

REPORT FOR: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date of Meeting: 17 March 2016

Subject: **RECOMMENDATION REPORT – Better Care Fund (BCF)**

Responsible Officer: Bernie Flaherty, Director Adult Social Services, Harrow Council & Javina Segal, Senior Operating Officer, Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group

Exempt: No

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: None

Section 1 – Summary

Due to the timescales required for the 2016/17 BCF to be submitted in April 2016 and the next HWBB not scheduled until May 2016, it is recommended that delegated authority for final sign off is given to an officer of the council in consultation with the Chair of the HWBB. This meets with legal requirements detailed in Section 4 of this report.

This report also sets out progress on the BCF in the first 3 quarters of 2015/16 and provides an update on the development and submission of the BCF for 16/17.

This report is tabled due to the information relating to the process of submitting the BCF 16/17 being recently updated from NHS England.

FOR RECOMMENDATION

Section 2 – Report

This report provides an update on progress made over the first 3 quarters of the year 2015/16 and additionally informs of the progress in development of the 16/17 BCF plan which needs to be submitted to NHS England by 25th April 2016.

The agreed value of the Better Care Fund in Harrow is £14.373m, £1.190m of which reflects the continuation of historic capital funding in relation to Disabled Facility and Community Capacity Grants. The balance of £13.183m is allocated to three agreed schemes.

A section 75 agreement between the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is in place to underpin the agreement.

Agreed Schemes

The BCF agreed 3 schemes.

1. Whole Systems Integrated Care Programme - £3.023m

This included the expansion of the Integrated Care Pilot (ICP) to provide an end to end case management service, together with the roll out of multi-disciplinary teams to provide personalised long term care and support for individuals at high risk of hospital admission, beginning with older people with one or more long term condition. The success of the pilot has resulted in the scheme being rolled out across the borough.

2. Transforming Community Services - £4.749m

This included better aligning CCG community services to primary care, aligning CCG Short Term Assessment, Reablement and Rehabilitation Service (STARRS) better with community care, establishing a single point of access to community services and the CCG redesigning the pathway for the urgent assessment of mental illness with a focus on avoiding acute admissions and delivering care in community setting.

Through the re-commissioning and re-configuration of community services, services provided in the community will be better aligned with GP practices and the range of services provided will be increased. The CCG has re-tendered its community services contract to deliver a more comprehensive integrated care model that supports Whole Systems Working and supports the delivery of Whole Systems Integrated Care. The contract award was made in December 2015 and the new service provided by Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) goes live on May 4th 2016.

3. Protecting Social Care - £5.411m

To ensure that the social care provision, essential to the delivery of an effective, supportive, whole system of care is sustained. The scheme includes access and assessment from the acute and community sector, a Reablement service, a diverse range of services to meet eligible needs through personal budgets and comprehensive and effective safeguarding and quality assurance services, including support to carer's. The council continues to maintain the services meeting its performance output and outcomes.

National Conditions

The BCF plan continues to deliver the national conditions as set out by NHS England.

- 1) Protection of social care services
- 2) 7 day services to support patients being discharged
- 3) Data sharing – The NHS number being used as the primary identifier for health and care services and appropriate agreements in place. To date a target of 85% of matching NHS numbers have been achieved
- 4) Joint assessments and lead professionals in place for high risk populations
- 5) Agreement on the impact of changes with the acute sector

NHS England quarterly monitoring

Following the review in August 2015 by PA Consulting, work on implementing the BCF in Harrow has continued and a stronger sense of partnership working is emerging as we go forward. There are plans in development for the next BCF to consolidate the work done to date and to build upon this for 16/17. Harrow is also a member of the London ADASS, BCF Peer Network which regularly meets to review national policy updates and planning guidance.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan

In December 2015, NHS England published '*Delivering the Forward View: NHS planning guidance 2016/17–2020/21*'. The guidance states that health and social care are required to develop a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) which has a shared vision with the local community. The better care fund will make strategic links with the STP

Section 3 – Recommendation

Work has commenced on the development of the 2016/17 BCF. The timetable for submission to NHS England is as follows:

Better Care Fund	Date
Second Submission of BCF Plans	21 st March 2016
BCF sign off	22 nd April 2016
Final submission of BCF Plans	25 th April 2016

Due to the timescales required for the 2016/17 BCF to be submitted in April 2016 and the next HWBB not scheduled until May 2016, it is requested that delegated authority for final sign off is given to an officer of the council in consultation with the Chair of the HWBB.

Section 4 – Legal Implications

The HWWB is required by the relevant government guidance governing the submission of the Better Care Funding application to approve the terms of the submission .

The Council's corporate governance requirements allow the HWWB to delegate a decision to an officer as is proposed in this report, and the consultation proposed with the Chair in respect of the detail of the final submission will meet the terms of the guidance.

Section 5 – Financial Implications

Both the Council and CCG continue to face significant financial challenges, making decisions around the allocation of the BCF funding challenging.

In July 2015, Cabinet received a budget planning process update report which reaffirmed the total budget gap of £52.4m over the three year period 2016/17 to 2018/19 and in February 2016 the Council approved the final revenue budget for 2016/17 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2016/17 to 2019/20. The 2016-17 budget noted that £6.5m would be received from the BCF as indicated by the HWBB in January 2015.

The CCG submitted the first draft of the operating plan at the beginning of February, which indicated a deficit in 2016/17 and which was not compliant with NHS business rules (namely a deterioration in the year on year position; achieving a 1% cumulative reserve; and holding 1% of allocation un-committed at the start of the year). The CCG is undertaking further work on the plan to address the gap within the plan, mitigate the risks identified and establish the full impact of the requirements of the planning guidance.

Council and CCG officers have agreed a contribution of £6.458m to enable the national condition for the protection of social care funding to be met for 2016-17 and will be supported by a s75 agreement. This agreed figure is consistent with that noted as part of the Council budget setting process.

Section 6 - Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

Section 7 – Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

The BCF will improve the following priorities of the organisation.

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities

STATUTORY OFFICER CLEARANCE (Council and Joint Reports)

Name: Donna Edwards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 17/03/16		
Name: Sharon Clarke Senior Lawyer		on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 17/03/16		

Ward Councillors notified:	NO
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Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Jon Manzoni, Interim, Head of Strategic Commissioning,
People Directorate, ext. 2963