

Staffordshire Health and Well-being Board	
Title	Staffordshire Better Care Fund, 17-19
Date	08 June 2017
Board Sponsor	Dr Richard Harling
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Report type	For noting

1.0 Summary

- 1.1** The 2016/17 Staffordshire Better Care Fund (BCF) has now received official sign off and the Section 75 has been completed.
- 1.2** The integrated policy framework for the BCF 2017-19 was published 28 March 2017; the accompanying planning template has been expected for some weeks but is not yet available.
- 1.3** The BCF programme board has met and planning for the first submission is underway; however in the absence of the detailed planning guidance this has been delayed.

2.0 Recommendations:

- 2.1** That the Health and Well-being Board:
- Note the policy framework and the progress of the BCF 2017-19.
 - Note the delegated authority passed to the co-chairs for signing off the BCF plan on behalf of the HWB.
 - Note that a workshop will take place in July for all comments to be taken on board prior to the final BCF submission

3.0 BCF 2017-19

- 3.1** The Mandate to NHS England for 2017-18 requires NHS England to ring-fence £3.582 billion within its overall allocation to Clinical Commissioning Groups to establish the BCF in 2017-18.
- 3.2** The remainder of the £5.128bn BCF in 2017-18 will be made up of a £1.115bn new improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) grant allocation to local authorities to fund adult social care, as announced in the 2015 Spending Review and Spring Budget 2017, as well as the £431m Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG). Both grants are paid directly from the Government to local authorities.
- 3.3** The NHS contribution to the BCF (The BCF for 2017-8 is awaiting confirmation but expected to be 2016/17 baseline uplifted for inflation) includes funding to support the implementation of the Care Act 2014. Funding previously earmarked for reablement (£300m) and for the provision of carers' breaks (£130m) also remains in the NHS allocation.
- 3.4** The value of the iBCF grant allocation to Staffordshire (iBCF) is £15.5m in 2017/18 and £10.0m in 2018/19. The iBCF must be used to help meet adult social care needs; reducing pressures on the NHS, including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready; and ensuring that

the local social care provider market is supported. Staffordshire County Council must pool the grant funding into the local BCF, unless an area has written Ministerial exemption.

- Part of this funding is intended to enable local authorities to quickly provide stability and extra capacity in local care systems. Local authorities are therefore able to spend the grant, including to commission care, subject to the conditions set out in the grant determination, as soon as plans have been locally agreed.
- The County Council must work with Staffordshire CCGs and providers to meet National Condition 4 (Managing Transfers of Care) in the Integration and Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Planning Requirements 2017-19.
- The funding is also intended to support councils to continue to focus on core services, including to help cover the costs of the National Living Wage, which is expected to benefit up to 900,000 care workers. This includes maintaining adult social care services, which could not otherwise be maintained, as well as investing in new services, such as those which support best practice in managing transfers of care.

BCF 2017-19	2017/18	2018/19
CCG transfers to SCC for ASC	16,810	17,129
CCG cash transfers to SCC for carers	560	571
CCG directly commissioned	160	163
CCG total cash contribution	17,531	17,864
CCG cash transfer for Care Act	1,977	1,977
iBCF part 1	1,263	12,700
iBCF part 2	15,559	10,080
Social Care Total	36,330	42,621
DFG	7,520	7,520
Aligned CCG funding	To be confirmed	

4.0 Progress

- 4.1 Development of a BCF plan is underway. A draft plan for use of the iBCF is complete and being discussed on with the CCGs.
- 4.2 SCC and the CCGs are working together locally on Key Lines of Enquiry to ensure progress continues prior to the publication of the planning templates.
- 4.3 A BCF programme board has been established and attended by the regional NHS BCF lead and LGA appointed representative to provide assurance that Staffordshire are engaged in a transparent and robust process.
- 4.4 The HWB has previously delegated authority to the co-chairs for signing off the BCF plan for submission.