



Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group



Health and Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group 18th January, 2017

BETTER CARE FUND UPDATE, PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT & QUARTER 3 RETURN

Responsible Officer

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report serves an update on the progress on the Better Care Fund review and development, it includes the Draft Section 75 Partnership Agreement and the BCF Q3 return.
- 1.2 The HWBB agreed that during 2017/18 the Shropshire Health and Care economy would focus on developing the Better Care Fund as a tool that fully supports integration. The BCF plan had final approval in November and in December two workshop meetings took place to review each line of the Better Care Fund spend and to make recommendations for taking work and integration forward. The primary concern was the Grant Frameworks and as a result the Joint Commissioning Group has agreed to bring the Shropshire Council Grant Framework and the CCG Grant Framework together and to recommend the inclusion of all Grants into the Better Care Fund. The work to make this happen will take place over the next 2 months.
- 1.3 An action plan has been developed to monitor progress of the Grant Frameworks and the additional work needed to progress the BCF. An extraordinary Joint Commissioning Group meeting has been planned for the 30th January to agree next steps. A full report will be made to the next HWBB in March.
- 1.4 Additionally, since the last HWBB meeting, the BCF section 75 and Partnership Agreement has been refreshed and is attached as Appendix A. The principles of the agreement that we have been working to since 2015, have remained unchanged. This agreement has been approved by the HWB Joint Commissioning Group, and is recommended for approval by the HWBB.
- 1.5 Finally the Quarter 3 BCF monitoring report is attached as Appendix B. The report highlights good progress on our Delayed Transfers of Care and Admissions to Care Homes. We are awaiting metrics on Reablement and on Non-Elective Admissions; both metrics were on or better than target in Quarter 2.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the Partnership Agreement for ratification by the CCG and Shropshire Council Governance.
- 2.2 To note and discuss any aspect of the BCF Quarter 3 return.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1. (NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)
- 3.2. The HWB Strategy requires that the health and care system work to reduce inequalities in Shropshire. All decisions and discussions by the Board must take into account reducing inequalities.
- 3.3. The schemes of the BCF and other system planning have been done by engaging with stakeholders, service users, and patients. This has been done in a variety of ways including through patient groups, focus groups, ethnographic research.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The BCF focusses on a pooled fund > than 29 million.

<p>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information) For the final BCF plan please see HWBB paper here</p>
<p>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Cllr Lee Chapman</p>
<p>Local Member n/a</p>
<p>Appendices Appendix A: BCF Partnership Agreement Appendix B: BCF Quarter 3 Return</p>

APPENDIX A

Dated – TBC – when signed

Shropshire Council

and

NHS Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group

V9 Draft for 2018

**FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE
COMMISSIONING OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES**

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THIS AGREEMENT is made on TBC

PARTIES

- (1) **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL** (the "**Council**"), Shirehall, Shrewsbury, SY26ND
- (2) **NHS SHROPSHIRE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP** (the "**CCG**"), William Farr House, Mytton Oak Rd, Shrewsbury, SY38XL
- (3) **BACKGROUND**
 - (A) The Council has responsibility for commissioning and/or providing social care services on behalf of the population of Shropshire within its administrative area.
 - (B) The CCG has the responsibility for commissioning health services pursuant to the 2006 Act in the county of Shropshire.
 - (C) The Better Care Fund has been established by the Government to provide funds to local areas to support the integration of health and social care and to seek to achieve the National Conditions and Local Objectives. It is a requirement of the Better Care Fund that the CCG and the Council establish a pooled fund for this purpose.
 - (D) Section 75 of the 2006 Act gives powers to local authorities and clinical commissioning groups to establish and maintain pooled funds out of which payment may be made towards expenditure incurred in the exercise of prescribed local authority functions and prescribed NHS functions.
 - (E) The purpose of this Agreement is to set out the terms on which the Partners have agreed to collaborate and to establish a framework through which the Partners can secure the future position of health and social care services through lead or joint commissioning arrangements. It is also a means through which the Partners will pool funds and align budgets as agreed between the Partners.
 - (F) The aims and benefits of the Partners in entering in to this Agreement are to:
 - a) improve the quality and efficiency of the Services;
 - b) meet the National Conditions and Local Objectives as set out in the Better Care Fund plan;
 - c) make more effective use of resources through the establishment and maintenance of a pooled fund for revenue expenditure on the Services.
 - (G) The Partners are entering into this Agreement in exercise of the powers referred to in Section 75 of the 2006 Act and/or Section 13Z(2) and 14Z(3) of the 2006 Act as applicable, to the extent that exercise of these powers is required for this Agreement.

1 DEFINED TERMS AND INTERPRETATION

1. In this Agreement, save where the context requires otherwise, the following words, terms and expressions shall have the following meanings:

1998 Act means the Data Protection Act 1998.

2000 Act means the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

2004 Regulations means the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

2006 Act means the National Health Service Act 2006.

2014 Act means the Care Act 2014.

Affected Partner means, in the context of Clause 22, the Partner whose obligations under the Agreement have been affected by the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event

Agreement means this agreement including its Schedules and Appendices.

Approved Expenditure means any additional expenditure approved by the Partners in relation to an Individual Service above any Contract Price and Performance Payments.

Associated Person: means in respect of the Council, a person, partnership, limited liability partnership or company (and company shall include a company which is a subsidiary, a holding company or a company that is a subsidiary of the ultimate holding company of that company) in which the Council has a shareholding or other ownership interest; OR any other body that substantially performs any of the functions of the Council that previously had been performed by the Council

Authorised Officers means an officer of each Partner appointed to be that Partner's representative for the purpose of this Agreement.

Better Care Fund means the Better Care Fund as described in NHS England Publications Gateway Ref. No.00314 and NHS England Publications Gateway Ref. No.00535 as relevant to the Partners.

Better Care Fund Plan means the plan attached at Schedule 6 setting out the Partners plan for the use of the Better Care Fund.

Bribery Act means the Bribery Act 2010 and any subordinate legislation made under that Act from time to time together with any guidance or codes of practice issued by the relevant government department concerning the legislation

Care Act means the Care Act 2014 and any subordinate legislation made under that Act from time to time together with any guidance or codes of practice issued by the relevant government department concerning the legislation

CCG Statutory Duties means the Duties of the CCG pursuant to Sections 14P to 14Z2 of the 2006 Act

Change in Law means the coming into effect or repeal (without re-enactment or consolidation) in England of any Law, or any amendment or variation to any Law, or any judgment of a relevant court of law which changes binding precedent in England after the date of this Agreement

Commencement Date means 00:01 hrs on ??.

Confidential Information means information, data and/or material of any nature which any Partner may receive or obtain in connection with the operation of this Agreement and the Services and:

- (a) which comprises Personal Data or Sensitive Personal Data or which relates to any patient or his treatment or medical history;
- (b) the release of which is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of a Partner or the interests of a Service User respectively; or
- (c) which is a trade secret.

Contract Price means any sum payable to a Provider under a Service Contract as consideration for the provision of Services and which, for the avoidance of doubt, does not include any Default Liability or Performance Payment.

Data Protection Legislation: this includes the Data Protection Act 1998, the EU Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC, the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, the Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000 (SI 2000/2699), the Electronic Communications Data Protection Directive 2002/58/EC, the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 and all applicable laws and regulations relating to processing of personal data and privacy, including where applicable the guidance and codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner

Default Liability means any sum which is agreed or determined by Law or in accordance with the terms of a Services Contract) to be payable by any Partner(s) to the Provider as a consequence of (i) breach by any or all of the Partners of an obligation(s) in whole or in part) under the relevant Services Contract or (ii) any act or omission of a third party for which any or all of the Partners are, under the terms of the relevant Services Contract, liable to the provider.

