

CUMBRIA HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Meeting date: 10 March 2023

From: Executive Director – People, Cumbria County Council
Director of Place - North Cumbria, North East and North Cumbria ICB
Finance Lead – Place and Programme Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB

2022-23 BETTER CARE FUND ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *The report provides a summary update on the activity of Adult Social Care Discharge Fund that is an addendum to the Better Care Fund policy framework*

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 *That the Board note the contents of the report*

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 On 18 November 2022 the Government published documents that set out the detail of how the £500 million Adult Social Care Discharge Fund was to be distributed and the conditions of its use. It was also confirmed that the Fund would be transacted through the Better Care Fund as an addendum to the 2022/23 policy framework.

3.2 60% of the funding was allocated to the Integrated Care Boards and 40% of the Funding to Local Authorities. It was announced the funding would be paid in two tranches. The second tranche was dependent on meeting the conditions of the funding and the completion of a plan and reporting templates. Following the completion and submission of the plan on the 16th December 2022 and subsequent reporting submissions the second tranche of funding has now been received.

- 3.3 Cumbria County Council was allocated £2.089m, Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB have pooled £1.982m from their allocation and North East and North Cumbria have pooled £1.359m from their allocation into the Cumbria pooled fund.
- 3.4 The Local Authority allocation was in line with the adult social care relative needs formula. The Integrated Commissioning Board's (ICB) total allocation was based on 25% ICB fair shares formula and 75% based on proportion of inpatients in a hospital bed who do not meet the criteria to reside. The ICBs had discretion to determine methodology on how to distribute funding.
- 3.5 There were a number of funding conditions which included:
- Funding to be pooled into the local BCF Section 75 agreements
 - Funding should only be used for permitted activities that reduce flow pressure on hospitals
 - Funding should prioritise those approaches that are most effective in freeing up the maximum number of hospital beds
 - A progress review will take place in January and The Department for Health and Social Care and NHS England may follow up with local areas where there are challenges
 - The funding template plan (appendix 1) must be submitted by 16th December 2022.
 - Areas will need to submit fortnightly reports starting from the 30th December
 - All funding must be spent by 31st March 2023.
- 3.6 In addition to reporting on the activity and outcomes of the individual schemes within the plan there will be monitoring on the following metrics:
- The number of people discharged to their usual place of residence
 - The absolute number of people not meeting the criteria to reside and who have not been discharged
 - The number of bed days lost to delayed discharge by trust
 - The proportion (%) of the bed based occupied patients who do not meet the criteria to reside, by trust
 - The number of care packages purchased for care homes, domiciliary care and intermediate care.
- 3.7 Fortnightly reporting to NHS/Better Care Fund – England has been taking place since 6th January. At the time of writing the last update was on the 17th February. The reporting requirements of the templates have evolved over that period which makes detailed trend analysis problematic. However, there are two areas that have been largely consistent: number of discharges from hospital by service and total packages of care booked for all local authority funded social care; it is these areas that section 4 is focused on.

- 3.8 It is worthy to note that additionally in January 2023 the government announced a further £200m for hospital discharge. This funding is available through the ICBs as a draw down rather than direct allocation and is not transacted through the BCF. It will however also have impacted on hospital discharges alongside the ASC Discharge Fund.
- 3.9 Local authority allocations for the 2023/24 ASC Discharge Fund has now been published (Cumberland £2.049m and Westmorland and Furness £1.304m, with further ICB contributions to be confirmed), however as yet the grant conditions for the use of these funds have not been confirmed.
- 3.10 As grant conditions have not yet been confirmed future proposals for use of the funding are still to be agreed, however areas that officers currently consider priority include:
- Continuing to support Discharge to Assess related packages of care (community and bed based)
 - Assessment Capacity
 - Investment in Transfer of Care Hubs
 - Supporting the voluntary sector offer
 - Community Equipment and Assistive Technology.

4.0 IMPACT MONITORING

- 4.1 As part of the first submission, baselining information was requested which included the number of discharges into Adult Social Care Services for the whole of October 2022, which was 547. The table below indicates the number of discharges into each service area from the period 23rd December 2022 to the 15th February 2023, the total being 1,596. This suggests the average per day number of discharges into these service areas has increased from 18 to 30. There does however need to be some caution, the data below is slightly broader in that it will include discharges into health settings as well as social care settings which is a function of evolving reporting requirements. Also there have been a number of activities, including those supported by the additional £200m discharge funding scheme that would have impacted on discharges. However there is confidence that there have been genuine improvements in flow as a result of Adult Social Care Discharge Fund Activity. It must be noted though that despite improvements discharge flow remains highly challenged and continues to be a high priority area for improvement.

| Number of discharges from hospital by service from 23 rd December 2022 to 15th February 2023 | |
|---|----------------------|
| Discharge Setting | Number of discharges |
| Home or domiciliary care | 937 |
| Reablement in a person's own home | 205 |
| Residential care | 217 |
| Nursing care | 149 |
| Intermediate care | 28 |
| Other pathway one to three support | 60 |
| Total | 1,596 |

4.2 Below are highlights from specific schemes that have been supported through the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund. Note that in some cases individuals will have been supported by a number of different schemes as part of their discharge from hospital.

- Increased Community Equipment stocks and additional hours for the Community Equipment Service: between 4th January 2023 and the 15th February the Community Equipment Service deployed 1,398 items to support hospital discharges. This compares to 514 for the same period in 2022, representing a 172% increase. Note not all these cases will be captured in the table above as not all people would have also gone into one of the identified service areas or be captured as pathway 1-3. There will also be some cases where multiple items would have been deployed to support individuals.
- Discharge to Assess (D2A) beds (Mental Health – CNTW): 6 extra D2A beds at Kirk House fully utilised to discharge inpatients before onward move into a permanent community placement. Very positive impact on flow with referrals continuing to be received.
- Additional Clinical Practitioners (CNTW). Physical Health assessments and interventions have accelerated the discharge pathway and reduce delays.
- Cumbria Community Foundation Flexible Grant: additional funding to support existing contracts, the benefits include Age UK supporting around 40 people a fortnight during the reporting period, Meals on wheels receiving around 25 referrals a fortnight and fitness services focused on improving strength and balance have started work with 30 people during the reporting period.
- Over 10,000 hours of reablement and domiciliary care directly support by the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund
- Over 200 bed placements funded by the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund

- The Council's in house provider Cumbria Care making available intermediate care beds across five sites in Cumbria
- Improved support for carers including the extension of the extension of the Carers Hospital Discharge Support Grant across Cumbria
- Improved capacity and deployment of temporary assistive technology devices such as mobile social alarm systems pending permanent installations to aid discharge flow.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

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