



REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH

THE 2022/23 BETTER CARE FUND (BCF) ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

Purpose of the Report

1. To endorse the Nottinghamshire 2022-23 Better Care Fund Adult Social Care Discharge Fund planning requirements, which were submitted to NHS England on 16 December 2022.

Information

Aims of the Better Care Fund Adult Social Care Discharge Fund

2. The Better Care Fund (BCF) Adult Social Care Discharge Fund was announced on 16 November 2022. The fund is targeted at interventions that best enable the discharge of patients from hospital to the most appropriate location for their ongoing care. The aim of the fund is to free up the maximum number of hospital beds, reduce bed days lost and to boost general adult social care workforce capacity through recruitment and retention where this reduces delayed discharges.
3. The funding will be released in two tranches with 40% released in December and the remaining 60% at the end of January 2023 subject to providing a planned spending report and fortnightly activity data. Spending against tranche 1 can commence once local plans have been agreed by the ICB and local authorities.
4. The funding allocations were calculated nationally to target areas with the most significant discharge challenges.

Process for agreeing the Discharge Fund Plans

5. Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board established a task and finish group to co-ordinate the submission for the Discharge Fund. Each organisation confirmed the opportunities for investment based on the system winter plans that have already been developed and any additional opportunities that could support an increase in discharge.
6. Submission of the plans to NHS England was due on 16 December and therefore plans were

approved by delegated authority. The plans were signed off by Adrian Smith, Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Council and Amanda Sullivan, Chief Executive, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board.

7. There is a national expectation of fortnightly reporting against the plans commencing on 06 January 2023.
8. The plans will be included in the BCF section 75 agreements which are due to be signed off by 31 January 2023.

Schemes funded by the allocation

9. The schemes need to be operationalised to impact on discharges over winter and within the current financial year to March 2023. The submission reflects opportunities based on the system winter plans that have already been developed and additional opportunities that could support an increase in discharges including assessment capacity, scaling up tech enabled care/digital solutions, increasing home care capacity by incentivizing the workforce and a recruitment campaign to increase the number of carers.
10. There is an opportunity to continue to adjust plans as we progress through the winter to ensure finding is targets on the opportunities that maximise discharge from hospital.
11. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to endorse the Better Care Fund Adult Social Care Discharge Fund plan.

Other options considered

12. None.

Reasons for Recommendation

13. To ensure the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board has oversight of the Better Care Fund Adult Social Care Discharge Fund to 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 2022-23 Better Care Fund Adult Social Care Discharge Fund will be included in the pooled budget and has been agreed as £3,778,085 and is summarised in **Appendix 1**.

Legal Implications

16. 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 endorse the Nottinghamshire 2022-23 Better Care Fund Adult Social Care Discharge Fund Planning templates that were submitted to NHS England on 16 December 2022.

Melanie Williams

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LPW 23/01/23)

17. The Health and Wellbeing Board has the remit to consider the report and recommendations

Financial Comments (OC 19/01/2023)

18. The Financial implications are detailed throughout this report and are summarised 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
- 2020-2021 End of Year Template – report to Health and Wellbeing Board 9 June 2021
- Retrospective approval of the 2022/23 Better Care Fund (BCF) Planning Requirements – report to the Health and Wellbeing Board 7 December 2022

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All.