

03 June 2015**Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE,
HEALTH AND PUBLIC PROTECTION, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCIL****BETTER CARE FUND PERFORMANCE AND UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To note the feedback from the **public consultation** on the pooled fund agreement.
2. To note the **readiness assessment** submitted to NHS England in March 2015.
3. To note the **performance exception** report.
4. To approve the **quarterly performance return** submitted to the Better Care Task Force on 29 May.
5. To consider for approval the **proposed changes** to NHS Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group's (Bassetlaw CCG) BCF schemes and financial contribution to the pooled fund.

Background

6. In preparation for the first full year of operationalising the Better Care Fund (BCF), a number of actions have been required, including a public consultation on the pooled fund agreement and a readiness assessment submitted to NHS England.
7. Performance against the BCF performance metrics and financial expenditure and savings has been monitored on a monthly basis during much of 2014/15 through the BCF Finance, Planning and Performance sub-group and the BCF Programme Board. The Health and Wellbeing Board will receive a quarterly exception report during 2015/16 as well as receiving the national quarterly performance template submitted to the Department of Health hosted "Better Care Support Team".
8. National guidance for the operationalisation of the BCF was released in March 2015¹. The guidance sets out the Care Act legislation underpinning the BCF; the accountability arrangements and flows of funding; the reporting and monitoring requirements for 2015/16; arrangements for the operation of the pay for performance framework; how progress against plans will be managed and the role of the BCF Task Force / Support Team.

¹ <http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/bcf-operationalisation-guidance-1516.pdf>

9. The first quarterly performance return to NHS England is due on 29th May for the period January to March 2015. The national requirement is that the HWB will sign off the quarterly return before it is submitted. However, given the timing of the returns, it is proposed that the BCF Programme Board will sign off the report, with scrutiny by the HWB at the meeting following the return. Any amendments to the report required by the HWB will then be submitted to the Better Care Support Team.

Public consultation on section 75 pooled fund

10. A four week public consultation was undertaken between 16th February and 15th March in relation to the pooled fund agreement for the £59 million within the Better Care Fund. The consultation was a legal requirement specifically in relation to the intention to pool funds from CCGs and the County Council within a single budget held by the County Council, rather than the planned schemes within the BCF plan.
11. A report on the public consultation was presented for discussion at the BCF Programme Board on 26th March. The report is shown in Appendix 1.
12. Overall, there was support for the proposal to pool budgets to support the BCF. Comments were made in relation to ensuring the fund would be used efficiently, and a concern that the money is being shifted within the health and care system, rather than being additional money or truly integrating services.
13. No specific further actions were deemed to be required in response to the consultation. The units of planning continue to work on schemes to ensure integration at a service level continues.
14. Following discussion at the last HWB meeting, the risk sharing arrangement for the pooled fund in 2015/16 will be at the unit of planning level. This will be subject to ongoing review as the policy direction on the integration of health and social care develops further.

Readiness assessment

15. The national Better Care Support Team released a readiness assessment in March 2015 to gain an understanding of the progress being made toward implementation of the BCF plans within each HWB area. The purpose of the readiness assessment was threefold:
- To support local areas in carrying out a self-assessment of their own readiness for delivery to inform discussions locally
 - To inform the planning and allocation of resources and support that will be made available to areas in 2015/16 to further help them with implementation and delivery
 - To provide feedback on how the national team could best support local areas in 2015/16.
16. A Nottinghamshire wide response was agreed by the BCF Programme Board and submitted via the NHS England regional team on 26th March. This is shown in Appendix 2.
17. The Programme Board is confident that Nottinghamshire County is in a strong position to implement the BCF plan, notwithstanding the financial and operational challenges of delivering the schemes within the plan and moving toward a model of seven day services

provision. The monitoring of scheme delivery continues to be undertaken on a monthly basis, and reported to HWB by exception on a quarterly basis.

Performance exception report

18. The BCF Finance, Planning and Performance sub-group produce a monthly performance report detailing latest performance against the six Key Performance Indicators of the BCF plan which are:
- Total non-elective (emergency) admissions into hospital
 - Permanent admissions of older people to residential and nursing care homes
 - Proportion of older people who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services
 - Delayed transfers of care from hospital
 - Patient / service user experience
 - Permanent admissions of older people to residential and nursing care homes directly from a hospital setting.
19. The sub-group also provides a monthly report on the pooled budget income, expenditure and savings against each scheme within the plan. The finance and performance report is reviewed by the Programme Board monthly and discussed at bi-monthly meetings. In addition, each CCG has governance arrangements in place to ensure local reporting.
20. In addition to the monthly finance and performance reporting, a quarterly review of progress with scheme delivery as detailed in the County wide programme plan is undertaken, and a bi-monthly review of the BCF risk register. Schemes that are off-track will be reported to the Programme Board monthly, along with significant risks from the risk register.
21. During 2015/16 an exception performance report will be submitted for review to the HWB on a quarterly basis, reporting in arrears. The initial report is a 2014/15 year end position. Due to the timing of data availability this will be sent to the HWB separately from the body of this report on 29th May.

