

In response to Mr Bickerton's questions.

Point 1

The Partnership Agreement between the CCG and Shropshire Council was agreed at the January 2018 HWBB subject to agreement by Shropshire CCG governing body and Shropshire Council's Cabinet. Subsequently the Shropshire CCG has requested some changes to the Partnership Agreement, so updates are in the process of being finalised prior to sign off by all relevant boards. The Partnership Agreement forms the legal framework for pooling funds, however, Shropshire CCG and Shropshire Council have been working to principles of the framework while awaiting final signoff.

Point 2

The additional Improved Better Care Fund grant, announced in the Spring Budget 2017, was provided in response to urgent pleas from local authorities for immediate increased funding for adult social care. Although the additional Improved Better Care Fund grant is reducing between 2017/18 and 2019/2020, the original Improved Better Care Fund grant is increasing over the same period, and the result is that Shropshire Council's total allocation of the two grants increases over the three year period.

<b>Shropshire Council Improved Better Care Fund Grant Allocations</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>Total</b>
Original Improved Better Care Fund	£216,820	£4,328,800	£8,153,520	£12,699,140
Additional Improved Better Care Fund (announced in the Spring Budget 2017)	£5,976,760	£3,959,450	£1,967,260	£11,903,470
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,193,580</b>	<b>£8,288,250</b>	<b>10,120,780</b>	<b>£24,602,610</b>

Point 3

The officers of the LJC will have a good understanding of the BCF and its aims, however, they will not have detailed understanding of all of the schemes and the finances involved. Therefore specific and detailed questions should continue to be directed to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), where the fund is managed and agreed.

Point 4

As discussed by the Director of Public Health regularly at the HWBB, Shropshire is a rural county and Shropshire Council continues to provide information and evidence to central government regarding the need for fair funding formulas for rural counties.

Shropshire Council Chief Exec, Clive Wright works closely with other local authorities and with local MPs to provide evidence and understanding of what happens when funding formulas don't take into account rural issues. As an example, in February 2018, Shropshire Council wrote to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, to lobby for the same and explain the pitfalls of the Transition Grant funding.

Please see links below for a further example of Shropshire taking the lead for fair funding formulas.

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/915402/chancellor-phillip-hammond-conservative-rebellion-elderly-funding>

<https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/politics/2018/01/31/daniel-kawczynski-leads-mps-in-talks-with-chancellor-over-fairer-funding-for-shropshire/>