

# North Tyneside Health & Wellbeing Board Report

**Date: 22 September 2022**

**Title: Better Care Fund  
Plan 2022/23**

**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 Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2022/23 prior to submission to NHS England by the national deadline of 26 September 2022. 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 Plan, and
- b) authorise the Director of Children and Adults Services in consultation with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to determine and agree any further revisions to the submission on behalf of the Board, before the deadline for submission to NHS England on 26 September 2022.

## **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. Throughout the pandemic there were impressive collaborations between organisations that served and supported all communities in a joined-up way. The drive to integrate health and social care services is greater than ever, with improved experience for residents and more community-based support being delivered closer to home being the Board's 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 safe and timely 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). This is done at place level with North Tyneside ICB. The value of contributions to the fund in 2022/23 is £30,774,007 which is an increase of 4.47% over 2021/22 BCF pooled fund (note an amount of £1,157,668 of unspent Disabled Facilities Grant carried forward from 2021/22 will be added to this amount and included within the overall total of the fund).

ICBs are required to contribute a defined amount to the fund to support adult social care and in North Tyneside this amount is £12,310,605. Together with the “Improved Better Care Fund” grant, which is paid direct by Government to the Authority, the BCF supports 20.5% of adult social care revenue expenditure within the Borough. The fund also provides for £7,015,863 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 2022/23 was published on 19 July 2022 by the Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities.

There are two policy objectives for the BCF;

- 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.

#### **National conditions**

Three national conditions are unchanged:

- a. A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board;
- b. NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to the identified North Tyneside ICB minimum contribution
- c. Invest in NHS-commissioned out-of-hospital services

There is one new national condition:

- d. Implementing the BCF policy objectives

#### **Metrics**

The Policy Framework mandates metrics to support the updated national conditions.

1. Effectiveness of reablement (as in previous years)

2. Permanent admissions of older people to residential care (as in previous years)
3. Unplanned hospitalisations due to chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions (as in 2021/22)
4. Hospital discharge metric – improving the proportion of people discharged from home to their usual place of residence (as in 2021/22)

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 2022/23 on demand and capacity for intermediate care across the winter period of October 2022 to March 2023. This template will not form part of the national assurance process and it is designed to encourage whole system planning for demand.

### **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 will also be asked to agree the BCF Plan.

### **The Value of the Better Care Fund**

The minimum value of the North Tyneside BCF is set nationally. Table 1 below shows the value in the current year, and changes from previous years.

**Table 1**

Income Component	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	% change this year
Disabled Facilities Grant	1,647,220	1,869,024	1,869,024	0.00%
Minimum CCG Contribution	17,420,966	18,291,187	19,326,469	5.66%
Improved Better Care Fund	9,296,886	9,296,886	9,578,514	3.03%
<b>TOTAL before carry forward</b>	<b>28,365,072</b>	<b>29,457,097</b>	<b>30,774,007</b>	<b>4.47%</b>
Disabled Facilities Grant carried forward			1,157,668	

Grand total			31,931,675	
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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 and these are set out in the table below.

**Table 2**

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	% change this year
CCG minimum contribution to adult social care	£11,096,836	£11,651,150	£12,310,605	5.66%
NHS commissioned out-of-hospital spend	£4,950,544	£5,197,836	£5,492,034	5.66%

## 5. Decision options:

The Board may either:-

- a) approve the attached Better Care Fund Plan, set out in the appendix to this report; and to also authorise the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to agree any further revisions to the submission on behalf of the Board, before the deadline for submission to NHS England on 26 September 2022.
- or
- b) 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 Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to agree option a).

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 and this could impact on service delivery in North Tyneside for those services / areas funded through the Better Care Fund.

## 7. Appendices:

Appendix 1 – The North Tyneside Better Care Fund Narrative Plan

## 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. 2022/23 Better Care Fund Policy Framework. Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/better-care-fund-policy-framework-2022-to-2023>

2. Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2022 to 2023. Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/better-care-fund-planning-requirements-2022-23/>

## **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 between the Authority and North Tyneside ICB.

**16 Crime and disorder**

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

**SIGN OFF**

Chair/Deputy Chair of the Board

Director of Public Health

Director of Children's and Adult Services

Director of Healthwatch North Tyneside

ICB Chief Officer

Monitoring Officer