

**COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2017****POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE CABINET LEAD MEMBER FOR FINANCE  
AND RESOURCES****Adult Social Care Funding**

There was some very welcome news in the budget. The government recognised the acute pressure being faced by adult social care and allocated £2bn over the next three years. For Leicestershire this means;

- £9.5 million extra in 2017/18;
- £6.8 million extra in 2018/19; and
- £3.4 million extra in 2019/20.

The funding is one-off, requiring expenditure to either be for investments in improvement initiatives or relieving short term pressures. Although this additional funding is very welcome it will not provide a long term solution to our financial challenge. Hence we also welcome the announcement of a green paper on Social Care later this year.

Guidance detailing the conditions surrounding this funding has not yet been released. Based upon the information contained in the budget it is expected that:

- Funding will be for adult social care support;
- A key objective will be to ease pressure on the NHS;
- Delayed transfers of care between NHS and social care services will be a particular focus;
- The BCF approach of working with NHS colleagues will be required;
- Additional reporting requirements are expected, possibly involving the CQC.

We will be working with partners to develop a plan to ensure this extra funding is invested wisely.

The delayed transfer of care position for Leicestershire is that whilst we are not meeting our own stretching targets, we are performing better than average, and in relation to social care we have 6<sup>th</sup> best performance out of 22 comparator authorities.

Governments approach to this funding will provide an indication of the level of the Improved Better Care Fund resources that could be incorporated in the MTFs from 2018/19. This funding is recurrent and could make a significant contribution to reducing the County Council's funding gap.

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