

CUMBRIA HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Meeting date: 7 February 2020

From: Interim Executive Director – People, Cumbria
County Council
Chief Finance Officer, NHS North Cumbria CCG
Chief Officer, NHS Morecambe Bay CCG

BETTER CARE FUND/IMPROVED BETTER CARE FUND 2020-21

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 *The report provides an update on the 2020-21 Better Care Fund (BCF) and improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) spend proposals and asks the Health and Wellbeing Board to indicate their approval for the spend proposals for 2020-21 as set out in Appendix A*
- 1.2 *The report also asks for delegations to be put in place in relation to those service areas that have been identified as being reviewed.*

2.0 LINKS TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

- 2.1 The Cumbrian BCF Plan is consistent with the Cumbria Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and has been produced in alignment with the key needs assessment data in the Cumbria Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).
- 2.2 The BCF plan directly coheres with the North Cumbria Integrated Health and Care System and Better Care Together Health and Social Care Transformation Plans for North and South Cumbria.
- 2.3 The primary intentions of the BCF are as follows:
 - To develop preventative services that enable people to live independently in their own communities for as long as possible.
 - To better support people with health and social care needs in their communities and their own homes.
 - To integrate commissioning and the delivery of care in Cumbria to ensure that services are 'joined up' and easy for people to navigate.
 - To reduce unnecessary reliance on high-level acute sector services wherever possible.

- To make the system of health and social care services more efficient and financially viable.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 ***That the Board approve the BCF/iBCF (including Winter Pressures) 2020-21 spend proposals as set out in Appendix A.***
- 3.2 ***That the Board agree to delegate authority to the Council's Executive Director – People, provided the required agreements with the relevant CCGs are in place to implement changes to schemes that are identified as being reviewed. Decisions taken under this delegation to be done in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Board.***

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The BCF is a financial incentive for the integration of health and social care. It requires Clinical Commissioning Groups and local authorities in every single Health and Wellbeing Board area to pool budgets and to agree an integrated spending plan for how they will use their Better Care Fund allocation. The improved Better Care Fund requires the agreement of the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Council and has the following three grant determination purposes Team would indicate the following:
- Meeting adult social care needs
 - Reducing pressures on the NHS, including supporting more people to be discharged when they are ready.
 - Ensuring that the local social care provider market is supported.
- 4.2 Guidance for the 2020/21 BCF have not been released at the time of this report. However the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2020-21 indicates that funding associated with the BCF and iBCF will continue.
- 4.3 BCF (including Winter Pressures Grant) and iBCF spend proposals set out in Appendix A include some areas which will be subject to additional review during the course of 2020-21. The Board is asked to agree to delegate to the Council's Executive Director – People, in consultation with Chair and Vice Chairs of the board, authority to implement the outcomes of those reviews of the specific areas identified. The usual required agreements with the relevant CCGs will remain unchanged.
- 4.4 As guidance is issued there will be greater clarity on any potential inflationary uplifts. If there are any, these will be reflected in the final submission. As a result the totality of spend across the schemes detailed in Appendix A reflect the 2019-20 levels of spend.
- 4.5 The DFG is a ring fenced budget and will be directly pass-ported to the District Councils.

- 4.6 The proposals for the BCF and iBCF for 2020-21 are built on the 2019-20 submission. There have been adjustments to reflect anticipated activity and spend across some of the schemes which is detailed in Appendix A. The adjustments to the BCF and iBCF have been discussed with partners, primarily through the Joint Commissioning Board.
- 4.7 The BCF and iBCF proposals for 2020-21 are designed to align with and support the vision and aims of the Integrated Care Communities (ICCs), the Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the strategic aims of key partners.

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February 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix A: 2020-21 BCF/iBCF Spend Proposals

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

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