

North Tyneside Health & Wellbeing Board Report

Date: 12 June 2023

Title: Approval of the Better Care Fund End of Year Template for 2022/23 and Plan for 2023-25

Report from: North Tyneside Council

Report Author: Sue Graham Tel:(0191) 643 4036

Relevant Partnership Board: Better Care Fund Partnership Board

1. Purpose:

This report seeks approval of the 2022/23 Better Care Fund (BCF) End of Year Template and approval of the Plan for 2023-25 prior to submission to NHS England by the national deadline of 28 June 2023. The BCF Plan requires spending on all funding elements of the Plan to be jointly agreed by the Authority and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and for the Plan to be approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. Recommendation(s):

The Board is recommended to

- a) approve the attached Better Care Fund End of Year Template for 2022/23
- b) approve the attached Better Care Fund Plan for 2023-25, and
- b) authorise the Director of Services for Adults in consultation with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to authorise any further revisions to the submission on behalf of the Board, before the deadline for submission to NHS England on 28 June 2023.

3. Policy Framework

This item relates to section 9 of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, "Equally Well: A healthier, fairer future for North Tyneside 2021- 2025" which relates to an integrated health and care system.

This section outlines the approach to supporting everyone to live healthier and fulfilling lives and maintaining independence for longer. The drive to integrate health and social care services is greater than ever, with improved experiences for residents and more community-based support being delivered closer to home being our local objective. There is no single definition of integrated care and services can be joined up in different ways, for example between primary and secondary care, physical and mental health care and health and social care. The key aim is to reduce local health inequalities by improving access and unnecessary variations and fragmentation in care.

4. Information:

The Better Care Fund, has been in operation since 2015/16, and is a government initiative to improve the integration of health and care services, with an emphasis on keeping people well outside of hospital and facilitating discharge from hospital.

The BCF creates a pooled fund, managed jointly by the Authority and the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the ICB). The value of contributions to the fund in 2023/24 is £35,331,742 which is an increase of 4.9% over the final 2022/23 BCF pooled fund value.

ICBs are required to contribute a defined amount to the fund to support adult social care and in North Tyneside this amount is £13,007,385. Together with the “Improved Better Care Fund” grant, which is paid direct by Government to the Authority, the BCF supports 22% of adult social care revenue expenditure within the Borough. The fund also provides for £7,412,962 for NHS commissioned out of hospital care.

BCF income helps to fund community based social care services, such as reablement, immediate response home care, CareCall, and loan equipment/adaptations. It also contributes towards the Authority’s services offered to support carers, the Community Falls First Responder Service, and to independent living support for people with learning disabilities. Within NHS out of hospital care the fund supports bed based intermediate care, community based support, liaison psychiatry and end of life services.

The BCF Policy Framework for 2023-25 covers a two-year period 2023-2025 however not all of the financial allocations for 2024/25 have been confirmed. It is anticipated that a further return will be required confirming the schemes and financial values in the second year.

There are two policy objectives for the BCF for 2023-25 which remain unchanged from 2022/23;

- i. Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer and,
- ii. Provide the right care in the right place at the right time.

These objectives also form two of the three national conditions of the fund for 2023-25 with the third condition being the development of a jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the HWB;

Metrics

The Policy Framework mandates metrics to support the national conditions.

1. Effectiveness of reablement
2. Permanent admissions of older people to residential care
3. Unplanned hospitalisations due to chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions
4. Discharge to usual place of residence

A new metric has been introduced for 2023-25 around emergency admissions for people aged 65 and over.

The End of Year Report and the Plan documents the current performance against these metrics, sets ambitions for future performance, and explains how the services funded through the BCF work alongside other services to impact the metrics.

There is a new planning template included within the requirements for 2023-25 on demand and capacity for intermediate care for 2023/24.

Governance arrangements

The detailed operations of the Better Care Fund in North Tyneside are set out in a Section 75 Agreement between North Tyneside Council and the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB). That agreement establishes a BCF Partnership Board with representatives from each party. An updated s75 Agreement will be prepared once the BCF Plan has received approval from the national bodies.

The current and proposed BCF Plan are in line with the place-based strategy developed by the Future Care Programme Board, which has representation from North Tyneside Council, the ICB, local NHS Foundation Trusts, the GP federation, primary care networks, Healthwatch, the Council for Voluntary Service, Carers Forum, and Community and Health Care Forum.

The BCF Policy Framework requires that BCF plans are agreed by Health and Wellbeing Boards. As in previous years, the Cabinet and the Governing Body of the ICB are also asked to agree the BCF Plan. Cabinet agreed the 2023-25 Plan at its meeting on 22 May 2023.

End of Year Template

The Template requires each Health and Wellbeing Board to state that arrangements are in place in the area to meet the four national conditions, to provide an assessment of whether the targets will be met for the four national metrics and to outline spend within the fund.

Within North Tyneside the four national conditions for 2022/23 have been met. However, three of the four targets for the national metrics have not been met.

The fund has been fully spent with the exception of the Disabled Facilities Grant where a cumulative value of £1.257m has been carried forward into 2023/24.