Expiry Date this agreement shall expire when the Better Care Fund Agreement expires and shall be updated annually.

Financial Contributions means the financial contributions made by each Partner to a Pooled Fund in any Financial Year.

Financial Year means each financial year running from 1 April in any year to 31 March in the following calendar year.

Force Majeure Event means one or more of the following:

- (a) war, civil war (whether declared or undeclared), riot or armed conflict;
- (b) acts of terrorism;
- (c) acts of God;
- (d) fire or flood;
- (e) industrial action;
- (f) prevention from or hindrance in obtaining raw materials, energy or other supplies;
- (g) any form of contamination or virus outbreak; and
- (h) any other event,

in each case where such event is beyond the reasonable control of the Partner claiming relief

GDPR means the General Data Protection Regulations coming into force in the UK with effect from 25th May 2018

Functions means the NHS Functions and the Health Related Functions

Health Related Functions means those of the health related functions of the Council, specified in Regulation 6 of the Regulations (as amended or replaced by the Care Act) as relevant to the commissioning of the Services and which may be further described in the relevant Scheme Specification.

Health and Wellbeing Board means the Health and Wellbeing Board established by the Council pursuant to Section 194 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Indirect Losses means loss of profits, loss of use, loss of production, increased operating costs, loss of business, loss of business opportunity, loss of reputation or goodwill or any other consequential or indirect loss of any nature, whether arising in tort or on any other basis.

Individual Scheme means one of the schemes which is agreed by the Partners to be included within this Agreement using the powers under Section 75 as documented in a Scheme Specification.

Integrated Commissioning means arrangements by which both Partners commission Services in relation to an individual Scheme on behalf of each other in exercise of both the NHS Functions and Council Functions through integrated structures.

Joint (Aligned) Commissioning means a mechanism by which the Partners jointly commission a Service. For the avoidance of doubt, a joint (aligned) commissioning arrangement does not involve the delegation of any functions pursuant to Section 75.

Joint Commissioning Group – subgroups of the Health & Wellbeing Board that delivers the programmes of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy, including the Better Care Fund. Terms of Reference is attached below.

Law means:

- (a) any statute or proclamation or any delegated or subordinate legislation;
- (b) any enforceable community right within the meaning of Section 2(1) European Communities Act 1972;
- (c) any guidance, direction or determination with which the Partner(s) or relevant third party (as applicable) are bound to comply to the extent that the same are published and publicly available or the existence or contents of them have been notified to the Partner(s) or relevant third party (as applicable); and
- (d) any judgment of a relevant court of law which is a binding precedent in England.

Lead Commissioning Arrangements means the arrangements by which one Partner commissions Services in relation to an Individual Scheme on behalf of the other Partner in exercise of both the NHS Functions and the Council Functions.

Lead Commissioner means the Partner responsible for commissioning an Individual Service under a Scheme Specification.

Local Objectives: Objectives as set out in the Better Care Fund Plan

Losses means all damage, loss, liabilities, claims, actions, costs, expenses (including the cost of legal and/or professional services), proceedings, demands and charges whether arising under statute, contract or at common law but excluding Indirect Losses and "Loss" shall be interpreted accordingly.

Month means a calendar month.

National Conditions mean the national conditions as set out in the NHS England Planning Guidance as are amended or replaced from time to time.

NHS Functions means those of the NHS functions listed in Regulation 5 of the Regulations as are exercisable by the CCG as are relevant to the commissioning of the Services and which may be further described in each Service Schedule

Non-Recurrent Payments means funding provided by a Partner to a Pooled Fund in addition to the Financial Contributions pursuant to arrangements agreed in accordance with Clause [10.4].

Overspend means any expenditure from a Pooled Fund in a Financial Year which exceeds the Financial Contributions for that Financial Year.

Partner means each of the CCG and the Council, and references to "**Partners**" shall be construed accordingly and such reference shall include each Partner's employees (paid or unpaid) agents, servants, consultants and contractors.

Performance Payment Arrangement means any arrangement agreed with a Provider and one of more Partners in relation to the cost of providing Services on such terms as agreed in writing by all Partners.

Performance Payments means any sum over and above the relevant Contract Price which is payable to the Provider in accordance with a Performance Payment Arrangement.

Permitted Budget means in relation to a Service where the Council is the Provider, the budget that the Partners have set in relation to the particular Service.

Permitted Expenditure has the meaning given in Clause [7.3].

Personal Data means Personal Data as defined by the 1998 Act.

Pooled Fund means any pooled fund established and maintained by the Partners as a pooled fund in accordance with the Regulations

Pooled Fund Manager means such officer of the Host Partner which includes a Section 113 Officer for the relevant Pooled Fund established under an Individual Scheme as is nominated by the Host Partner from time to time to manage the Pooled Fund in accordance with Clause [10].

Provider means a provider of any Services commissioned under the arrangements set out in this Agreement.

Prohibited Act: the following constitute Prohibited Acts:

a) to directly or indirectly offer, promise or give any person working for or engaged by the [Partners] a financial or other advantage to:

- i) induce that person to perform improperly a relevant function or activity; or
- ii) reward that person for improper performance of a relevant function or activity;

b) to directly or indirectly request, agree to receive or accept any financial or other advantage as a inducement or a reward for improper performance of a relevant function or activity in connection with this Agreement;

c) committing any offence:

- i) under the Bribery Act
- ii) under legislation creating offences concerning fraudulent act;
- iii) at common law concerning fraudulent acts relating to this Agreement and any other contracts with the [Partners]; or

d) defrauding, attempting to defraud or conspiring to defraud the [Partners]

Public Health England means the SOSH trading as Public Health England.

Quarter means each of the following periods in a Financial Year:

1 April to 30 June

1 July to 30 September

1 October to 31 December

1 January to 31 March

and "**Quarterly**" shall be interpreted accordingly.

Regulations means the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000 No 617 as amended or replaced by the Care Act

Regulated Activity: in relation to children, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 4 to the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, and in relation to vulnerable adults, as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 4 to the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Regulatory Body: those government departments and regulatory, statutory and other entities, committees and bodies that, whether under statute, rules, regulations, codes of practice or otherwise, are entitled to regulate, investigate or influence the matters dealt with in this Agreement, or any other affairs of the Parties

Regulated Provider: as defined in section 6 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Relevant Transfer means as transfer under TUPE

Scheme Specification means a specification setting out the arrangements for an Individual Scheme agreed by the Partners to be commissioned under this Agreement.

Sensitive Personal Data means Sensitive Personal Data as defined in the 1998 Act.

Services means such health and social care services as agreed from time to time by the Partners as commissioned under the arrangements set out in this Agreement and more specifically defined in each Scheme Specification.

Services Contract means an agreement for the provision of Services entered into with a Provider by one or more of the Partners in accordance with the relevant Individual Scheme.

Service Users means those individual for whom the Partners have a responsibility to commission the Services.

SOSH means the Secretary of State for Health.

Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (Plans) – STP - The NHS and local councils have formed partnerships in 44 areas covering all of England, to improve health and care. Each area has developed proposals built around the needs of the whole population in the area, not just those of individual organisations.

Term: means the period commencing on the Commencement Date and expiring on the Expiry Date

Third Party Costs means all such third party costs (including legal and other professional fees) in respect of each Individual Scheme as a Partner reasonably and properly incurs in the proper performance of its obligations under this Agreement and as agreed by the Partnership Board.

TUPE: means the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/246)

Working Day means 8.00am to 6.00pm on any day except Saturday, Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a day which is a bank holiday (in England) under the Banking & Financial Dealings Act 1971.

