



## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD: 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES**

#### **LEICESTERSHIRE BETTER CARE FUND PLAN 2023-25**

##### **Purpose of report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) with an overview of the progress to date on the submission of the Leicestershire Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan 2023-25.

##### **Recommendation**

2. It is recommended that the HWBB:
  - a. Notes the content of the report
  - b. Notes the assurance document, attached as Appendix E, that details the proposed contents of the BCF Plan return against the key lines of enquiry;
  - c. Authorise the Chief Executive of Leicestershire County Council, following consultation with the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, to finalise the BCF Plan prior to the national deadline for submission of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
  - d. Note that the members of the Integration Executive will be asked to indicate their support for the BCF Plan ahead of the final submission to NHS England at its meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

##### **Policy Framework and Previous Decisions**

3. The BCF policy framework was introduced by the Government in 2015, with the first year of BCF Plan delivery being 2015-16. The Cabinet in February 2014 authorised the HWBB to approve the BCF Plan and plans arising from its use.
4. Appendices A to D of this report detail the policy framework and planning requirements for the 2023-25 BCF plans along with the narrative template and the planning requirements excel spreadsheet.

##### **Timetable for Decisions**

5. The submission documentation was published on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 with a deadline of submission to NHS England of the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
6. The draft Plan will be submitted to the Integration Executive at its meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> June for consultation and review. The Integration Executive is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of the BCF Plan.

## **Background**

7. The BCF programme supports local systems to successfully deliver the integration of health and social care in a way that supports person-centred care, sustainability and better outcomes for people and carers. It represents a unique collaboration between:
  - The Department of Health and Social Care
  - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
  - NHS England and Improvement
  - The Local Government Association
8. The four partners work closely together to help local areas plan and implement integrated health and social care services across England, in line with the vision outlined in the [NHS Long Term Plan](#). Locally, the programme spans both the NHS and local government to join up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently in their communities for as long as possible.
9. Launched in 2015, the programme established pooled budgets between the NHS and local authorities, aiming to reduce the barriers often created by separate funding streams. The pooled budget is a combination of contributions from the following areas:
  - minimum allocation from NHS Integrated Care Boards (ICB's)
  - disabled facilities grant – local authority grant
  - social care funding (improved BCF) – local authority grant
  - winter pressures grant funding £240 million – local authority grant.

## **BCF Plan for 2023-25**

10. The primary purpose of BCF reporting is to ensure a clear and accurate account of continued compliance of spending in line with the national conditions of the Fund. The secondary purpose is to inform policy making, the national support offer and local practice sharing by providing a fuller insight from narrative feedback on local progress, challenges and highlights on the implementation of BCF Plans and progress on wider integration.
11. The BCF Plan differs from previous years in that it is a two-year plan however still consists of the expenditure plan, narrative, outcome metrics, demand and capacity modelling template and an expectation that areas will complete an assessment of their maturity against the High Impact Change Models of Care.
12. An excel template is made available for areas to use to record and agree spending in local BCF Plans, named the BCF Expenditure Plan. A copy is included as Appendix C. This is intended to support local planning and reporting at year end. It includes targets and current data against the national metrics included in the requirements.
13. To give assurance to the Board on the initial developments on completing the plan, Appendix E highlights how the HWBB area and overall system will aim to meet the key lines of enquiry required to gain national approval of the plans. This mirrors the planning requirements tab on the excel template.

## BCF National Conditions

14. The three national conditions set by the Government in the policy framework for 2023-25 are:
15. **National Condition 1: A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the HWBB.** For National condition 1 the documentation should outline the approach to integrated, person-centred health, social care and housing services, including:
- Joint priorities for 2023-25
  - Approaches to joint / collaborative commissioning
  - How BCF funded services are supporting our approach to continued integration of health and social care. Briefly describe any changes to the services being commissioned 2023-25 and how they will support further improvement of outcomes for people with care and support needs
16. **National Condition 2 – Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer.** For national condition 2 the documentation needs to show how areas have agreed how the services they are commissioning will support people to remain independent for longer and where possible to support them to remain in their own home.
17. **National Condition 3 – Provide the right care in the right place at the right time.** Areas should agree how the services they commission will support people to receive the right care in the right place at the right time and BCF Plans should set out how ICB and social care commissioners will continue to do this.
18. **National Condition 4 – Maintaining NHS’s contribution to Adult Social Care and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services.** For both years of the Plan, the minimum expected expenditure will be uplifted by 5.66%.