Table 1: Performance against national metrics in 2022/23

Metric	Definition	For information - Your planned performance as reported in 2022-23 planning	Assessment of progress against the metric plan for the reporting period	Challenges and any Support Needs	Achievements
Avoidable admissions	Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions (NHS Outcome Framework indicator 2.3i)	1,044.0	Not on track to meet target	Outturn is estimated as 1139 which is 9% higher than target of 1044. This result is worse compared to the 2021/22 outturn of 1125. Challenge is the continuing high level of need / high levels of acuity	Progress with 2 hour urgent community response and establishment of virtual ward for frailty during the year should provide strengthened alternatives in 2023/24
Discharge to normal place of residence	Percentage of people who are discharged from acute hospital to their normal place of residence	90.0%	On track to meet target	Forecasted to be an outturn of 91.5% vs target of 90%. Lack of capacity in homecare continues to be a challenge	Reablement service supports discharge to usual place of residence.
Residential Admissions	Rate of permanent admissions to residential care per 100,000 population (65+)	402	Not on track to meet target	Estimated to be an outturn of 10% higher level of admissions compared to 2021/22. Lack of capacity in homecare continues to be a challenge and level of acuity in clients is often challenging to support at home in a cost effective manner	New short term step down facilities of residential/nursing beds and short term extra care have prevented some long term admissions
Reablement	Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services	90.0%	Not on track to meet target	Higher than normal level of deaths and admissions to residential care - criteria for referral being revisited to ensure the right cohort is receiving the service. New structure aimed at providing enhanced career development has been bedding in during the year. Loss of some experienced staff due to retirements	Continued high performing service maintaining good outcomes for clients

Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25

Funding

The minimum value of the North Tyneside BCF is set nationally. Table 2 below shows the value in the current year, and changes from previous years.

Table 2

Income Component	2022/23	2023/24	% change this year
Minimum ICB Contribution	19,326,469	20,420,347	5.66%
Improved Better Care Fund	9,578,514	9,578,514	0.00%
Discharge Support Fund	1,761,723	2,206,549	25.2%
Disabled Facilities Grant	1,869,024	1,869,024	0.00%
Disabled Facilities Grant carried forward	1,157,668	1,257,308	8.6%
Grand total	33,693,398	35,331,742	4.9%

The national framework also stipulates minimum contributions to be paid by the ICB to adult social care, and minimum spend on NHS-commissioned out of hospital services.

Table 3

	2022/23	2023/24	% change this year
ICB minimum contribution to adult social care	12,310,605	13,007,385	5.66%
NHS commissioned out-of-hospital spend	5,492,034	5,802,883	5.66%

Metrics

Targets have been set for the five national metrics as outlined in the Plan.

Capacity and Demand Plan

There is a new requirement for 2023/24 to complete a capacity and demand plan for intermediate care (rehabilitation and reablement) and other short term services lasting up to 6 weeks within the local area.

Narrative Plan

A narrative plan is required which outlines the approach to integration in the local area and how the fund is being used to meet the BCF policy objectives.

5. Decision options:

The Board may either:-

- a) approve the attached Better Care Fund End of Year Template set out in the report,
- b) approve the attached Plan for 2023-25, set out in the report; and

- c) authorise the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to authorise any further revisions to the submission on behalf of the Board, before the deadline for submission to NHS England on 28 June 2023.
or
- d) request relevant officers, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy of the Board, to undertake further work to make changes to the submission taking into account the comments and suggestions made by the Board at the meeting.

6. Reasons for recommended option:

The Board are recommended to agree options a, b and c). The continuation of the Better Care Fund presents a major opportunity to take forward the principles of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Delay in agreeing a plan for use of the Fund may lead to delay in the release of funds by NHS England.

7. Appendices:

Appendix 1 – The North Tyneside Better Care Fund Year End Template 2022/23
Appendix 2 – The North Tyneside Better Care Fund Narrative Plan 2023-25
Appendix 2 – The North Tyneside Better Care Fund Planning Template 2023-25

8. Contact officers:

Sue Graham, Health and Social Care Integration Manager, North Tyneside Council
(tel:0191 643 4036)
Anya Paradis, Director of Place (North Tyneside), NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB, (tel: 0191 293 1157)

9. Background information:

The following background documents have been used in the compilation of this report and are available from the author:-

1. 2023-2025 Better Care Fund Policy Framework. Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.
[2023 to 2025 Better Care Fund policy framework - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117111/2023-to-2025-better-care-fund-policy-framework.pdf)
2. Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2023 to 2025. Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.
[NHS England » Better Care Fund planning requirements 2023-25](https://www.nhs.uk/consult/condocs/better-care-fund/better-care-fund-planning-requirements-2023-25/)

COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

10 Finance and other resources

The financial implications for the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group will be considered separately by each organisation as part of their approval processes.

11 Legal

The NHS Act 2006, as amended, gives NHS England the powers to attach conditions to the payment of the Better Care Fund Plan. In 2016/17 NHS England have set a requirement that Health and Wellbeing Boards jointly agree plans on how the money will be spent and plans must be signed off by the relevant local authority and Integrated Care Board.

The Board has a duty under Section 195 of the Health & Social Care Act 2012 to encourage partners to work closely together and in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people in the area.

12 Consultation/community engagement

The Better Care Fund plan has been developed jointly by the Authority and the ICB and consultation on the contents of the Better Care Fund Plan has taken place with local NHS Foundation Trusts and no issues have been raised.

13 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

14 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

15 Risk management

Risk management processes will be outlined within the s75 agreement and managed through the governance arrangements.

16 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

SIGN OFF

Chair/Deputy Chair of the Board

X

Director of Public Health

X

Interim Director of Adult Services

X

Interim Director of Childrens Services

X

Director of Healthwatch North Tyneside

X

Integrated Care Board Director of Place

X