

The Better Care Fund 2019/2020

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Cabinet Member: David Huxtable

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1 Summary

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) was established by the UK Government in 2014/15. Its principal intention has been to foster the integration of health and care services and in doing so help people better manage their health and wellbeing and live as independently as possible in their own homes and communities.
- 1.2 At a commissioner level, the BCF promotes the legal duty of both CCG's and Local Authorities to promote integration and to enter into pooled budget arrangements where this will lead to a more effective use of public monies, improve health and care outcomes or reduce inequalities.
- 1.3 At present, the BCF is subject to a national review and this year, 2019/20 is expected to be the final year of the scheme in its current format. Whether the BCF remains or is subject to significant changes is unknown at this stage.
- 1.4 The paper sets out:
- the key requirements of the BCF and the nationally prescribed funds for Somerset for 2019/20
 - the proposed allocation of funds and key elements of the 2019/20 plan as set out in Annex 1.
- 1.5 The actual BCF submission comes in the form of a complex Excel spreadsheet with many inter-related sections. Copies of the actual submission are available to Health and Wellbeing Members.
- 1.6 The paper seeks the Board's approval for the proposed Somerset BCF for 2019/20 which is due for submission on 27 September 2019.

2 The 2019/20 BCF

- 2.1 The 2019/20 BCF is not subject to any significant or material changes from the previous years' scheme. It includes the following elements which must be managed as a pooled budget and covered by a Section 75 Agreement:

Element	2018/19 £'000s	Allocation 2019/20 £'000s
Minimum NHS (CCG) Contribution – non specific	36,524	25,909
Minimum NHS (CCG) contribution - Social Care specific		12,719
Grant Allocation for Adult Social Care (iBCF)	16,360	20,188
Disabled Facilities Grant	4,045	4,365
Winter Pressures Funding (managed adjacently last year)	-	2,498
Total	56,929	65,679

2.2 As per all previous years, the majority of the total fund is not received as additional monies to either the CCG or Local Authority and is instead a prescribed figure to be assigned to the fund from core allocations.

2.3 In total the 2019/20 fund represents an increase of £8.75m from 2018/19 of which, £2.497m is the Winter Pressures funding that was held outside of the Better Care Fund in 2018/19, £0.320m is the Disables Facilities Grant increase and £2.104m the increase to the Minimum NHS contribution, of which £1.451m is not funding backed. The majority of the increase is within the grant allocation for Adult Social Care at £3.828m.

3 The impact of our previous (2014/15 to 2018/19) BCF in Somerset

3.1 Although the construct and requirements of the BCF are relatively complex and the national planning timetable is not synchronised with other planning cycles, the management of the scheme in Somerset has been successful. The BCF has for example:

- Brought about a direct and significant improvement in Delayed Transfers of Care from hospital across the Somerset system and Somerset has performing extremely well against this metric when compared to other areas in the South West. To put this into perspective Somerset's delays have fallen by over 75% in the last two years and the Home First scheme has helped over 5,000 people.
- It has encouraged new and innovative ways of working and support to be provided, for example the expansion of community/village agent resource to include community hospitals and mental health support
- It has helped introduce and integrate new strategic partners for example Community Agents and housing occupational therapists and these have shown how the provision of community based support is often essential in helping people go home safely and promptly from hospital
- Piloting new forms of technology that support people to stay at or return to their home.
- New models of Dementia care and support, combining 24 hour support with phased support in people's own home
- It has helped foster new joint working arrangements between health and social care professionals for example in West Somerset as part of the Living Better Scheme or Social Care workers working as part of large Multi-disciplinary meetings at Frome Medical practice

- It has helped stabilise a number of services during what has been and continue to be very challenging times.
- It has fostered greater integrated working between the local authority and NHS partners.

3.2 It is important to build on these successes when delivering the 2019/20 plan.

4 National requirements for 2019/20

4.1 According to the national guidance, all BCF schemes must:

- Be jointly developed and agreed by the CCG and Local Authority and approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board
- A Section 75 Agreement must be drawn up and submitted in relation to the pooled funds by 15 December 2019
- Ensure the NHS minimum contribution is protected and the mandated proportion is specifically used to maintain social care. This should continue to support for example: carers breaks, reablement and Care Act implementation
- Ring-fence a portion of the CCG minimum to invest in out of hospital services
- Use part of the fund to manage transfers for care at the interface between health and social care that reduce delayed transfers of care (DToC).
- Services and schemes helping to reduce DToC must relate to the High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfers of Care (be focused on: Early discharge planning, Systems to monitor patient flow, Multi-disciplinary/Multi-agency discharge teams, Home first / discharge to assess, Seven-day services, Trusted assessors, Focus on choice, Enhancing health in care homes).
- Include centrally-set expectations for reducing or maintaining rates of DToC during 2019-20
- All BCF plans must include ambitions for each of the four-national metrics.