2. In this Agreement, all references to any statute or statutory provision shall be deemed to include references to any statute or statutory provision which amends, extends, consolidates or replaces the same and shall include any orders, regulations, codes of practice, instruments or other subordinate legislation made there under and any conditions attaching thereto. Where relevant, references to English statutes and statutory provisions shall be construed as references also to equivalent statutes, statutory provisions and rules of law in other jurisdictions.
3. Any headings to Clauses, together with the front cover and the index are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning of this Agreement. Unless the contrary is stated, references to Clauses and Schedules shall mean the clauses and schedules of this Agreement.
4. Any reference to the Partners shall include their respective statutory successors, employees and agents.
5. In the event of a conflict, the conditions set out in the Clauses to this Agreement shall take priority over the Schedules.
6. Where a term of this Agreement provides for a list of items following the word "including" or "includes", then such list is not to be interpreted as being an exhaustive list.
7. In this Agreement, words importing any particular gender include all other genders, and the term "person" includes any individual, partnership, firm, trust, body corporate, government, governmental body, trust, agency, unincorporated body of persons or association and a reference to a person includes a reference to that person's successors and permitted assigns.
8. In this Agreement, words importing the singular only shall include the plural and vice versa.
9. In this Agreement, "staff" and "employees" shall have the same meaning and shall include reference to any full or part time employee or officer, director, manager and agent.
10. Subject to the contrary being stated expressly or implied from the context in these terms and conditions, all communication between the Partners shall be in writing.
11. Unless expressly stated otherwise, all monetary amounts are expressed in pounds sterling but in the event that pounds sterling is replaced as legal tender in the United Kingdom by a different currency then all monetary amounts shall be converted into such other currency at the rate prevailing on the date such other currency first became legal tender in the United Kingdom.
12. All references to the Agreement include (subject to all relevant approvals) a reference to the Agreement as amended, supplemented, substituted, novated or assigned from time to time.

2 TERM

1. This Agreement shall come into force on the Commencement Date.
2. This Agreement shall continue until it is terminated in accordance with Clause [20].
3. The duration of the arrangements for each Individual Scheme shall be as set out in the relevant Scheme Specification and for the avoidance of doubt the duration of each Individual Scheme should not go beyond the duration of this Agreement.

3 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect:
 - 3.1.1 the liabilities of the Partners to each other or to any third parties for the exercise of their respective functions and obligations; or
 - 3.1.2 any power or duty to recover charges for the provision of any services in the exercise of any local authority function.
2. The Partners agree to:
 - 3.2.1 treat each other with respect and an equality of esteem;
 - 3.2.2 be open with information about the performance and financial status of each; and
 - 3.2.3 provide early information and notice about relevant problems.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, the aims and outcomes relating to an Individual Scheme may be set out in the relevant Scheme specification.

4 PARTNERSHIP FLEXIBILITIES

1. This Agreement sets out the mechanism through which the Partners will work together to establish one or more of the following:
 - 4.1.1 Lead Commissioning Arrangements;
 - 4.1.2 Joint (Aligned) Commissioning
 - 4.1.3 the establishment of one or more Pooled Fundsin relation to Individual Schemes (the "Flexibilities")
2. The Council delegates to the CCG and the CCG agrees to exercise, on the Council's behalf, the Health Related Functions to the extent necessary for the purpose of performing its obligations under this Agreement in conjunction with the NHS Functions.
3. The CCG delegates to the Council and the Council agrees to exercise on the CCG's behalf the NHS Functions to the extent necessary for the purpose of performing its obligations under this Agreement in conjunction with the Health Related Functions.
4. Where the powers of a Partner to delegate any of its statutory powers or functions are restricted, such limitations will automatically be deemed to apply to the relevant Scheme Specification and the Partners shall agree arrangements designed to achieve the greatest degree of delegation to the other Partner necessary for the purposes of this Agreement which is consistent with the statutory constraints.

5 FUNCTIONS

1. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a framework through which the Partners can secure the provision of health and social care services in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
2. Where the Partners add a new Individual Scheme to this Agreement a Scheme Specification for each Individual Scheme shall be in the form set out in Schedule 1 and shall be completed and agreed between the Partners. The initial Scheme Specification is set out in schedule 1
3. The Partners shall not enter into a Scheme Specification in respect of an Individual Scheme unless they are satisfied that the Individual Scheme in question will improve health and well-being in accordance with this Agreement.
4. The introduction of any Individual Scheme will be subject to business case approval by the Health & Wellbeing Board or by delegated authority as directed by the Health & Wellbeing Board. The business case will also recommend the commissioning arrangements in relation to new schemes.

Joint Commissioning

5. Where there are Integrated Commissioning arrangements in respect of an Individual Scheme, both Partners shall work in cooperation and shall endeavour to ensure that the Functions are commissioned with all due skill, care and attention.
6. Both Partners shall be responsible for compliance with and making payments of all sums due to a Provider pursuant to the terms of each Service Contract.
7. Both Partners shall work in cooperation and endeavour to ensure that the relevant Services as set out in each Scheme Specification are commissioned within each Partners Financial Contribution in respect of that particular Service in each Financial Year.
8. The Partners shall comply with the arrangements in respect of the Joint (Aligned) Commissioning as set out in the relevant Scheme Specification.
9. Each Partner shall keep the other Partners regularly informed of the effectiveness of the arrangements including the Better Care Fund and any Overspend or Underspend in a Pooled Fund.
10. The Health & Wellbeing Delivery Group will report back to the Health and Wellbeing Board as required by its Terms of Reference.

Lead Commissioner

11. Where there are Lead Commissioning Arrangements in respect of an Individual Scheme the Lead Commissioner shall:
 - 5.11.1 exercise the Functions as identified in the relevant Scheme Specification;
 - 5.11.2 endeavour to ensure that the Functions are funded within the parameters of the Financial Contributions of each Partner in relation to each particular Service in each Financial Year.
 - 5.11.3 commission Services for individuals who meet the eligibility criteria set out in the relevant Scheme Specification;
 - 5.11.4 contract with Provider(s) for the provision of the Services on terms agreed with the other Partners;

- 5.11.5 comply with all relevant legal duties and guidance of both Partners in relation to the Services being commissioned;
- 5.11.6 where Services are commissioned perform the obligations of the Commissioner with all due skill, care and attention
- 5.11.7 undertake performance management and contract monitoring of all Service Contracts;
- 5.11.8 make payment of all sums due to a Provider pursuant to the terms of any Services Contract.
- 5.11.9 keep the other Partner regularly informed of the effectiveness of the arrangements including the Better Care Fund and any Overspend or Underspend in a Pooled Fund.

6 ESTABLISHMENT OF A POOLED FUND

1. In exercise of their respective powers under Section 75 of the 2006 Act, the Partners have agreed to establish and maintain such pooled funds for revenue expenditure as set out in the Scheme Specifications.
2. Each Pooled Fund shall be managed and maintained in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
3. It is agreed that the monies held in a Pooled Fund may only be expended on the following:
 - 6.3.1 the Contract Price;
 - 6.3.2 the Permitted Budget;
 - 6.3.3 Performance Payments;
 - 6.3.4 Third Party Costs;
 - 6.3.5 Approved Expenditure
 ("Permitted Expenditure")
4. The Partners may only depart from the definition of Permitted Expenditure to include or exclude other revenue expenditure with the express written agreement of each Partner.
5. For the avoidance of doubt, monies held in the Pooled Fund may not be expended on Default Liabilities unless this is agreed by all Partners.
6. The Host Partner for the Better Care Fund Pooled Budget is agreed as the Council. The Host Partner shall be the Partner responsible for:
 - 6.6.1 holding all monies contributed to the Pooled Fund on behalf of itself and the other Partners;
 - 6.6.2 providing the financial administrative systems for the Pooled Fund; and
 - 6.6.3 appointing the Pooled Fund Manager;
 - 6.6.4 ensuring that the Pooled Fund Manager complies with its obligations under this Agreement.

