

9 June 2021**Agenda Item: 11****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH****RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL OF THE 2020/21 BETTER CARE FUND (BCF) YEAR END REPORTING TEMPLATE SUBMISSION****Purpose of the Report**

1. To approve the Nottinghamshire 2020-21 Better Care Fund Year End reporting template that was submitted to NHS England on 24 May 2021.

Information**Summary of progress during 2020-21**

2. During the emergency response to COVID-19 there was no BCF planning guidance released for 2020-21. As a result, the BCF programme plan for 2019 – 2020 has continued unchanged into 2020-21.
3. COVID 19 placed significant pressures on the population and the local health and care system in Nottinghamshire. In response, system governance and leadership were enhanced, particularly through the close alignment between all partners in the Local Resilience Forum (LFR) throughout the pandemic. This has led to a long-term joint approach to supporting and managing quality and workforce issues in an integrated way for the home care and care home sectors.
4. A joint approach to using data during COVID has enabled identification of the most vulnerable people requiring support and has informed an integrated approach to providing support using a preventative approach going forward.
5. Particular pressures were seen in acute hospital flow and increased waiting times for planned care. System leadership has also been demonstrated through the development of a shared Discharge to Assess (D2A) model, which includes innovative approaches to discharge pathways. There is an agreed model across health and social care, with a shared vision, scope and timeline, working to delivery of the shared model in October 2021.

Reporting

6. The 2020-21 Better Care Fund reporting requirements were paused during the emergency response to COVID-19. In recognition of the disruption and reduced resource caused by the pandemic, the resumed reporting requirements have been significantly reduced.

7. The requirements were set out to provide essential information relevant to accountability and delivery at the end of year 2020-21. Specifically, the reduced requirements were:

Tab 3: National Conditions, which are:

- Agree plan and section 75 pooled fund
- CCG minimum contribution to social care is in line with BCF policy
- Agreed investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services
- CCG and LA confirmed compliance to the HWB

Tab 4: Income

Tab 5: Expenditure

Tab 6: Income & Expenditure: confirming the BCF allocation has been invested according to the plans

Tab 7: Year End Feedback: the key areas of progress and challenge in the last 12 months

Tab 8: iBCF: Detail of payment to external social care providers

8. In relation to Tab 3 'National Conditions' and Tab 5 'Expenditure' it should be noted that there is a small underspend of £9,158 reported against the CCG minimum contribution to social care. This is due to partners having agreed the contribution to social care at the start of the year based on announced % uplift, which is reflected in the signed S75 partnership agreement but has a slight discrepancy to the minimum required spend in this template.

9. The report template was agreed for submission to NHSE by the following, subject to formal ratification at the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 9th June 2021:

- Chair of the Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board
- Melanie Brooks (Corporate Director: Adult Social Care & Health)
- Lucy Dadge (Nottingham & Nottinghamshire CCGs Chief Commissioning Officer)
- Idris Griffiths (Bassetlaw CCG Accountable Officer)

9. Subsequently, the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to formally ratify the template.

10. The Nottinghamshire 2020-21 Better Care Fund End of Year reporting template submission is shown in full at **Appendix 1**.

Next steps

11. In readiness for the release of the BCF planning guidance for 2021 -22, a review into the approach to programme areas and partnership governance arrangements for greater integration is being undertaken. This review will consider the positive progress made to establish system response during the pandemic and the direction of travel outlined in the NHS White Paper: 'Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all', published in February 2021.

Other options considered

12. None.

Reasons for Recommendation

13. To ensure the Health & Wellbeing Board has oversight of the Better Care Fund and can discharge its national obligations.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

15. The 2020-21 Better Care Fund pooled budget has been agreed as £96,123,648 after inflation and is summarised in Appendix 1.

Human Resources Implications

16. There are no Human Resources implications contained within the content of this report.

Legal Implications

17. The Care Act facilitates the establishment of the Better Care Fund by providing a mechanism to make the sharing of NHS funding with local authorities mandatory. The wider powers to use Health Act flexibilities to pool funds, share information and staff are unaffected.

RECOMMENDATION

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked-

- 1) To approve the Nottinghamshire 2020-21 Better Care Fund End of Year reporting template that was submitted to NHS England on 24th May 2021.

Melanie Brooks

Corporate Director: Adult Social Care & Health

Nottinghamshire County Council

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (EP 18/05/21)

18. The Health and Wellbeing Board is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (OC 24/05/2021)

19. The Financial implication are contained within paragraph 15 and appendix 1

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 2018-19 Progress Update and Approval for the Use of the BCF Care Act Allocation (Recurrent and Reserve), the Improved BCF, and the Winter Pressures Grant 2019-20 – report to Health & Wellbeing Board on 6 March 2019
- 2019-20 Better Care Fund Policy Framework, Department of Health & Social Care, 10 April 2019
- Quarterly reporting from Local Authorities to the Department of Health & Social Care in relation to the Better Care Fund, Quarter 4 Return – 18 April 2019
- 2018-19 Better Care Fund Performance – report to Health & Wellbeing Board on 5 June 2019
- Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2019-20, Department of Health & Social Care, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, and NHS England, 18 July 2019
- 2019-20 First Quarter Better Care Fund Performance and Programme Update – report to Health & Wellbeing Board on 4 September 2019
- Nottinghamshire 2019-20 Better Care Fund Planning Template
- Nottinghamshire 2019-20 Q4 Better Care Fund Reporting Template

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All.