National Metrics

4.2 The four national metrics tracked as part of the BCF are the same as previous years:

1. **Non-elective (unplanned) admissions:** to hospital (people of any age): Trajectories are the same as those set out in CCG Annual Operating Plans.
2. **Delayed Transfers of Care:** per day (daily delays) from hospital (people aged 18+)
3. **Residential placements:** This is defined as the long-term support needs of older people (age 65 and over) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population (aged 65+). Population projections are based on a calendar year using the 2016 based Sub-National Population Projections for Local Authorities in England;

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| <p>4. Reablement: The proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services</p> |
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5 Focus of the 2019/20 scheme

- 5.1 The key focus for the 2019/20 is to build on the successes from the previous scheme, ensure the schemes continue to help stabilise core services and introduce innovation and improvement wherever possible to do so. Annex 1 provides a detailed list of the proposed schemes for the 2019/20 plan.
- 5.2 Examples of new items includes:
- The imminent launch of a trusted assessor scheme to help our care home residents and providers ensure that care is joined up between hospital and home.
 - Support for people leaving hospital to quickly have in place tenancy agreements to enable them to live in extra care housing
 - Social worker in the ambulance control centre and Accident and Emergency Departments to help avoid unnecessary conveyances and admissions to hospital

6 Recommendation

- 6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider this paper as the basis for the Somerset BCF submission for 2019/20.
- 6.2 In light of the national requirement for a new Section 75 Agreement to be drawn up in respect of the BCF, it is proposed that the Somerset Joint Commissioning Board be re-established. This would provide a forum in which the detail and complexity of the BCF framework and its reporting requirements could be reviewed in detail on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board, as is set out in the current Section 75 Agreement. It is proposed that a member or members of the Health and Wellbeing Board become members of the JCB.
- 6.3 In light of the broader integration agenda, the JCB could have:
- Responsibility for drawing up the detail of future BCF plans
 - Oversight of other jointly commissioned services and schemes (for adults and children)
 - A duty to consider other areas of service or support which would be a benefit to people, services or the wider system if jointly commissioned and draw up option appraisals in respect of these
 - A role in overseeing the development of joint commissioning competencies, teamship and culture change across NHS and Social Care commissioners

Andy Hill, Associate Director of Integrated Care
Tim Baverstock, Strategic Manager - Commissioning

Annex 1: Key elements of the Somerset 2019/20 Better Care Fund

No.	Element / Source	£'000			Brief description	
		DFG	NHS Contribution	iBCF		Winter Monies
1	Home adaptations	4,365			Disability Facilities Grant, managed by District Councils	
2	Person-centred care (Community services)		11,909		Maintaining and stabilising core community services	
3	Person-centred Care (Acute services)		8,121		Maintaining and stabilising core acute based services	
4	Rehabilitation and other social care schemes		8,045		Includes: Maintaining Adult social Care Delivery, Care Home Support Team, additional social worker resource	
5	New models of integrated person-centred care		3,317		NHS Test and Learn Schemes Includes: Complex care teams, Health Coaches, Health Connectors, Village Agents, Health and Wellbeing Advisors, West Somerset Living Better	
6	Community bed based care (short stays, hospital avoidance)		1,982		Nursing home pressures, nursing home fees and interim beds	
7	Care Act Additional responsibilities		1,350		Care Act Additional duties - inc.information and support for people who self fund	
8	Community Equipment Service		1,200		Additional capacity for Community Equipment Service	
9	Joint Carers Service (NHS Contribution)		204			
10	Maintaining and protecting Adult Social Care			10,183	Funding to protect front line services (additional social workers, additional packages or care)	
11	Maintaining Learning Disability Services			7,751	Support for increasing number of people with learning disabilities who are living longer	
12	Home First (Delayed Transfers of Care)		2,500	1,854	919	Includes: Additional Home First Home Care (Pathway 1, range of providers), Additional Night cover. Additional one to one care (Pathway 3 - additional staff in nursing and residential homes), Home First GP time, additional same day delivery and additional equipment including technology (e.g. sensors)
13	Market Support			400		Financial support for the Registered Care Provider Association (RCPA) To pump prime new initiatives. Support fee levels. Supporting provider training and staffing incentives

No.	Element / Source	£'000				Brief description
		DFG	NHS Contribution	iBCF	Winter Monies	
14	Live in, Residential and home dementia Support				492	New model of Dementia care to support people to remain at home: Enables same staff to provide care for people either in a residential home, at home or temporarily overnight.
15	7 day working and Out of Hours				330	7 day working and out of hours cover by Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and Social Workers
16	Additional social work (admission avoidance) - (NEW in 19/20)				244	Social worker in the ambulance control centre and Accident and Emergency Departments
17	Beds for immobile people not needing clinical care				238	Beds in residential or nursing homes for immobile people who do not require 24 hr clinical care e.g people with extensive plaster casts following fractures. Referred to as 'Plaster Beds'
18	Hospital Community Agents				120	Dedicated Community Agent time in acute and community hospitals supporting prompt/early discharge home
19	Trusted Assessors - (NEW in 19/20)				80	Staff able to assess a person's suitability to return home or go directly into a residential home.
20	Rapid Access to Extra Care Housing - (NEW in 19/20)				75	Support to establish tenancies to enable people to move directly into extra care housing
	Total	4,365	38,628	20,188	2,498	Grand total 65,678

Expected total in BCF planning guidance 4,365 38,628 20,188 2,498 Grand total 65,678