7 POOLED FUND MANAGEMENT

1. Shropshire Council is the host of the Pooled Fund with a nominated Pooled Fund Manager shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 7.1.1 the day to day operation and management of the Pooled Fund;
 - 7.1.2 ensuring that all expenditure from the Pooled Fund is in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the relevant Scheme Specification;
 - 7.1.3 maintaining an overview of all joint financial issues affecting the Partners in relation to the Services and the Pooled Fund and reporting processes;
 - 7.1.4 ensuring that full and proper records for accounting purposes are kept in respect of the Pooled Fund;
 - 7.1.5 reporting to the Joint Commissioning Group and the Health & Wellbeing Board as required;
 - 7.1.6 ensuring action is taken to manage any projected under or overspends relating to the Pooled Fund in accordance with this Agreement;
 - 7.1.7 preparing and submitting to the Joint Commissioning Group and the Health & Wellbeing Board Quarterly reports (as required or more frequent reports if required) and an annual return about the income and expenditure from the Pooled Fund together with such other information as may be required by the Partners and the Health & Wellbeing Board to monitor the effectiveness of the Pooled Fund and to enable the Partners to complete their own financial accounts and returns.
2. In carrying out their responsibilities as provided under Clause [8.2] the commissioners of the Pooled Fund shall have regard to the recommendations of the Health & Wellbeing Board and shall be accountable to the Partners.
 3. The Health & Wellbeing Board (or the Joint Commissioning Group through delegated authority) may agree to the moving of funds between Pooled Funds.

8 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

1. The Financial Contribution of the CCG and the Council to the Pooled Fund shall be set out in the NHS England BCF template and in each Individual Scheme Specification (in so far as possible).
2. The Financial values identified in the Better Care Fund scheme will be honoured, taking into account any formal variations actioned during the year. Joint Commissioning Group will advise the Health and Wellbeing Board of plans to contain inflation and growth for future years through the production of Quality, Innovation, Productivity or Prevention schemes within the fund. The contributing organisations may increase contributions to the fund through formal variation at any time.
3. Financial Contributions will be paid as set out in the each Scheme Specification.
4. With the exception of Clause [14], no provision of this Agreement shall preclude the Partners from making additional contributions of Non-Recurrent Payments to the Pooled Fund from time to time by mutual agreement. Any such additional contributions of Non-Recurrent Payments shall be explicitly recorded in Finance, Contracts and Performance Group minutes and recorded in the budget statement as a separate item.

9 NON FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

1. The Scheme Specification shall set out non-financial contributions of each Partner including staff (including the Pooled Fund Manager), premises, IT support and other non-financial resources necessary to perform its obligations pursuant to this Agreement (including, but not limited to, management of service contracts and the Pooled Fund).

10 RISK SHARE ARRANGMENTS, OVERSPENDS AND UNDERSPENDS

Risk share arrangements

1. The Partners have agreed risk share arrangements as set out in schedule 3 , which provide for financial risks arising within the commissioning of services from the pooled funds and the financial risk to the pool arising from the payment for performance element of the Better Care Fund.

Overspends in Pooled Fund

2. The Lead Commissioner for the relevant scheme shall manage expenditure within the Financial Contributions and shall ensure that the expenditure is limited to Permitted Expenditure.
3. The Lead Commissioner shall not be in breach of its obligations under this Agreement if an Overspend occurs PROVIDED THAT the only expenditure from a Pooled Fund has been in accordance with Permitted Expenditure and it has informed the relevant partners and decision making groups.
4. In the event that the an overspend is identified the commissioner must ensure that the Joint Commissioning Group is notified as soon as practicably possible and adhere to schedule 3 below.

Underspends in Pooled Fund

5. In the event that expenditure from any Pooled Fund in any Financial Year is less than the aggregate value of the Financial Contributions made for that Financial Year the Partners shall agree (through the Joint Commissioning Group) how the surplus monies shall be spent, carried forward and/or returned to the Partners. Such arrangements shall be subject to the Law and the Standing Orders and Standing Financial Instructions (or equivalent) of the Partners and the terms of the Performance Payment Arrangement.

11 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Pooled Funds shall not normally be applied towards any one-off expenditure on goods and/or services, which will provide continuing benefit and would historically have been funded from the capital budgets of one of the Partners. If a need for capital expenditure is identified this must be agreed by the Partners.

12 VAT

The Partners shall agree the treatment of the Pooled Fund for VAT purposes in accordance with any relevant guidance from HM Customs and Excise.

13 AUDIT AND RIGHT OF ACCESS

1. All Partners shall promote a culture of probity and sound financial discipline and control. The Host Partner shall arrange for the audit of the accounts of the relevant Pooled Fund and shall require the Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited to make arrangements to certify an annual return of those accounts under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
2. All internal and external auditors and all other persons authorised by the Partners will be given the right of access by them to any document, information or explanation they require from any employee, member of the Partner in order to carry out their duties. This right is not limited to financial information or accounting records and applies equally to premises or equipment used in connection with this Agreement. Access may be at any time without notice, provided there is good cause for access without notice.

14 LIABILITIES AND INSURANCE AND INDEMNITY

1. Subject to Clause 14.2, and 14.3, if a Partner ("First Partner") incurs a Loss arising out of or in connection with this Agreement or a Services Contract as a consequence of any act or omission of another Partner ("Other Partner") which constitutes negligence, fraud or a breach of contract in

relation to this Agreement or the Services Contract then the Other Partner shall be liable to the First Partner for that Loss and shall indemnify the First Partner accordingly.

2. Clause 14.1 shall only apply to the extent that the acts or omissions of the Other Partner contributed to the relevant Loss. Furthermore, it shall not apply if such act or omission occurred as a consequence of the Other Partner acting in accordance with the instructions or requests of the First Partner or the Health & Wellbeing Board.
3. If any third party makes a claim or intimates an intention to make a claim against either Partner, which may reasonably be considered as likely to give rise to liability under this Clause 14. the Partner that may claim against the other indemnifying Partner will:
 - 14.3.1 as soon as reasonably practicable give written notice of that matter to the Other Partner specifying in reasonable detail the nature of the relevant claim;
 - 14.3.2 not make any admission of liability, agreement or compromise in relation to the relevant claim without the prior written consent of the Other Partner (such consent not to be unreasonably conditioned, withheld or delayed);
 - 14.3.3 give the Other Partner and its professional advisers reasonable access to its premises and personnel and to any relevant assets, accounts, documents and records within its power or control so as to enable the Indemnifying Partner and its professional advisers to examine such premises, assets, accounts, documents and records and to take copies at their own expense for the purpose of assessing the merits of, and if necessary defending, the relevant claim.
4. Each Partner shall ensure that they maintain policies of insurance (or equivalent arrangements through schemes operated by the National Health Service Litigation Authority) in respect of all potential liabilities arising from this Agreement.
5. Each Partner shall at all times take all reasonable steps to minimise and mitigate any loss for which one party is entitled to bring a claim against the other pursuant to this Agreement.
6. Neither Partner shall be liable to the other Partner for claims arising from any acts or omissions of the other Partner in connection with the Services before the Commencement Date.

15 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND SERVICE

1. The Partners will at all times comply with Law and ensure good corporate governance in respect of each Partner (including the Partners respective Standing Orders and Standing Financial Instructions).
2. The Council is subject to the duty of Best Value under the Local Government Act 1999. This Agreement and the operation of the Pooled Fund is therefore subject to the Council's obligations for Best Value and the other Partners will co-operate with all reasonable requests from the Council which the Council considers necessary in order to fulfil its Best Value obligations.
3. The CCG is subject to the CCG Statutory Duties and these incorporate a duty of clinical governance, which is a framework through which they are accountable for continuously improving the quality of its services and safeguarding high standards of care by creating an environment in which excellence in clinical care will flourish. This Agreement and the operation of the Pooled Funds are therefore subject to ensuring compliance with the CCG Statutory Duties and clinical governance obligations.
4. The Partners are committed to an approach to equality and equal opportunities as represented in their respective policies. The Partners will maintain and develop these policies as applied to service provision, with the aim of developing a joint strategy for all elements of the service.

