

Health and Wellbeing Board Better Care Fund – Finance and Performance Report 30 March 2022

For Review and Consultation

Portfolio Holder: Cllr P Wharf, Corporate Development and Change

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director: V Broadhurst, Interim Executive Director of People - Adults

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

1. To review the contents of report and confirm this contains the level of detail the Board require.
2. To identify specific measures in addition to those set out, which will help demonstrate improved outcomes for Dorset.

Reason for Recommendation:

On 12th January 2022, the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) retrospectively approved the Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2021/22, which has subsequently been approved by NHS England (NHSE).

Officers committed to providing an update report on progress of BCF funded services and performance against metrics in March and November 2022. The appended report 'Better Care Fund Dorset - Performance & Finance Update Report' also highlights how the BCF supports and is aligned to the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The BCF and iBCF provides Dorset with a total pooled budget of £136,827,560.
- 1.2 NHSE set national conditions that each annual BCF plan must meet, some are financial:
 - a minimum total investment for the plan from the CCG
 - inflation uplift for the CCG's contribution
 - which grants must be included – i.e. Disabled Facilities Grant.
 - investment in NHS community services to help people manage their health conditions at home.
- 1.3 Some of the conditions relate to mandatory performance outcomes that must be covered:
 - improved outcomes for those being discharged from hospital
 - improved outcomes for those managing health conditions at home
- 1.4 Appendix A shares Dorset's performance against the set metrics up to Quarter 3 of 2021/22:
 - i) Effectiveness of reablement
 - ii) Discharge to normal place of residence
 - iii) Avoidable Admissions
 - iv) Older adults whose long-term care needs are met by admission to residential or nursing care per 100,000 population
- 1.5 In addition it sets out, performance and contract activity of key funding streams, such as Disabled Facilities Grants, improving outcomes of people being discharged from hospital and Carers Services. Where the information is available at a local level this has been captured in the report.
- 1.6 There are key links between the purpose of the BCF and the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) Strategy. The report highlights the links and provides examples of how BCF funded services and outcomes are supporting the HWB priorities.

2. Financial Implications

The Council and Dorset NHS CCG are required to work within the financial envelope and to Plan, hence continuous monitoring is required. Joint commissioning activity and close working with System partners, including acute trusts, allow these funds to be invested to support collective priorities for Dorset. The Joint Commissioning Group of the Council and the CCG will monitor budget

and activity.

3. Well-being and Health Implications

Allocation of the BCF and iBCF supports individuals with health and social care needs, as well as enabling preventative measures, supporting early intervention and promoting independence.

Dorset, like many other areas across the South West and nationally, is experiencing many challenges in providing and supporting the delivery of health and social care.

One of the highest risks for Dorset is the challenge brought about by lack of available home care and therapy. The lack of availability of these two services is concerning, not only because it will impact on outcomes of those being discharged from hospital, and in turn, Dorset's performance against metrics for residential admissions and reablement, but also because people are not always able to stay at home and leave their community. However, as detailed in the report some areas of performance are above and meeting Plan respectively, albeit there is both opportunity and intent to make further improvements.

As a Dorset system, joint work continues to address these pressures, but Dorset like other areas, has a challenged workforce with staff shortages which are brought about for a variety of reasons.

4. Climate implications

All partner agencies are mindful in their strategic and operational planning of the commitments, which they have taken on to address the impact of climate change.

5. Other Implications

Covid-19 continues to present a risk to the available workforce, and therefore availability of health and social care resources.

Dorset Council and Dorset NHS CCG officers will be required to prioritise focus to supporting Government led initiatives to protect local NHS services. As will actions to support and progress new Government guidance as we embark on a new phase of Covid-19 Response; Living with Covid¹.

6. Risk Assessment

¹ [COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/covid-19)

Dorset Council and Dorset NHS CCG officers are confident the BCF and iBCF plans provide appropriate assurance and confirm spending is compliant with conditions.

The funds provide mitigation of risks by securing continuation of essential service provision and provides preventative measures to reduce, delay and avoid demand.

There is currently a high demand for health and social care, with some individuals waiting for services. However, cases are managed on a risk basis to protect individuals deemed to be in high-risk situations, from being without care.

The Council has allocated all national Government funds to providers, particularly focussing on around workforce recruitment and retention.

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

It is important that all partners ensure that the individual needs and rights of every person accessing health and social care services are respected, including people with protected characteristics so the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 are met by all partners.

8. Appendices

A: Better Care Fund Dorset - Performance & Finance Update Report

9. Background Papers

Papers presented to HWB 12th January 2022:

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Health and Wellbeing Board, 12/01/2022 14:00 \(dorsetcouncil.gov.uk\)](#)

Better Care Fund Planning Requirements 2021-22:

[B0898-300921-Better-Care-Fund-Planning-Requirements.pdf \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)