National performance reporting

22. The Department of Health hosted "Better Care Support Team" is currently developing a quarterly performance report to track the BCF high level metrics on an HWB footprint in order to enable peer comparison.
23. The content for Nottinghamshire County will be prepared by the BCF Finance, Planning and Performance sub-group for sign-off by the BCF Programme Board. Due to the national reporting deadlines the HWB will be asked to sign off the report at the meeting immediately after the report is submitted (3 working days after submission). If the HWB requests amendments to the narrative in the report, it is proposed that the quarterly report will be resubmitted to the Better Care Support Team.
24. Due to the timing of the report, the quarterly performance report will be sent to the HWB separately from the body of this report on 29th May.

Amendments to Bassetlaw CCG's BCF plan

25. During the 2015/16 planning round, Bassetlaw CCG revised the detail of its BCF plan. The review was carried out for a number of reasons, including clarifying the value and description of community provider services following a contract rebasing exercise; sense checking the relevance of one scheme to the BCF, the CCG receiving the lowest level of allocation growth for 2015/16; restricted access to the utilisation of the CCG's cumulative surplus; additional financial pressures in the system post the plan submission in August 2014 and the development of "Neighbourhood Teams" within the CCG.
26. Following the review, a number of changes were agreed by the CCG. Scheme Q has been enhanced to encompass the development of the Neighbourhood Teams within Bassetlaw. These teams include nursing and social care staff and it is the progress towards 7 day working that was included in the original submission. The revised scheme includes all likely health costs for 2015/16, an element of which is non-recurrent and will be reviewed for 2016/17. The scheme title has been amended to "Neighbourhood Teams and Access to 7 Day Services".
27. Scheme S has been removed from the BCF plan as further review has indicated that the enhanced services on which this was based do not have direct relevance to the BCF and are themselves under review for 2015/16.
28. Schemes T and U have been combined to create one scheme of "Discharge, Assessment and Reablement Services". This fits with the treatment of the Reablement Services funding (previously scheme T) by the community provider, who, as part of the rebasing exercise, has subsumed the costs into the relevant services (e.g. Rapid Response) that it was used to support.
29. The changes to the plan are summarised in the table below:

Original scheme description			Revised scheme description			
Scheme Id	Working Description	2015/16 Value £K	Scheme Id	Working Description	2015/16 Value £K	Comments
Q	7 Day Access to Services	400	Q	Neighbourhood Teams and 7 Day Access to Services	825	Increase of £425k
R	Mental Health Liaison	380	R	Mental Health Liaison	415	Increase of £35k
S	Personalised Care Services	516	N/A	N/A	N/A	Removed from BCF - £516k
T	Reablement Services	973	N/A	N/A	N/A	Merged with scheme U. £773k moved to scheme U.
U	Discharge/Assessment incl. Intermediate Care	2,145	U	Discharge, Assessment and Reablement Services (incl. Intermediate Care)	2,918	Reduction of £200k over T and U
V	Respite Services	325	V	Respite Services	325	No change
W	Improving Care Home Quality	250	W	Improving Care Home Quality	100	Reduction of £150k

X	Telecare Services	470	X	Telecare Services	495	Increase of £25k
Z	Care Act Implementation	294	Z	Care Act Implementation	294	No change
	Total	5,753		Total	5,372	Reduction of £381k

Reasons for Recommendations

30. To ensure the HWB has oversight of progress with the BCF plan and can discharge its national obligations for reporting.
31. To obtain approval for the proposed amendments to Bassetlaw CCG's contribution to the BCF plan.

Statutory and Policy Implications

32. 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

33. The proposed changes to the Bassetlaw CCG schemes will result in a reduction of the size of the Pooled Budget from £59.3m to £58.9m. This is still above the minimum requirement of £49.7m.
34. Subject to local and national policy developments, the agreement may be extended beyond 2015/16. This will be reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board on an ongoing basis as part of the Better Care Fund reporting process.

Human Resources Implications

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

Legal Implications

36. The Care Act facilitates the establishment of the BCF 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- 1) **Notes** the outcome of the public consultation on the s75 pooled fund.

- 2) **Notes** the readiness assessment detailing the current state of readiness to deliver the BCF plan in 2015/16.
- 3) **Notes** the performance exception report.
- 4) **Approves** the quarterly national reporting.
- 5) **Approves** the amendments to the NHS Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group component of the BCF plan.

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Constitutional Comments (SMG 13/05/2015)

37. The proposals in this report fall within the remit of the Board. By virtue of its Terms of Reference, the Health and Wellbeing Board has responsibility for discussion of all issues considered to be relevant to the overall responsibilities of the Board, and to perform any specific duties allocated by the Department of Health.

Financial Comments (KAS 11/05/15)

38. The financial implications are contained within paragraphs 33 and 34 of the report.

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.

- “Better Care Fund: Guidance for the Operationalisation of the BCF in 2015-16”.
<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/bcf-operationalisation-guidance-1516.pdf>

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

All