16 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Partners shall comply with the agreed policy for identifying and managing conflicts of interest as set out in schedule 6

17 GOVERNANCE

1. Overall strategic oversight of partnership working between the Partners is vested in the Health and Wellbeing Board, which for these purposes shall make recommendations to the Partners as to any action it considers necessary.
2. The Health and Wellbeing board, Healthwatch and the overview and scrutiny committees have signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure good lines of communication and a collective understanding of each other's roles
3. Implementation of the plan, financial and performance monitoring is the responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group.
4. The Health & Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group is made up of the relevant directors and senior representatives of Shropshire Council and Shropshire CCG and whose purpose is to drive the development and delivery of the health and wellbeing work/action plans including the Better Care Fund plan. The terms of reference for this group and the two sub-groups can be found in Schedule 2 of this Agreement
5. It is the responsibility of the Health & Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) in conjunction with partners in the STP, to ensure that strategic objectives across health & the local authority are aligned. Strategic issues are resolved through the HWBB and its subgroups, and the STP and its subgroups.

Each Partner will secure internal reporting arrangements to ensure the standards of accountability and probity required by each Partner's own statutory duties and:

6. The HWBB shall be responsible for the overall approval of the BCF Plan, ensuring compliance and the strategic direction of the Better Care Fund.
7. Each Service Schedule shall confirm the governance arrangements in respect of the Individual Service and how that Individual Services is reported to the Health & Wellbeing Board.

18 REVIEW

1. Save where the HWBB agree alternative arrangements (including alternative frequencies) the Partners shall undertake an annual review ("**Annual Review**") of the operation of this Agreement, the Pooled Fund and the provision of the Services within 3 Months of the end of each Financial Year.
2. Subject to any variations to this process required by the HWBB, Annual Reviews shall be conducted in good faith and, where applicable, in accordance with the governance arrangements.
3. The HWBB will receive regular reports on the Better Care Fund throughout the year, with a final annual report on the Better Care Fund, the Pooled budget and the Partnership Agreement.
4. In the event that the Partners fail to meet the requirements of the Better Care Fund Plan and NHS England the Partners shall provide full co-operation with NHS England to agree a recovery plan.

19 COMPLAINTS

The Partners' own complaints procedures shall apply to this Agreement. The Partners agree to assist one another in the management of complaints arising from this Agreement or the provision of the Services.

20 TERMINATION & DEFAULT

1. This Agreement may be terminated by any Partner giving not less than 3 Months' notice in writing to terminate this Agreement provided that such termination shall not take effect prior to the termination or expiry of all Individual Schemes.
2. Each Individual Scheme may be terminated in accordance with the terms set out in the relevant Scheme Specification and contracting arrangements of the lead commissioner, provided that the Partners ensure that the Better Care Fund requirements continue to be met.
3. If any Partner ("Relevant Partner") fails to meet any of its obligations under this Agreement, the other Partners (acting jointly) may by notice require the Relevant Partner to take such reasonable action within a reasonable timescale as the other Partners may specify to rectify such failure. Should the Relevant Partner fail to rectify such failure within such reasonable timescale, the matter shall be referred for resolution in accordance with Clause 23.
4. In the event of termination of this Agreement, the Partners agree to cooperate to ensure an orderly wind down of their joint activities and to use their best endeavours to minimise disruption to the health and social care which is provided to the Service Users.
5. Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever the following shall apply:
 - 20.5.1 the Partners agree that they will work together and co-operate to ensure that the winding down and disaggregation of the integrated and joint activities to the separate responsibilities of the Partners is carried out smoothly and with as little disruption as possible to service users, employees, the Partners and third parties, so as to minimise costs and liabilities of each Partner in doing so;
 - 20.5.2 where either Partner has entered into a Service Contract which continues after the termination of this Agreement, both Partners shall continue to contribute to the Contract Price in accordance with the agreed contribution for that Service prior to termination and will enter into all appropriate legal documentation required in respect of this;
 - 20.5.3 where necessary, the Lead Commissioner shall make reasonable endeavours to amend or terminate a Service Contract (which shall for the avoidance of doubt not include any act or omission that would place the Lead Commissioner in breach of the Service Contract) where the other Partner requests the same in writing Provided that the Lead Commissioner shall not be required to make any payments to the Provider for such amendment or termination unless the Partners shall have agreed in advance who shall be responsible for any such payment.
 - 20.5.4 where a Service Contract held by a Lead Commissioner relates all or partially to services which relate to the other Partner's Functions then provided that the Service Contract allows the other Partner may request that the Lead Commissioner assigns the Service Contract in whole or part upon the same terms mutatis mutandis as the original contract.
 - 20.5.5 the Partnership Board shall continue to operate for the purposes of functions associated with this Agreement for the remainder of any contracts and commitments relating to this Agreement; and
 - 20.5.6 Termination of this Agreement shall have no effect on the liability of any rights or remedies of either Partner already accrued, prior to the date upon which such termination takes effect.
6. In the event of termination in relation to an Individual Scheme the provisions of Clause 2.5 shall apply mutatis mutandis in relation to the Individual Scheme (as though references as to this Agreement were to that Individual Scheme).

21 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

1. In the event of a dispute between the Partners arising out of this Agreement, either Partner may serve written notice of the dispute on the other Partner, setting out full details of the dispute.
2. The Authorised Officer shall meet in good faith as soon as possible and in any event within seven (7) days of notice of the dispute being served pursuant to Clause 1, at a meeting convened for the purpose of resolving the dispute.
3. If the dispute remains after the meeting detailed in Clause 2 has taken place, the Partners' respective chief executives or nominees shall meet in good faith as soon as possible after the relevant meeting and in any event with fourteen (14) days of the date of the meeting, for the purpose of resolving the dispute.
4. If the dispute remains after the meeting detailed in Clause 3 has taken place, then the Partners will attempt to settle such dispute by mediation in accordance with the CEDR Model Mediation Procedure or any other model mediation procedure as agreed by the Partners. To initiate a mediation, either Partner may give notice in writing (a "**Mediation Notice**") to the other requesting mediation of the dispute and shall send a copy thereof to CEDR or an equivalent mediation organisation as agreed by the Partners asking them to nominate a mediator. The mediation shall commence within twenty (20) Working Days of the Mediation Notice being served. Neither Partner will terminate such mediation until each of them has made its opening presentation and the mediator has met each of them separately for at least one (1) hour. Thereafter, paragraph 14 of the Model Mediation Procedure will apply (or the equivalent paragraph of any other model mediation procedure agreed by the Partners). The Partners will co-operate with any person appointed as mediator, providing him with such information and other assistance as he shall require and will pay his costs as he shall determine or in the absence of such determination such costs will be shared equally.
5. Nothing in the procedure set out in this Clause 21 shall in any way affect either Partner's right to terminate this Agreement in accordance with any of its terms or take immediate legal action.

