

Health and Wellbeing Board – 20/05/2016
Better Care Fund plan update

Report of Dr Richard Harling

Recommendations

That the Health and Well-being Board

1. Agree the vision and schemes of the Better Care Fund – as set out in the attached plan.
2. Note that SCC and the CCGs have not yet agreed the funding and that this is with the national escalation process.
3. Note that SCC and the District Councils are developing proposals for use of the Disabled Facilities Grant.

1.0 Report

1.1 Background

1.2 The Better Care Fund (BCF) was set up by Government in 2013. It aligns a proportion of health and social care budgets to incentivise the NHS and local government to work more closely together while shifting resources into community health and social care services for the benefit of the people, communities, and the health and care system.

1.3 Each local authority area is required to submit a BCF plan for approval by NHS England describing how the BCF will support integration of services and with agreement about how the BCF will be allocated. The requirement includes that the plans are signed off by the Health and Well-being Board (HWB). Alongside the BCF, the NHS has established Sustainable Transformation Plans, locally on a Staffordshire and Stoke footprint.

2.0 Vision and schemes

2.1 The BCF will support our vision that *“Staffordshire will be a place where improved health and well-being is experienced by all. It will be a good place to live. People will be healthy, safe and prosperous and will have the opportunity to grow up, raise a family and grow old, as part of strong, safe and supportive communities”*

2.2 Delivery of the BCF vision will be through our natural communities and localities. This we believe will bring greater ownership and co-production allowing delivery to reflect local needs and assets. The approach will be person centred and integrated at a primary care level. The focus will be on population health, reducing demand and enabling patients and service users to be active participants.

2.3 Summary of schemes within the BCF plan,

16/17 schemes	Aim
Front door	We will develop an integrated single point of access (Front Door), expanding the remit of the current service, that will triage and route people appropriately following assessment.
Enhanced community care model	Increase independent living & self-management and reduce and shorten hospital admissions by strengthening community based prevention, support, health and care networks. This is complementary in nature to a person-centred model for integrated care and support, based around registered populations and natural communities, which promotes the health, well-being and resilience of local people.
Reablement/intermediate care	Effective alignment of intermediate care and reablement across health and social care. Health and Social Care will work together to ensure that individuals receive a co-ordinated personalised care tailored to their needs and aspirations to maximise their independence and wellbeing.
Discharge/ Delayed transfer of care	<p>A new scheme Discharge/delayed transfer of care will build upon existing work in place overseen by System Resilience Groups' across Staffordshire mainly North Staffordshire/ Stafford and East Staffordshire. Scheme aims includes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Develop Discharge to Assess (D2A) pathways for •Improve the Fast Track pathway (patients requiring palliative care) •Improve discharge process across organisational boundaries with a designated lead for discharge
Enabling schemes	The above is complemented by a myriad of health and social care services, all interlinked and promoting continued independence, whether support to cares, integrated community equipment services, Disabled Facilities Grant to adjust living environments, technology enabled care services aiding wellbeing and independence and contracted services that afford domiciliary care and support.

2.4 SCC and CCGs agree the vision and schemes – as set out previously and explored in greater detail in (Annex 1 & 2).

3.0 Funding

3.1 The BCF takes the form of a local, single pooled £5.3bn budget that aims to fund ways that the NHS and local government throughout England can work more closely together.

- 3.2 In 2015/16 the Staffordshire BCF plan included aligned budgets totalling £98 million pounds as well as a separate three year financial agreement between CCG's and SCC. The agreement outlined that CCG's would provide £1.9m for implementation of the Care Act and an additional £5m for protection of adult social care and that both parties would deliver savings totalling £20m with £10m of this available to protect adult social care.
- 3.3 In the second year of the deal 2016/17 the CCGs have been instructed to prioritise funding of increased acute hospital activity in order to provide additional income for the acute trusts and then to address their own deficits. As a result they are unable to commit the agreed funding aside from the Care Act to protect adult social care in 2016/17 and beyond. This leaves SCC with a financial gap of £15m against planning assumptions for 2016/17.
- 3.4 Staffordshire County Council and CCG's have not yet agreed the funding, as part of this the plan has now entered a national escalation process.

4.0 **Disabled Facilities Grant**

- 4.1 In line with the national approach taken in 2015-16, the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) will again be allocated through the BCF. This is to encourage areas to think strategically about the use of home adaptations, use of technologies to support people in their own homes, and to take a joined-up approach to improving outcomes across health, social care and housing.
- 4.2 SCC and DCs are discussing: eligibility criteria and core standards for DFG funded services as well as the amount of the DFG uplift that needs to be set against SCC liabilities that were formerly set against the social care capital grant.

5.0 **Link to Strategic Plan**

The Better Care Fund is recognised as a priority within our business plan.

5.1 **Link to other Overview and Scrutiny Activity** N/A

5.2 **Community Impact** N/A

5.3 **Contact Officer**

Name and job title: Alex Jones, Project manager

Telephone No: 01785 277915

Address/email: Alex.Jones@staffordshire.gov.uk

Appendices / Background papers

Annex 1 - Staffordshire BCF plan

Annex 2 - BCF schemes

Annex 3 – Draft Financial Schedule – to follow