

Better Care Fund

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<p>Summary:</p>	<p>This report provides an update on the Somerset Better Care Fund (BCF), the oversight and sign off of which is the responsibility of the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>This covering note should be read in conjunction with the 2021/22 BCF submission and the Section 75 report.</p> <p>The reports and accompanying presentations give an overview of the current fund.</p> <p>It also includes a detailed update on Disabled Facilities Grant funding. This funding is passported to our 4 District Councils but increasingly forming part of our joint health and care work.</p>
<p>Recommendations:</p>	<p>That the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board approves and notes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Better Care Fund 2021/22 submission for Somerset 2. The Section 75 BCF report 3. Considers future governance routes and representation in a future Better Care Fund commissioning group
<p>Reasons for recommendations:</p>	<p>The oversight and sign off remains a function of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the submission for 2021/22 was delayed</p>

	<p>until November with very short timescales for producing a plan. This Board is required to approve the plan but should also note the highlighted summaries around the breadth of work has continued over the last two years and the direction of travel that officers are recommending.</p>								
<p>Links to The Improving Lives Strategy</p>	<p>Please tick the Improving Lives priorities influenced by the delivery of this work</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="544 472 1465 981"> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 472 1289 600"> <p>A County infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1289 472 1465 600"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 600 1289 728"> <p>Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1289 600 1465 728">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 728 1289 855"> <p>Fairer life chances and opportunity for all</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1289 728 1465 855">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 855 1289 981"> <p>Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1289 855 1465 981">X</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Better Care Fund and its national conditions are all geared towards improving lives and promoting independence in Somerset.</p> <p>Work across Carers, preventing hospital admission and maximising the right care during and following admission are all funded in part through the BCF.</p> <p>In addition, the funding shared with District colleagues is absolutely focussed on the places where people live and how we actively support and work with them to create the right environments and tools for living healthy, independent lives. This funding is increasingly working across the whole Somerset footprint and will prove an excellent foundation for a unitary council approach.</p>	<p>A County infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services</p>		<p>Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment</p>	X	<p>Fairer life chances and opportunity for all</p>	X	<p>Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer</p>	X
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<p>Fairer life chances and opportunity for all</p>	X								
<p>Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer</p>	X								
<p>Financial, Legal, HR, Social value and partnership Implications:</p>	<p>There are no new implications. As previously stated, much of the BCF is committed funding and partners continue to work together on a day to day basis across the many areas covered.</p> <p>A finance schedule is attached to the plan submission.</p>								
<p>Equalities Implications:</p>	<p>The Better Care Fund and associated work requires Equality impacts and implications to be considered for any decision or new funding as per normal CCG and SCC decision making. The</p>								

	overall report and ongoing monitoring does likewise.
Risk Assessment:	None

1. Background

- 1.1.** The Better Care Fund for 2020/21 was officially rolled over from the previous year due to the Covid-19 situation. Guidance for 2021/22 was only issued in late September 2021 and therefore much of this year's plan also becomes retrospective. It is always worth remembering that the Better Care Fund was largely a pooling of existing spending commitments, not new funding.
- 1.2.** The Better Care Fund has enabled Somerset's health and care system to pool funding relating to many joint priorities, including carers, intermediate care, Housing Occupational therapy and equipment services.
- 1.3.** District Councils have delegated authority over the use of the Disabled Facilities Grant and this is also a part of the Better Care Fund. This report includes an overview of this funding, as well as highlighting the support and collaborative working that it is providing.

2. Improving Lives Priorities and Outcomes

- 2.1.** The Better Care Fund and all its constituent parts continues to support the health and wellbeing of people in Somerset. It does so through a combination of health and care support and prevention schemes from acute hospital interventions right through to community support at home.

3. Consultations undertaken

- 3.1.** Not applicable

4. Request of the Board and Board members

- 4.1.** To note and understand the depth of the Better Care Fund and approve the submission for 2021/22
- 4.2.** To consider future working and governance arrangements, including taking into account the Integrated Care System arrangement and Local Government Reform. We have begun conversations around how the joint commissioning in the BCF can be governed in an agile way within the context of new overarching arrangements. A Health and Wellbeing Board must, for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people in its area, encourage persons who arrange for the provision of any health or social care services in that area to work in an integrated manner.

5. Background papers

- 5.1. A summary slide deck will be presented during the meeting and be available for distribution with the minutes.

Appendix B Section 75 and the use of the Better Care Fund



HWB%20BCF%20Discussion%20paper%20

Appendix A Better Care Fund 2021/22 submission

PLEASE NOTE THE DEADLINE FOR NATIONAL SUBMISSION IS 16/11 and as such this will be tabled as a late document and not in line with all publication material

Better Care Fund updated guidance can be found here:

[NHS England » Better Care Fund planning requirements 2021-22](#)

6. Report Sign-Off

6.1

	Seen by:	Name	Date
Report Sign off	Relevant Senior Manager / Lead Officer (Director Level)	Trudi Grant	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Cabinet Member / Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Clare Paul	Click or tap to enter a date.
	Monitoring Officer (Somerset County Council)	Scott Wooldridge	Click or tap to enter a date.