## Strategic Narrative

- 19 The narrative template, attached as Appendix C, will set out Leicestershire’s approach to the integration of health and social care under the national condition headings.

## BCF Income

- 20 The BCF Plan for Leicestershire for 2023/24 will total £65.3million. This includes Disabled Facilities Grant funding of £4.4million which has been has passported to District Councils. Contributions are summarised in the table below:

ICB minimum NHS contribution	£48,748,385
Improved BCF grant	£17,690,614
Disabled Facilities Grant	£4,447,228
LA Discharge funding	£2,480,197
ICB Discharge Funding	£2,368,831
<b>Total</b>	<b>£75,735,254</b>

## BCF Metrics

21. In addition to the national conditions, the BCF Policy Framework sets national metrics that must be included in BCF Plans in 2023-25. The local authority and ICB are required to establish ambitions associated with each metric and set how they will be achieved. This process should then be approved by the HWBB. The framework retains two Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework metrics from previous years:

- Effectiveness of reablement (proportion of older people still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement or rehabilitation)
- The number of older adults whose long-term care needs are met by admission to residential or nursing care per 100,000 population

22. In addition, local systems should also agree targets associated with three further metrics to improve outcomes across the HWBB area for the following measures:

- Improving the proportion of people discharged home using data on discharge to their usual place of residence.
- Reducing unplanned admissions for chronic, ambulatory, care-sensitive conditions. Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over directly age standardised rate per 100,000.
- Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over directly age standardised rate per 100,000.

### **Demand and Capacity model**

23. All systems must submit a high-level overview of expected demand for intermediate care and planned capacity to meet this demand as part of their planning template. The content of capacity and demand plans is a condition of BCF plan approval.

24 This is the second time that capacity and demand plans have been required through BCF. As far as possible, we have used existing data and data from previous plans to ensure alignment. For example, using ICS level projections for expected discharges per month and by discharge pathway. This data has been mapped to local authority footprints and agreed locally, making use of local management information data.

### **Background papers**

Better Care Fund Planning Requirements 2022/23: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/PRN00315-better-care-fund-planning-requirements-2023-25.pdf>

Better Care Fund Policy Framework 2023-25: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/better-care-fund-policy-framework-2023-to-2025/2023-to-2025-better-care-fund-policy-framework>

### **Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

26. None

### **Officer to Contact**

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### **List of Appendices**

**Appendix A** – BCF Policy Framework 23-25

**Appendix B** – BCF Planning Requirements 23-25

**Appendix C** – BCF Narrative Template 23-25

**Appendix D** – BCF Planning Template 23-25

**Appendix E** – BCF Assurance Document 23-25

**Appendix F** – ICB Discharge Funding template 23-25

### **Relevant Impact Assessments**

#### **Equality and Human Rights Implications**

27. The BCF aims to improve outcomes and wellbeing for the people of Leicestershire, with effective protection of social care and integrated activity to reduce emergency and urgent health demand.

28. An equalities and human rights impact assessment has been undertaken when the BCF was established and is provided at <http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2017/1/11/better-care-fund-overview-ehria.pdf>. This identified that the BCF will have a neutral impact on equalities and human rights.

29. A review of the assessment was undertaken in March 2017.

#### **Partnership Working and associated issues**

30. The delivery of the BCF Plan and the governance of the associated pooled budget is managed in partnership through the collaboration of commissioners and providers in Leicestershire.

31. Day to day oversight of delivery is via the Integration Executive, a subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

#### **Partnership Working and associated issues**

32. The delivery of the Leicestershire BCF ensures that a number of key integrated services are in place and contributing to the system wide changes being implemented through the NHS Long-term plan.

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