22 FORCE MAJEURE

1. Neither Partner shall be entitled to bring a claim for a breach of obligations under this Agreement by the other Partner or incur any liability to the other Partner for any losses or damages incurred by that Partner to the extent that a Force Majeure Event occurs and it is prevented from carrying out its obligations by that Force Majeure Event.
2. On the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event, the Affected Partner shall notify the other Partner as soon as practicable. Such notification shall include details of the Force Majeure Event, including evidence of its effect on the obligations of the Affected Partner and any action proposed to mitigate its effect.
3. As soon as practicable, following notification as detailed in Clause 22.2, the Partners shall consult with each other in good faith and use all best endeavours to agree appropriate terms to mitigate the effects of the Force Majeure Event and, subject to Clause 22.4, facilitate the continued performance of the Agreement.
4. If the Force Majeure Event continues for a period of more than sixty (60) days, either Partner shall have the right to terminate the Agreement by giving fourteen (14) days written notice of termination to the other Partner. For the avoidance of doubt, no compensation shall be payable by either Partner as a direct consequence of this Agreement being terminated in accordance with this Clause.

23 CONFIDENTIALITY

1. In respect of any Confidential Information a Partner receives from another Partner (the "**Discloser**") and subject always to the remainder of this Clause 23, each Partner (the "**Recipient**") undertakes to keep secret and strictly confidential and shall not disclose any such Confidential Information to any third party, without the Discloser's prior written consent provided that:

- 23.1.1 the Recipient shall not be prevented from using any general knowledge, experience or skills which were in its possession prior to the Commencement Date; and
- 23.1.2 the provisions of this Clause 23 shall not apply to any Confidential Information which:
 - (a) is in or enters the public domain other than by breach of the Agreement or other act or omission of the Recipient; or
 - (b) is obtained by a third party who is lawfully authorised to disclose such information.
- 2. Nothing in this Clause 23 shall prevent the Recipient from disclosing Confidential Information where it is required to do so in fulfilment of statutory obligations or by judicial, administrative, governmental or regulatory process in connection with any action, suit, proceedings or claim or otherwise by applicable Law.
- 3. Each Partner:
 - 23.3.1 may only disclose Confidential Information to its employees and professional advisors to the extent strictly necessary for such employees to carry out their duties under the Agreement; and
 - 23.3.2 will ensure that, where Confidential Information is disclosed in accordance with Clause 23.3.1, the recipient(s) of that information is made subject to a duty of confidentiality equivalent to that contained in this Clause 23;
 - 23.3.3 shall not use Confidential Information other than strictly for the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

24 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGULATIONS

- 1. The Partners agree that they will each cooperate with each other to enable any Partner receiving a request for information under the 2000 Act or the 2004 Act to respond to a request promptly and within the statutory timescales. This cooperation shall include but not be limited to finding, retrieving and supplying information held, directing requests to other Partners as appropriate and responding to any requests by the Partner receiving a request for comments or other assistance.
- 2. Any and all agreements between the Partners as to confidentiality shall be subject to their duties under the 2000 Act and 2004 Act. No Partner shall be in breach of Clause 23 if it makes disclosures of information in accordance with the 2000 Act and/or 2004 Act and the Local Authority Transparency Code 2015.

25 OMBUDSMEN

The Partners will co-operate with any investigation undertaken by the Health Service Commissioner for England or the Local Government Commissioner for England (or both of them) in connection with this Agreement.

26 INFORMATION SHARING

The Partners will follow the Information Governance Protocol set out in schedule 7, and in so doing will ensure that the operation this Agreement complies with Law, in particular the 1998 Act, 2000 Act and the 2004 Act and will at all times observe the Data Protection Legislation and honour the confidentiality of any data supplied for the performance of this Agreement and in so far as such data constitutes Personal Data within the meaning prescribed by the 1998 Act will at all times comply fully with the 1998 Act principles relative thereto and will at all times indemnify each other from and/or against any cause of action which may be brought against either Partner consequent to any breach or non-observance by the other Partner

27 NOTICES

1. Any notice to be given under this Agreement shall either be delivered personally, sent by first class post or electronic mail. The address for service of each Partner shall be as set out in Clause 27.3 or such other address as each Partner may previously have notified to the other Partner in writing. A notice shall be deemed to have been served if:

27.1.1 personally delivered, at the time of delivery;

27.1.2 posted, at the expiration of forty eight (48) hours after the envelope containing the same was delivered into the custody of the postal authorities; and

27.1.3 if sent by electronic mail, at the time of transmission and a telephone call must be made to the recipient warning the recipient that an electronic mail message has been sent to him (as evidenced by a contemporaneous note of the Partner sending the notice) and a hard copy of such notice is also sent by first class recorded delivery post (airmail if overseas) on the same day as that on which the electronic mail is sent.

2. In proving such service, it shall be sufficient to prove that personal delivery was made, or that the envelope containing such notice was properly addressed and delivered into the custody of the postal authority as prepaid first class or airmail letter (as appropriate), or that the electronic mail was properly addressed and no message was received informing the sender that it had not been received by the recipient (as the case may be).

3. The address for service of notices as referred to in Clause 28.1 shall be as follows unless otherwise notified to the other Partner in writing:

27.3.1 if to the Council, addressed to the Chief Executive:

Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Forgate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6ND

Tel: 0345 678 9000

Email: customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk

and

27.3.2 if to the CCG, addressed to the Chief Executive;

Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
William Farr House
Mytton Oak Road
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY3 8XL

Tel: 01743 277500

28 PROHIBITED ACTS

1 Neither Partner shall commit a Prohibited Act

2 If either of the Partners commits any Prohibited Act or commits any offence under the Bribery Act with or without the knowledge of the other Partner in relation to this Agreement, the non-defaulting Partner shall be entitled:

a) Exercise its right to terminate this Agreement and to recover from the defaulting Partner the amount of any loss resulting from the termination; and

b) To recover from the defaulting Party any loss or expense sustained in consequence of the carrying out of the Prohibited Act or the commission of the offence.

3 Each Partner must provide the other Partner upon written request with all reasonable assistance to enable that Partner to perform any activity required for the purposes of complying with the Bribery Act. Should either Partner request such assistance the Partner requesting assistance must pay the reasonable expenses of the other Partner arising as a result of such request.

4 The Partners must have in place an anti-bribery policy for the purposes of preventing any of its employees, agents servants consultants or contractors from committing a prohibited act under the Bribery Act and must be enforced where applicable.

5 Should either Partner become aware of or suspect any breach of this clause, it will notify the other Partner immediately. Following such notification, the defaulting Partner should respond promptly and fully to any enquiries of the other Partner, co-operate with any investigation undertaken by the non-defaulting Partner and allow the non-defaulting Partner to audit any books, records and other relevant documentation.

29 SAFEGUARDING

The Partners shall ensure that all Providers have appropriate Safeguarding policies in place and shall require such policies to be implemented where applicable. Where the services or activities being undertaken with respect to any Individual Scheme are Regulated Activities the Partners shall require Providers to comply with all relevant requirements of the Disclosure and Barring Service.

30 HEALTHWATCH

1. The Partners shall promote and facilitate the involvement of Service Users, carers and members of the public in decision making concerning the Services commissioned.

2. The Partners shall ensure that its contracts with Providers require co-operation with Local Healthwatch where applicable

31 STAFFING (TUPE, SECONDMENT AND PENSIONS) – NOT USED

The Partners agree that the provisions of Schedule 8 shall apply to any:

1. Relevant Transfer of staff under this agreement; and
2. To secondments of the Partners staff to either of the Partners.

32 VARIATION

No variations to this Agreement will be valid unless they are recorded in writing and signed for and on behalf of each of the Partners.

33 CHANGE IN LAW

1 The Partners shall ascertain, observe, perform and comply with all relevant Laws, and shall do and execute or cause to be done and executed all acts required to be done under or by virtue of any Laws.

2 On the occurrence of any Change in Law, the Partners shall agree in good faith any amendment required to this Agreement as a result of the Change in Law subject to the Partners using all reasonable endeavours to mitigate the adverse effects of such Change in Law and taking all reasonable steps to minimise any increase in costs arising from such Change in Law.

