



**Health and Wellbeing Board  
11 September 2015**

**BETTER CARE FUND UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2015**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) was officially launched in April 2015 as a mechanism for developing and improving commissioning between health and social care. The Health and Wellbeing Board will be familiar with the Better Care Fund Plan developed with Health & Wellbeing stakeholder involvement to take forward our local vision for the Fund as approved in the autumn of 2014.
- 1.2 This report serves to update the Board on recent developments in the implementation of the BCF plan focusing on updates from the Service Transformation Group and Finance, Contract and Performance Group.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. That the Health and Wellbeing Board note the contents of this report.

**REPORT**

**3. Service Transformation Group**

- 3.1 Whilst the Service Transformation group has not met over the summer months, this time has been utilised to begin to develop more refined processes for the day to day management of BCF schemes, their review, approval and/ or cessation. In particular this work has focused on removing as much duplication across organisations in the bureaucracy of the scheme review and approval processes and to develop a single integrated process for this that satisfies both the CCG and the Councils governance and approvals processes. Significant progress has been made and this work will culminate in an extraordinary meeting of the BCF Task & Finish Group later in September and to finalise this process for presentation to the Health & Wellbeing Board.
- 3.2 Further to this work has begun to develop potential schemes for 2016/17. One of the difficulties identified in 2015/16 is quantifying the impact of some of the current BCF schemes. Whilst all are valuable in contributing to the outcomes of the BCF plan, for a number of the schemes it has proved challenging to accurately demonstrate their impact in relation to the BCF performance metrics and it is possible that there are other schemes or potential schemes that will be more suited to this. This work will be taken forward via a focused BCF workshop early in October.
- 3.3 The BCF Reference group has met and agreed a new focus on regular updates and communication with providers and to secure their input into developing work around

implementation of the plan. A new schedule of meetings is being set, commencing in early October

The BCF manager post has been advertised and interviews will be held in early October

#### **4. Performance, Finance & Contract Group**

- 4.1 The group has continued to monitor BCF spend and performance. In particular the recent focus has been on the preparation and submission of the Q1 performance report to NHS England (attached) Local reporting continues to be undertaken on a monthly basis, the latest local report is also attached.
- 4.2 Performance summary:
  - 4.2.1 As these reports show the Non Elective admissions target for Q1 was not met and as a result no payment for performance monies could be released. In addition to this the Delayed Transfers of Care target continues to be rated red. Work continues to focus on addressing both these performance metrics and this will be an area of particular focus in the BCF workshop noted earlier in this report.
  - 4.2.2 Performance against the Residential Admissions target remains green for the second quarter in a row and the reablement target is amber.
  - 4.2.3 Of note on the NHS England submission template is the reporting on the local metrics. As the narrative states this template asks for quarterly phasing against these targets which were not required in the original BCF submission. The local targets selected for Shropshire do not lend themselves to quarterly reporting but will result in an annual performance position. This has been highlighted and the expected date for reporting noted.

Financial monitoring demonstrates that the BCF financial plan remains on track.

#### **5. Summary**

- 5.1 Work continues in relation to developing processes to work in a more integrated way across the CCG and Council to deliver the BCF objectives, with a particular focus on developing the BCF offer for 2016/17. Performance against the BCF metrics remains mixed with the BCF performance summary echoing the system wide concerns regarding non elective admissions and Delayed Transfers of Care. These will continue to be subject to detailed scrutiny over the coming weeks and will be the focus in developing BCF schemes for 2016/17