



Health and Wellbeing Board 6th July 2017

BETTER CARE FUND

Responsible Officer

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1. Summary

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider the content of the report with particular reference to the 2017/19 Better Care Fund Draft.

2. Recommendations

The Health & Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- Consider the content of the draft BCF Plan 2017-2019 and input on its content in light of the publication of the BCF guidance on 3rd July
- Confirm the proposed pooled budget for 17/18
- Note the submission timeframes and the possibility of delegation to the Joint Commissioning Board

REPORT

3. Purpose of Report

To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the draft BCF plan for 2017/18 and 18/19 and to appraise the Health and Wellbeing Board of the submission timelines for the plan and the proposed sign off arrangements.

4. Background

As in previous years local health and social care systems are required to produce a yearly BCF plan signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board and agreed by NHS England.

The BCF is designed to be an enabler for integrated working across health and social care and requires the CCG and the Local Authority to pool resources to facilitate this. A number of national metrics are required to be measured and reported on.

5. BCF Planning for 17/18 & 18/19

The Policy Framework for BCF 17/18 and 18/19 was significantly delayed (anticipated November 16 published March 17). This provided us with the policy context for the BCF going forward and high level requirements from the plan. However the BCF Guidance that provides the detailed information, including minimum pooled funding requirements and metric targets is still awaited. It was initially delayed until after the General Election and was rumoured to be published on 3rd July.

Although frustrating these delays have served to be beneficial in that we have got on with the job of creating a plan for Shropshire free from some of the constraints of previous years.

Our approach has been to describe our integration journey and how the BCF is a key tool in getting to our destination. We have explained this in a much more concise manner to enable the plan to be an easy read that means something to all audiences.

Our first draft is appended to this document and we request all HWBB members to input both during the meeting on 6th July and in the following weeks via email.

It is anticipated that the plan will need to be submitted to NHSE in September but we have no clarity on this at present. As such, there may be a requirement to approve the final submission via delegation to the HWBB Joint Commissioning Board (previously the Delivery Group) should the timescales not fit with the cycle of Board meetings.

6. Engagement

There continues to be extensive engagement across all partners in the delivery of the BCF as set out in the Engagement section of the BCF narrative plan. The BCF Reference Group have agreed to meet less regularly but to focus on specific tasks- e.g. planning for 17/18.

Various parties have contributed to this initial draft including CCG and SC commissioners and providers via the BCF Reference Group.

7. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal (including Equalities, Finance, Rural Issues)

A specific Risk Log is included in the BCF narrative plan. The H&WB Joint Commissioning Board review the associated risk assurance framework at each meeting. Equalities issues are embedded throughout the plan. The plan also includes a section outlining the financial commitments supporting delivery. Rural issues are referenced throughout the plan.

8. Decisions Required from the Health and Wellbeing Board

- To agree to feed into the initial draft BCF plan to ensure it has maximum value and fit
- To confirm the draft pooled budget
- To agree to delegate authority to the Joint Commissioning Board for sign off should the submission timescales not align with the Board meetings

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

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Cllr Lee Chapman

Local Member

n/a

Appendices

Better Care Fund Plan