 against 35 target)
  - Proportion of people still at home 91 days after Reablement (97.9% against 95% target)

Unfortunately, we missed the DTOC target (1570 days against Q1 target of 1406). Our planned mitigations include

- Continued development of Discharge to Assess Pathways (ongoing)
- Review of DTOC escalation processes (due September 2018)
- Broader work to review Intermediate Care pathways with providers (due April 2019)

- 3.3 These achievements have largely been driven by sustained, system wide developments over several years. However, specific achievements and innovations over 2018/19 include
  - Starting a Rapid Response service across Islington. This is a nurse led service provided by the Whittington, delivering up to 2 hour response to patients requiring urgent medical and social care support. The service works 8am-10pm, 7 days a week and sees approximately 45 patients a month.
  - Testing new services to support moderately frail patients in their own homes. Working with 8 GP practices and the Whittington, we are proactively screening patients who might benefit from greater medical and social input, and calling them or visiting them at home. We will see 600 patients across the North of Islington this year.
  - Investing in additional social work support to the Continuing Health Care team, increasing integration in this key area.

- 3.4 Achievements in past years include
- Protection of Adult Social Care. The BCF continues to provide £7.8m to support Adult Social Care in Islington
  - Islington became a National Demonstrator Site for 'Choice and Control', exploring how greater personalisation can be delivered to Islington residents, specifically in terms of health services
  - Universal coverage of Primary Care Networks; ensuring that all residents can have access to an MDT working across health and social care.
- 3.5 The progress of the Better Care Fund has been managed through the Islington Integrated Care Programme. This programme is aligned to the wider Sustainability and Transformation Plan across North Central London, specifically the Care Closer to Home work and other aligned workstreams. The Islington Integrated care programme board as over the past 3 years (of the 5 year national programme) has strengthened partnership working; identified opportunities for integrated care and has overseen whole systems integration initiatives particularly in the areas of care closer to home.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial Implications:**

The Better Care Fund plan has been submitted for 2018-19 and there are no direct financial implications from this report.

Any financial implications arising should be considered and agreed as necessary by the Council and/or the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Any plans or strategies derived or agreed in relation to this report should use existing available resources and therefore not create a budget pressure for the Council or the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

### **4.2 Legal Implications:**

Section 121 of the Care Act makes provision for a fund for the integration of care and support with health services to be known as the "Better Care Fund". This provision is a mechanism which allows the sharing of NHS funding with local authorities to be made mandatory. Section 121(1) of the Care Act 2014 amends section 223 (B) of the National Health Service act 2006 (funding of the National Health Service Commissioning Board ) to allow the Secretary of State ( "SOS") to specify in the mandate to NHS England a sum which the Board must use for objectives relating to integration. The mandate is given to the Board by the SOS under section 13A of the National Health Service Act 2006.

Section 121(2) of the Care Act 2014 inserts a new section 223GA into the National Health Service Act 2006 which allows the Board to direct clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) to use a designated amount of their financial allocation for purposes relating to service integration. It also makes provision for how the designated amount is to be determined. Payment of the designated amount must be subject to a condition that the CCG pays the money into a pooled fund established under arrangements made with a local authority under section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006. In exercising its powers in relation to the Better Care Fund, the Board must have regard to the need for provision of health services, health-related and social care services.

### **4.3 Environmental Implications:**

The environmental impacts of the Better Care Fund include normal office-related environmental impacts such as energy, water and paper usage, as well as staff travel (energy use and emissions). An integrated spending plan may also result in reduced duplication, in turn reducing the impact of the services.

#### 4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

An additional Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed because the workstreams within the Better Care Fund are covered within the Sustainability and Transformation Plan, where the impact was noted as positive.

### 5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

5.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the update on the BCF in 2018/19.

#### Appendices

- Integration and Better Care Fund Narrative 2017-19

#### Background papers:

- None

#### Signed by:



23.10.2018

**Assistant Director, Integrated Care, Islington CCG**

**Date**

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