

Health and Wellbeing Board 13th August 2014

BETTER CARE FUND

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1. Summary

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) was introduced in June 2013 and provided an opportunity for local areas to transform local services so that people received better integrated care and support.
- 1.2 The Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Board established a working group who developed the local Better Care Fund plan through the Autumn 2013 and Spring 2014. Workshops with the Health and Wellbeing Board and other stakeholders through this time supported this development and a plan was submitted in April 2014.
- 1.3 The Shropshire plan/ submission did not receive full assurance from NHS England and at the same time concerns were raised at a national level regarding the BCF process and the assurance process.
- 1.4 It was recognised widely that the initial BCF programme provided little guidance for local areas for development of this work and concerns arose nationally that the submitted BCF plans did not demonstrate actual cost savings and reduction in pressure on acute services. There were also concerns that plans/ submissions did not reflect a robust common and integrated approach, the 'golden thread' for each local area.
- 1.5 In July 2014 new and more detailed guidance was published with significant changes and updates and a request for all local areas to resubmit their plans by 19th September 2014. For more information see the letter from [Andrew Ridley](#) and the new [Better Care Fund guidance](#).
- 1.6 The purpose of this meeting about the Better Care Fund is to:
 - Discuss, explore and understand the new BCF guidance and how it will change the Shropshire submission (including required resources to ensure robust submission);
 - With the new guidance in mind, discuss the key areas of focus for the Shropshire BCF;
 - Confirm the vision, purpose, outcomes and proposed themes of the Health and Wellbeing Board that will drive forward the development of the Better Care Fund and ensure that we can demonstrate how the BCF will deliver against our Health and Wellbeing outcomes and appropriately reflect the 'golden thread' for Shropshire.

2. Recommendations:

2.1 That the Board:

1. Discuss and understand the new BCF guidance and confirm available resources to deliver the submission and subsequent service transformation;
2. Discuss the key areas of focus for the development of the for the Shropshire BCF including the 'Golden Thread' and governance, 7 day working, financial modelling, and stakeholder engagement;
3. Discuss and confirm the vision, purpose, outcomes and themes as provided on the one page diagram attached.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

(NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)

- 3.1 The work of the Health and Wellbeing Board impacts on Health Inequalities; and all work being undertaken by the Board's work streams considers impact on health inequalities.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There will be significant financial implications for the delivery of the Better Care Fund. These will be explored more fully in subsequent Health and Wellbeing Board meetings

5. Background

See Background Papers below.

6. Additional Information

Link to the [Better Care Fund guidance](#)

7. Conclusions

n/a

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

[First Better Care Fund Submission](#) – March 2014

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Cllr. Karen Calder

Local Member

Appendices