3 In the event of failure by the Partners to agree the relevant amendments to the Agreement (as appropriate), the Clause 21 (Dispute Resolution) shall apply.

34 WAIVER

No failure or delay by any Partner to exercise any right, power or remedy will operate as a waiver of it nor will any partial exercise preclude any further exercise of the same or of some other right to remedy.

35 SEVERANCE

If any provision of this Agreement, not being of a fundamental nature, shall be held to be illegal or unenforceable, the enforceability of the remainder of this Agreement shall not thereby be affected.

36 ASSIGNMENT AND SUB CONTRACTING

The Partners shall not sub contract, assign or transfer the whole or any part of this Agreement, without the prior written consent of the other Partners, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed PROVIDED that this shall not apply to any assignment to a statutory successor of all or part of a Partner's statutory functions or where the Council wishes to assign any of its rights under this Agreement; or transfer all of its rights or obligations by novation to another person where such assignment, transfer or novation is to an Associated Person of the Council.

37 EXCLUSION OF PARTNERSHIP AND AGENCY

1 Nothing in this Agreement shall create or be deemed to create a partnership under the Partnership Act 1890 or the Limited Partnership Act 1907, a joint venture or the relationship of employer and employee between the Partners or render either Partner directly liable to any third party for the debts, liabilities or obligations of the other.

2 Except as expressly provided otherwise in this Agreement or where the context or any statutory provision otherwise necessarily requires, neither Partner will have authority to, or hold itself out as having authority to:

36.2.1 act as an agent of the other;

36.2.2 make any representations or give any warranties to third parties on behalf of or in respect of the other; or

36.2.3 bind the other in any way.

38 THIRD PARTY RIGHTS

Unless the right of enforcement is expressly provided, no third party shall have the right to pursue any right under this Contract pursuant to the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 or otherwise.

39 ENTIRE AGREEMENT

1. The terms herein contained together with the contents of the Schedules constitute the complete agreement between the Partners with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersede all previous communications representations understandings and agreement and any representation promise or condition not incorporated herein shall not be binding on any Partner.

2. No agreement or understanding varying or extending or pursuant to any of the terms or provisions hereof shall be binding upon any Partner unless in writing and signed by a duly authorised officer or representative of the parties.

40 COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. Any single counterpart or a set of counterparts executed, in either case, by all Partners shall constitute a full original of this Agreement for all purposes.

41 GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

1. This Agreement and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales.
2. Subject to Clause 22 (Dispute Resolution), the Partners irrevocably agree that the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and settle any action, suit, proceedings, dispute or claim, which may arise out of, or in connection with, this Agreement, its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF this Agreement has been executed by the Partners on the date of this Agreement

Signed for on behalf of **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL**

Authorised Signatory
Andy Begley
Director, Adult Services

Signed for on behalf of **SHROPSHIRE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP**


Authorised Signatory
Simon Freeman,
Accountable Officer, Shropshire CCG

SCHEDULE 1 – SCHEME SPECIFICATION

- 1 The scheme specification for the individual schemes which make up the Better Care Fund plan are found here in two parts; the first is narrative, as found in the Better Care Fund plan. The narrative describes:
 - The Aims and Outcomes of the Scheme,
 - The service that the scheme delivers,
 - The governance arrangements,
 - The outcome measures,
 - The schedule for performance monitoring.
 - Action plan for BCF Development

2. The second part is the BCF planning template which identifies:
 - BCF budget lines and amounts
 - Funding sources
 - Performance metrics
 - National conditions
 - Guidance

Please find Part 1 & 2 attached here



Part 1	Link to 2017-19 BCF Plan
Part 2	 2017-19 Planning Template v14.6b.xls

SCHEDULE 2 – GOVERNANCE

1. Overall strategic oversight of partnership working between the partners is vested in the Health and Wellbeing Board, which for these purposes shall make recommendations to the Partners as to any action it considers necessary.
2. The Health and Wellbeing board, Healthwatch and the overview and scrutiny committees have signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure good lines of communication and a collective understanding of each other's roles
3. Implementation of the plan, financial and performance monitoring is the responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group and its sub-groups;
4. The Health & Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group is made up of the relevant directors and senior representatives of Shropshire Council and Shropshire CCG and whose purpose is to drive the development and delivery of the health and wellbeing work/action plans including the Better Care Fund plan.
5. It is the responsibility of the Health & Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group to ensure that strategic objectives across health & the local authority are aligned. Strategic issues are resolved through this forum.
6. Each Partner will secure internal reporting arrangements to ensure the standards of accountability and probity required by each Partner's own statutory duties and organisation are complied with.
7. The Health and Wellbeing Board shall be responsible for the overall approval of the Individual Services, ensuring compliance with the Better Care Fund Plan and the strategic direction of the Better Care Fund.
8. Each Services Schedule shall confirm the governance arrangements in respect of the Individual Service and how that Individual Services is reported to the Health & Wellbeing Board.

The governance of the Better Care Fund is schedule sets out the governance arrangements of the better care fund. It should be noted that these are the existing governance arrangements and that these will be reviewed in light of the health and wellbeing board strategy and governance review.

The Terms of Reference for the Governance Groups is attached below

Health & Wellbeing Board TOR	 HWBB TOR APPROVED 25 FEB 20
Health & Wellbeing Joint Commissioning Group TOR	 Joint Commissioning Group ToR 2017.docx

SCHEDULE 3 - RISK SHARE AND OVERSPENDS

- 1 The Joint Commissioning Group will monitored the BCF in detail.
- 2 The Joint Commissioning Group will make recommendations to the HWBB on where risk sharing agreements may need to be actioned.
- 3 Any significant changes in performance that potentially increase risk to a stakeholder will be highlighted to the group; actions will be agreed to address and monitored to address the immediate impact and move the ensure performance moves to target levels. This will include:
 - 3.1 Identify the risk and impact
 - 3.2 Develop a plan to address the immediate affect and address the underlying cause
 - 3.3 Agree the plan of action
 - 3.4 Put plan in place
- 4 The Partners agree that overspends and underspends shall be managed in accordance with this Schedule 3.

5 Overspends

- 5.1 In the event that the a scheme commissioner identifies an actual or projected overspend the pooled fund manager must ensure that Joint Commissioning Group as soon as reasonably possible
- 5.2 The Joint Commissioning Group shall consider what action to take in respect of any actual or potential Overspends
- 5.3 The Joint Commissioning Group shall acting reasonably having taken into consideration all relevant factors including, where appropriate the Better Care Fund Plan and any agreed outcomes and any other budgetary constraints agree appropriate action in relation to Overspends which may include the following:
 - 5.3.1 Whether there is any action that can be taken in order to contain expenditure
 - 5.3.2 Whether there are any underspends that can be moved from any other fund maintained under this Agreement
 - 5.3.3 How any overspend shall be apportioned between the Partners, such apportionment to be just and equitable taking into consideration all relevant factors
 - 5.3.4 The Partners agree to co-operate fully in order to establish an agreed position in relation to any overspends.

6 Underspends

- 6.1 In the event that an actual or projected underspend is identified the Joint Commissioning Group must be informed as soon as reasonably possible.
- 6.2 The Joint Commissioning Group shall consider what action to take in respect of any actual or potential underspends. The Group shall, acting reasonably and having taken into consideration all relevant factors including where appropriate the Better Care Fund Plan and any agreed outcomes and any other budgetary constraints, agree appropriate action in relation to underspends which may include whether there are any overspends within the Better Care Fund that can be offset against the underspend.

In 2015, an Options Appraisal for this schedule was considered by the BCF Task & Finish Group and the HWB Delivery Group. It is attach for your reference as it supported considerations and conclusions in this Partnership Agreement.

