

To: Coventry Health and Well-Being Board 16 October 2017
Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) 18 October 2017

From: Pete Fahy, Director of Adult Services

Subject: Better Care Fund Plan 2017-19

1. Background

- 1.1 The integration of health and care has been a long standing national policy ambition based on the premise that more joined up services will help improve the health and care of local populations and make more efficient use of available resources. Nationally, the primary planning tool being used to deliver improved and sustainable health and care is the Sustainability and Transformation Programme (STP) known locally as 'Better Health, Better Care, Better Value'. This provides a system level framework within which organisations in local health and care economies can plan effectively and deliver a sustainable, transformed and integrated health and care service.
- 1.2 Prior to, and subsequently alongside the STP the Better Care Fund (BCF) was implemented in 2015 as part of a government drive to integrate health and care. In response to this a BCF plan was developed locally supported by the Health and Wellbeing Board and supported by a section 75 partnership agreement between the City Council with Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CRCCG). A new plan is now required covering the period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2019 including how the Coventry element of the additional £2 billion allocated in the spring budget, as a response to the acknowledged national funding pressures facing Adult Social Care in England, is to be used.
- 1.3 The planning schedule is such that the planning tools were made available in July 2017 and the plan was required to be submitted by 11 September 2017. Due to these timescales the Health and Well-Being Board on 16 October 2017 was the next available meeting to seek approval of the plan.
- 1.4 The current BCF brings together ring-fenced budgets from the CRCCG, the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and funding paid directly to Coventry City Council to support adult social care services, as part of the Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF). The total value of the 2017-19 pooled budget is £179.502m made up of £63.897m of local authority resources and £115.605m of CCG resources spread over the 2 year period.

2. Recent changes in requirements

- 2.1 The Department of Health and the Department for Communities and Local Government originally published a detailed policy framework for the implementation of the BCF for both 2017-18 and 2018-19 in April. However further detailed guidance was subsequently issued

to local areas following a written statement to parliament on Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC) by the Secretary of State for Health on 3 July 2017.

- 2.2 This guidance has introduced a strong link between the spring Budget announcement of £2bn extra for adult social care budgets, and the expectation that Delayed Transfers of Care (DToCs) should equate to no more than 3.5% of all hospital beds by November 2017 as part of the NHS England (NHSE) Mandate for 2017-18. The parliamentary statement also indicates that the targeted focus on DToC should involve a reduction in delays from both social care and the NHS nationally.
- 2.3 Within the BCF plan Coventry has submitted a trajectory that would meet the expectations of NHSE if delivered in respect of DToC. However, this trajectory is extremely challenging for Coventry as it is for many other areas. The trajectory submitted is shown in table one below.

Table One: Final Submitted DTOC Trajectories

Coventry	NHS Expected Rate per 100,000 based on Local Area Dashboard (July 4th)	Actual Average Rate per 100,000 18+ over last 12 months (June 16 to May 17)	NHS Expected % Reduction on Average over 12 months	Latest Proposed Rate per 100,000 for Trajectories	Proposed % Reduction on Average over 12 months	Proposed Equated to Days per average month	Proposed equated to Delays per day
Social Care	2	2.6	-23.1%	2.6	0.0%	218.9	7.2
NHS	8.4	17.4	-51.7%	7.8	-55.2%	654.8	21.5
Joint	5.3	3.4	55.9%	3.4	0.0%	285.8	9.4
Total	15.7	23.3	-32.6%	13.8	-40.8%	1159.5	38.1

3. The Better Care Plan 2017-19

- 3.1 The basis of the pooled funding for the BCF in previous years has been money that has already been committed to health and social care services through a variety of funding streams. The resulting schemes that were identified in the resultant plans were developed in order to target areas of joint activity, investment and resources into improving outcomes for people of Coventry.
- 3.2 These same intentions underlie the current version of the BCF Plan, which now spans two fiscal years, and a similar set of detailed financial and operational plans have been developed to reflect the current CCG and Social Care priorities within Coventry.
- 3.3 The iBCF grant announced in the spring budget 2017 has made extra funding available between 2017 and 2020. This has been put in place with the aim of providing additional stability and capacity in local care systems and specifically to ‘impact on front line care’.
- 3.4 More specifically three purposes were assigned to this funding as follows:
- To meet adult social care need,
 - To provide support to the NHS (especially through application of the 8 High Impact Changes),
 - To sustain the social care provider market.

