

5 July 2023**Agenda Item 9****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE****THE 2022/23 BETTER CARE FUND (BCF) YEAR END REPORTING
TEMPLATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To ratify the Nottinghamshire 2022-23 Better Care Fund year end reporting template that was submitted to NHS England on 23 May 2023.

Information

2. The Better Care Fund (BCF) 2022-23 year end template confirms the status of continued compliance against the requirements of the fund, including the final end of year spending position and provides information about challenges, achievements and support needs in progressing delivery.
3. **Metrics (tab 4):** The 2022-23 Better Care Fund performance metrics are:
 - Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions
 - Percentage of people who are discharged from hospital to their normal place of residence
 - Rate of permanent admissions to residential care per 100,000 population (65+)
 - Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services
4. The 2022 -23 Better Care Fund Year-end reporting template requires assessment against progress for each of these metrics and to highlight challenges, support needs and achievements. None of the metrics were on track to meet the target at the year end point, however the challenges in meeting the targets set have been identified and mitigating actions for moving forward identified.
5. The following system challenges in meeting the metric targets for 2022-23 have been highlighted:
 - a) Urgent Community Response service is operational but has been challenging to ensure all GPs and healthcare professionals are aware of it across the Integrated Care System (ICS), despite full geographic coverage being in place.

- b) Challenges around night-time provision for Pathway 1 services – we will be working with system partners to pilot short term night time provision during 2023/24 and the learning will inform longer term Pathway 1 transformation.
 - c) Provisional figures indicate a result of 576 admissions per 100,000 population. This is 1,046 people, over the target of 952 people. The average number of new admissions each month has increased this year.
 - d) Provisional figures for the proportion of older people still at home 91 days after discharge indicate a result of 83.7% against a target of 85%. If 9 additional people were still at home this indicator would have reached target.
6. The report noted the following achievements:
- a) Weekend working is now in place in the transfer of care hub which ensures that there is the ability in place to plan discharge home on Pathway 1 for all discharges.
 - b) Whilst numbers of admissions have increased, the provisional figures show that the number of people supported in long term residential/nursing care is slightly lower than in the same period in the previous year.
 - c) Over the period October – December 2022 613 people were discharged from hospital into reablement type services, this is an improvement on the previous year when the figure for the same period was 504 people.
7. **Year End Feedback (tab 6):** The 2022-23 Better Care Fund Year-end template requires us to highlight our success and challenges in driving the enablers of integration. Successes highlighted included progress towards strong system-wide governance and systems leadership through the establishment of a Collaborative Commissioning Oversight Group, and the development of a Joint Carers Strategy which aims to better support and meet the needs of carers across County and City by making the best use of joint resources.
8. Challenges in the system-wide governance were noted as the lengthy process for approvals as the strategy had to progress through three organisations governance processes. There continue to be significant challenges in the recruitment of staff into Adult Social Care, home care and the care home market.
9. **ASC Discharge Fund (tab 7):** The 2022-23 Better Care Fund Year-end template requires us to give an overview of the expenditure, impact and learning from the Adult Social Care Discharge funding which was made available to systems during the winter period. The report notes some of the successes of the scheme as the ability to increase capacity in the home care and reablement capacity meant that less interim beds had to be used, whilst recruitment was a challenge to the success of some schemes.

National conditions declaration and additional requirements: The 2022-23 Better Care Fund Year-end template includes the following additional tabs:

- a) Tab 3: National Conditions, which are:
 - Agree plan and section 75 pooled fund
 - Integrated Care Board (ICB) minimum contribution to social care is in line with BCF policy
 - Agreed investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services
 - Plan for improving outcomes for people being discharged from hospital

- b) Tab 5: I&E Actual – income and expenditure: confirming the BCF allocation has been invested according to the BCF planning template.

10. **Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2023-25:** The Better Care Fund planning requirements are now for a period of two financial years, whereas previously this has been one year. Health and Wellbeing Boards are required to submit a planning template and narrative plan, as with previous years the narrative plan being developed will be a joint plan between the County and the City to demonstrate our approach to integrated care. The 2023-25 Better Care Fund will be brought to the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board for ratification at its meeting on 13 September 2023. It is due to be submitted to NHSE on 28 June 2023.

Conclusion

11. It was agreed that where the Board cannot provide its approval on decisions regarding BCF, delegated power has been given to select representatives on the Board's behalf. The BCF 2022-23 Year-end report template was therefore agreed for submission to NHSE by the following, and subject to formal ratification at the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board on 5 July 2023:

- Cllr John Doddy, Chair of the Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board
- Melanie Williams, Corporate Director: Adult Social Care & Health, Nottinghamshire County Council
- Lucy Dadge, Director of Integration, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (on behalf of Amanda Sullivan, Chief Executive of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board).

12. Subsequently, the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to formally ratify the template. The Nottinghamshire 2022-23 Better Care Fund End of Year reporting template submission is shown in full at **Appendix 1**.

Other options considered

13. There is the option to not consult the board on the Better Care Fund End of Year Report. This was discounted as the Better Care Fund is one of the Board's statutory responsibilities.

Reasons for Recommendation

14. To ensure that the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board has oversight of the Better Care Fund and can discharge its national obligations.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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

16. The 2022-23 Better Care Fund pooled budget has been agreed as £103,649,666 after inflation. The Better Care Fund pooled budget including ASC Discharge fund was £110,366,751.

Human Resources Implications

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

RECOMMENDATION

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked:

- 1) To ratify the Nottinghamshire 2022-23 Better Care Fund Year End Reporting Template that was submitted to NHS England on 23 May 2023 under delegated powers.

MELANIE WILLIAMS
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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Constitutional Comments (LW 22/06/2023)

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

Financial Comments (OC 21/06/23)

19. The Financial implications are detailed throughout this report and are summarised within paragraph 16.

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.

- Retrospective approval of the 2022/23 Better Care Fund (BCF) Planning Requirements – Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board 7 December 2022
- Better Care Fund Governance Arrangements for Delegated Approval Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board 24 May 2023

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All