

CAMBRIDGESHIRE BETTER CARE FUND PLANNING 2017 - 19

To: Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting Date: 27 April 2017

From: Geoff Hinkins, Transformation Manager, Cambridgeshire County Council

Recommendations: **The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:**

- a) Comment on the proposals for the Better Care Fund plan 2017 – 19. Further details will be circulated separately as soon as detailed Planning Guidance and funding allocations are received;
- b) Nominate any Board members or officers to comment on further drafts of the plan; and
- c) Approve the outline approach to Cambridgeshire’s Better Care Fund Plan 2017-19 and delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to finalise the plan in accordance with this approach once formal guidance has been received.

| <i>Officer contact:</i> | |
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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of work completed to date on the Better Care Fund plan; to seek Board member comments to inform the final plan; and to seek delegated authority for approval of the Plan to the Director of Public Health. A further detailed appendix to this report will be published and circulated to all members of the Board as soon as detailed Planning Guidance and funding allocations have been received.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) creates a pooled budget in each Health and Wellbeing Board area, intended to assist health and social care services work more closely together. In 2016/17, Cambridgeshire's BCF budget is £48,464k. This was formed through a reorganisation of existing funding used to provide health, social care and housing services across the county. In 2017, Cambridgeshire will be required to submit a new, jointly agreed BCF Plan, covering a two year period (April 2017 to March 2019).
- 2.2 This extraordinary meeting of the Board was agreed in anticipation of the expected Better Care Fund planning timescales for 2017-19. However, at the time of publication of the meeting agenda and reports, the detailed Planning Guidance and funding allocations had not yet been published. A brief update is provided below based on the Government's Policy Framework for the BCF, which was published on 31 March 2017. A more detailed appendix will follow once detailed Planning Guidance and funding allocations are received.

3 BETTER CARE FUND PLANNING 2017-19

- 3.1 The Government's Policy Framework describes the Government's approach to the Better Care Fund in 2017-19, and the policy decisions that will be reflected in the Planning Guidance; it does not include the detailed guidance necessary to complete the BCF budget, including funding allocations and performance metric detail. However, the framework does describe the changes in approach expected in 2017-19. The main changes are as follows:
- 3.2 **Finance:** Government funding for implementation of the Care Act, reablement and provision of carers' breaks continues to be routed through the Better Care Fund from the NHS to local authorities. This funding must be used to 'contribute to the maintenance of adult social care services which also has a health benefit'. In addition, new funding for social care will be routed directly to local government from 2017/18 for inclusion within the Better Care Fund pooled budget. This includes the funding announced in the Spring Budget 2017 and previously announced 'Improved BCF' funding. This amounts to £8.3m in Cambridgeshire in 2017/18.
- 3.3 **National Conditions:** The Government is reducing the number of 'National Conditions' that all BCF plans must meet from eight to four, as follows:
 - Plans must be jointly agreed by local organisations and approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

- The NHS financial contribution to adult social care services must be maintained in line with inflation.
- A proportion of the plan (to be set in the planning guidance) must be invested in NHS commissioned out of hospital services.
- Plans must address local implementation of the 'High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfers of Care'. This is a new requirement, dealing with how social care and health organisations are working together in a local area to reduce Delayed Transfers of Care.
- The 2016-17 national conditions regarding data sharing, 7 days services and joint care assessments have been removed, but it is expected that they will still underpin local BCF plans and plans should build on the progress to date.

3.4 Performance metrics: Nationally mandated metrics remain the same:

- Reduction in non-elective admissions
- Reduction in Delayed Transfers of Care (DTOC)
- Reduction in permanent residential and nursing admissions
- Effectiveness of reablement services

3.5 There is no longer a requirement for locally agreed metrics, so the following locally agreed metrics may be removed:

- Number of long-term users of adult social care services; and
- Patient satisfaction with local NHS services (Friends and Family test)

3.6 National integration metrics will be developed for assessing progress of integration. These will include outcome metrics, user experience and process measures. Once these are developed, the Care and Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out targeted reviews in a small number of areas in May 2017.

3.7 Plans for Integration: BCF plans must include a local 'vision for integration' and describe how it will be achieved by 2020 – this should include alignment with local NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs); and include reference to the importance of housing.

3.8 More detail about compliance with the above requirements will be included within the Planning Guidance once published. The announcements contained within the policy framework are in line with previous announcements and align well with the approach to the BCF previously discussed with the HWB. It is not anticipated that significant changes in approach will be required following publication of the full guidance.

4 BETTER CARE FUND PLAN APPROVAL

4.1 Health and Wellbeing Board approval is required for the BCF plan to be approved. In previous years, the plan has been signed by the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, following delegated authority from the Board to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board.

- 4.2 However, given the planning timescales in 2017, it is likely that approval of the Plan will be required soon after County Council elections in May and a new Health and Wellbeing Board Chair will not have been appointed at that time. To enable Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board to meet its requirement to sign off the local plan, it is proposed that the Board approves the outline approach and then delegates authority to the Director of Public Health to finalise and sign the plan in accordance with that approach on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board once formal guidance has been received.
- 4.3 It is recognised that late publication of the guidance has limited the opportunity for the Board to inform the detail of the local BCF plan for 2017-19. Board members may wish to nominate themselves or an officer to comment on further drafts of the plan before sign-off. Nominations will be invited at the meeting.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- a) Comment on the proposals for the Better Care Fund plan 2017 – 19. Further details will be circulated separately once detailed Planning Guidance and funding allocations are received;
- b) Nominate any Board members or officers to comment on further drafts of the plan; and
- c) Approve the outline approach to Cambridgeshire's Better Care Fund Plan 2017-19 and to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to finalise the plan in accordance with this approach once formal guidance has been received

6 ALIGNMENT WITH THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

6.1 The BCF is relevant to priorities 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

- Priority 2: Support older people to be independent, safe and well.
- Priority 3: Encourage healthy lifestyles and behaviours in all actions and activities while respecting people's personal choices.
- Priority 4: Create a safe environment and help to build strong communities, wellbeing and mental health.
- Priority 6: Work together effectively.

| Source Documents | Location |
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| Cambridgeshire BCF Plan 2016/17 | Available online: https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccclive/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/24/Committee/12/Default.aspx |
| Integration and Better Care Fund Policy Framework, 2017 to 2019 | https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/integration-and-better-care-fund-policy-framework-2017-to-2019 |