The use of this additional funding has been agreed by City Council Cabinet in August 2017 and CCG as well as the Health and Well-Being Board at its July meeting.

- 3.5 The use of this additional funding is also encapsulated in the BCF plan, of which one of the key aims in respect of supporting the NHS is to accelerate the delivery of the 'High Impact Change Model' to support effective hospital discharges and enable the achievement of the NHS mandated target. As well as achieving effective discharge it is also recognised that preventing admission to hospital is as crucial to the effectiveness of the health and care system. To this end activity under the BCF will also focus on a range of projects that seek to improve support to people away from the hospital setting.
- 3.6 To progress this ambition the BCF contains a number of projects each of which has its own objectives and deliverables that in turn will ensure the delivery of the plans for integration and change in our overall Better Care Plan while supporting the wider ambition of the Better Care, Better Health, Better Value programme (Sustainability and Transformation Plan).

4. Mandatory content and National Conditions

- 4.1 The BCF policy and guidance states that the plan must set out the local vision and model for the integration of health and social care and include a coordinated and integrated plan of action for delivering this vision, supported by evidence. The narrative should also clearly articulate how the local system will demonstrate its approach to four national conditions:
- Jointly agreed plan
 - Social care maintenance
 - NHS commissioned out of hospital services
 - Managing transfers of care
- 4.2 Additionally the BCF plan must demonstrate a robust approach to performance and risk management.

5. Governance

- 5.1 The Joint Adult Commissioning Board (AJCB) will take prime responsibility for the progression of the BCF programme. As the BCF Plan and its associated projects and priorities are to align with the Proactive and Preventative workstream of the STP this group is used as an oversight body for the BCF. The BCF will also link to the local Accident and Emergency Delivery Board to ensure alignment with other system elements.
- 5.2 The BCF plan was submitted on the NHS deadline of 11 September 2017 with the support of the Chair of the Health and Well-Being Board pending formal sign-off at the next available meeting of the Health and Well-Being Board, 16 October 2017. The plan was also approved by the Director of Adult Services and the CCG's lead officer to enable submission to this deadline. Following this initial submission and initial feedback from NHSE a further revision of the DToC targets was made and the plan was re-submitted on 20 September to reflect this revision.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1 Following submission a single stage regional assurance process is now underway. This will be followed by moderation and then cross regional calibration. On completion formal letters indicating the results of the assurance process for each individual plan will be issued by NHSE from Friday 6 October onwards. A verbal update will be provided to Health and Well-Being Board and Scrutiny Board 5 on the content of this letter and implications should it be received in advance of the respective meetings.

6.2 There are three assurance categories which are described as “Approved”, “Approved with Conditions” and “Not Approved”. If following moderation a local area plan is not approved or approved with conditions then support will be agreed for that area in consultation with the Better Care Manager, the regional assurance panel and national Better Care Support Team. The nature of this support is so far unclear. There is also a risk that should DToC trajectories not be achieved then NHSE may withhold transfers of funds from CCGs to Local Government. Should this risk materialise it would have a significant impact on the ability of the City Council to provide social care services to support the effective functioning of the health and social care system.

7. Recommendations:

Coventry Health and Well Being Board is recommended to:

- (i) Approve the Better Care Plan for 2017-19
- (ii) Support the pooling of funds within the S75 agreement to accompany the BCF plan

Scrutiny Board 5 is recommended to:

- (i) Support the content of the BCF plan providing comment as appropriate regarding the plan to the Chair of the Health and Well-Being Board and the Cabinet Member for Adult Services.

Appendices

Appendix One: Coventry Better Care Narrative Plan 2017-19

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