BCF Risk Sharing Options Appraisal



Shropshire BCF Risk
Share Option Apprais

SCHEDULE 4 – JOINT WORKING OBLIGATIONS

Part 1 – LEAD COMMISSIONER OBLIGATIONS

Terminology used in this Schedule shall have the meaning attributed to it in the NHS Standard Form Contract save where this Agreement or the context requires otherwise.

1. The Lead Commissioner shall notify the other Partners if it receives or serves:
 - 1.1 A Change in Control Notice;
 - 1.2 a Notice of a Event of Force Majeure;
 - 1.3 a Contract Query;
 - 1.4 Exception Reports and provide copies of the same.
- 2 The Lead Commissioner shall provide the other Partners with copies of any and all:
 - 2.1 CQUIN Performance Reports;
 - 2.2 Monthly Activity Reports;
 - 2.3 Review Records; and
 - 2.4 Remedial Action Plans;
 - 2.5 JI Reports;
 - 2.6 Service Quality Performance Report;
 - 2.7 The Lead Commissioner shall consult with the other Partners before attending:
 - 2.8 an Activity Management Meeting;
 - 2.9 Contract Management Meeting;

Review Meeting and, to the extent the Service Contract permits, raise issues reasonably requested by a Partner at those meetings

- 3 The Lead Commissioner shall advise the other Partners of any matter which has been referred for dispute and agree what (if any) matters will require the prior approval of one or more of the other Partners as part of that process.
- 4 The Lead Commissioner shall notify the other Partners of the outcome of any Dispute that is agreed or determined by Dispute Resolution

The Lead Commissioner shall share copies of any reports submitted by the Service Provider to the Lead Commissioner pursuant to the Service Contract (including audit reports)

Part 2 – OBLIGATIONS OF THE OTHER PARTNER

Terminology used in this Schedule shall have the meaning attributed to it in the NHS Standard Form Contract save where this Agreement or the context requires otherwise.

- 5 Each Partner shall (at its own cost) provide such cooperation, assistance and support to the Lead Commissioner (including the provision of data and other information) as is reasonably necessary to enable the Lead Commissioner to:
 - 5.1 Resolve disputes pursuant to a Service Contract;
 - 5.2 Comply with its obligations pursuant to a Service Contract and this Agreement;
 - 5.3 Ensure continuity and a smooth transfer of any Services that have been suspended, expired or terminated pursuant to the terms of the relevant Service Contract;
- 6 No Partner shall unreasonably withhold or delay consent requested by the Lead Commissioner.
- 7 Each Partner (other than the Lead Commissioner) shall:
 - 7.1 Comply with the requirements imposed on the Lead Commissioner pursuant to the relevant Service Contract in relation to any information disclosed to the other Partners;
 - 7.2 Notify the Lead Commissioner of any matters that might prevent the Lead Commissioner from giving any of the warranties set out in a Services Contract or which might cause the Lead Commissioner to be in breach of warranty.

SCHEDULE 5 – BETTER CARE FUND PLAN



This section includes the final draft of the Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Board’s Better Care Fund submission. Template 1 of the submission includes the following sections:

- The Vision
- A case for change,
- Plan of Action
- Risks and Contingencies
- Alignment
- National Conditions
 - Protecting Social Care Services
 - 7 Day Services to Support Discharge
 - Data Sharing
 - Joint Assessment & Accountable Lead Professional
- Engagement
- Scheme Specifications

Template 2 includes:

- Outcome measures and targets
- Financial Contribution Matrix

Please find Template 1 & 2 attached here

Template 1	 RCF Shropshir
Template 2	 Shropsh

SCHEDULE 6 –THE MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Both Shropshire Council and Shropshire CCG have established and practiced Conflicts of Interest policies in place. For the purpose of this agreement the partners agree to adopt the following principles in the governance and delivery of the Better Care Fund Plan.

Doing business appropriately. If commissioners get their needs assessments, consultation mechanisms, commissioning strategies and procurement procedures right from the outset, then conflicts of interest become much easier to identify, avoid and/or manage, because the rationale for all decision-making will be clear and transparent and should withstand scrutiny;

Being proactive, not reactive. Commissioners should seek to identify and minimise the risk of conflicts of interest at the earliest possible opportunity, for instance by:

- considering potential conflicts of interest when electing or selecting individuals to join the governing body or other decision-making bodies;
- ensuring individuals receive proper induction and training so that they understand their obligations to declare conflicts of interest.
- They should establish and maintain registers of interests, and agree in advance how a range of possible situations and scenarios will be handled, rather than waiting until they arise;

Assuming that individuals will seek to act ethically and professionally, but may not always be sensitive to all conflicts of interest. Rules should assume people will volunteer information about conflicts and, where necessary, exclude themselves from decision-making, but there should also be prompts and checks to reinforce this;

Being balanced and proportionate. Rules should be clear and robust but not overly prescriptive or restrictive. They should ensure that decision-making is transparent and fair, but not constrain people by making it overly complex or cumbersome;

Openness. Ensuring early engagement with patients, the public, clinicians and other stakeholders, including local Healthwatch, in relation to proposed commissioning plans;

Responsiveness and best practice. Ensuring that commissioning intentions are based on local health needs and reflect evidence of best practice – securing ‘buy in’ from local stakeholders to the clinical case for change;

Transparency. Documenting clearly the approach taken at every stage in the commissioning cycle so that a clear audit trail is evident;

Securing expert advice. Ensuring that plans take into account advice from appropriate health and social care professionals, e.g. through clinical senates and networks, and draw on commissioning support, for instance around formal consultations and for procurement processes;

Engaging with providers. Early engagement with both incumbent and potential new providers over potential changes to the services commissioned for a local population;

Creating clear and transparent commissioning specifications that reflect the depth of engagement and set out the basis on which any contract will be awarded;

Following proper procurement processes and legal arrangements, including even-handed approaches to providers;

Ensuring sound record-keeping, including up to date registers of interests; and

A clear, recognised and easily enacted system for dispute resolution.

SCHEDULE 7 – INFORMATION GOVERNANCE PROTOCOL

Shropshire CCG and Shropshire Council are currently parties to the Shropshire Information Sharing Protocol. Other organisations who are party to this include the local acute and non-acute providers of healthcare and the local Healthwatch.

The protocol is due for renewal on 1st April 2015 and both the CCG and Local Authority will remain partners to the revised document.

Beneath the protocol sit individual Data Sharing Agreements for each project or service that requires person-specific or statistical data to be shared between organisations. This arrangement has been in place for a number of years and operates well across the Shropshire Health and Social Care Economy.

Both the CCG and Local Authority will utilise this Protocol in line with current practice, to accommodate any such requirements emanating from the operation of the Better Care Fund.

All project leads will receive a copy of the protocol and a blank agreement template along with the contact details of their respective Information Governance Leads.

In addition to the above, Shropshire CCG and Shropshire Council both have Information Governance frameworks in place with identified Senior Information Risk Owners (SIROs), Caldicott Guardians and IG leads. The frameworks are supported by relevant policies, standards and staff training, covering Data Protection, Information and IT Security, FOI, Records Management, Information Management and Data Quality. Programmes for NHS IG Toolkit compliance and monitoring are in place and Shropshire Council is also subject to Cabinet Office Public Sector Network (PSN) annual compliance checks. Shropshire Council is in the process of preparing its submission for the new Local Authority version of the NHS IG Toolkit by March 2015.

It is important to note that the Information Governance Protocol attached references Shropshire PCT rather than Shropshire CCG. This document was created prior to the transition of the PCT to CCG and is only scheduled for review this year and therefore has not yet been amended. Shropshire CCG recognises this agreement and continues to act in accordance with it.

A copy of the Information Governance Protocol is attached