

**HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD
15 DECEMBER 2022**

BETTER CARE FUND 2022/23 PROGRAMME

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to update Health and Wellbeing Board on the submission of the Darlington Better Care Fund Plan for the 2022/23 Programme.
2. Update on the review across all funded schemes as part of the programme

Summary

3. The use of BCF mandatory funding streams (NHS minimum contribution, Improved Better Care Fund grant (iBCF) and Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) must be jointly agreed by integrated care boards (ICBs) and local authorities to reflect local health and care priorities, with plans signed off by health and wellbeing boards (HWBs). BCF plans should include stretching ambitions for improving outcomes against the national metrics for the fund. No new metrics have been introduced for 2022-23.
4. The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme spanning both the NHS and Local Government which seeks to join-up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently in their communities for as long as possible. The Fund is one of the government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration. It requires clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and local government to agree a joint plan, owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). These are joint plans for using pooled budgets to support integration, governed by an agreement under section 75 of the NHS Act (2006).

Recommendation

5. It is recommended that :-
 - (a) Members note the submission of the Darlington 22/23 Plan and expected dates of approval letters being issued.
 - (b) Note the programme review underway, with a report to be tabled at future meetings, detailing the outcome of the review.

Reasons

6. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons :-
 - (a) Awaiting feedback from the BCF national team on the 2022/23 Darlington Plan

(b) To allow conclusion of the programme review across all schemes

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Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

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S17 Crime and Disorder	Not applicable
Health and Well Being	The Better Care Fund is owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	None
Diversity	None
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	Frail elderly people at risk of admission/re-admission to hospital
Budget and Policy Framework	Budgets pooled through section 75 agreement between DBC and Darlington CCG
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
Council Plan	Aligned
Efficiency	New ways of delivery care
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	No impact

MAIN REPORT

Darlington Better Care Fund 2022/23

7. The framework confirms the 4 national conditions for funding. 3 of these remain as previous years, with a change to national condition 4, as shown below:
 - (a) A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the HWB
 - (b) NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to CCG minimum contribution
 - (c) Invest in NHS-commissioned out-of-hospital services
 - (d) Implementing the BCF policy objectives to:
 - (i) *Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer, and,*
 - (ii) *Provide the right care in the right place at the right time*
8. As well as the 4 national conditions of funding, the plan includes the delivery against 4 key metrics of:
 - (a) Avoidable admissions: unplanned admissions for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions
 - (b) Residential care admissions: annual rate of older people whose long-term support needs are best met by admission to residential and nursing care homes
 - (c) Effectiveness of reablement: percentage of discharges to a person's usual place of residence
 - (d) Discharge destination: Percentage of discharge to a person's usual place of residence
9. Funding for 2022/23 Programme is set out below:
 - (a) Minimum NHS (CCG) contributions: £9,134,828 (5.66% uplift)
 - (b) Improved Better Care Fund: £4,488,137 (3% increase)
 - (c) Disabled Facilities Grant: £1,063,345 (no change)
10. It must be noted that the funding package for 2022/23 is not new monies, as these are allocated against ASC budgets.
11. Following publication of the Planning Guidance and confirmation of the submission requirements, the Plan for Darlington was submitted to the BCF national team on 26th September. This followed endorsement by the Programme Board.
12. All Health and Wellbeing areas were advised that the outcome of the assurance of all plans will not be completed until 24 October, and any approval letters will not be issued until towards the end of November.

13. At the time of submission of this report, no feedback from the assurance panel has been received, which is the case across all systems.
14. In parallel to the drafting and submission of the 2022/23 Darlington Plan, a service review is underway across all funded schemes, to ensure these schemes continue to deliver against the priorities of the Programme, and to ensure emerging priorities can be funded. It is expected this review will be completed by the end of November, reporting to the Programme Board in early December.

Information and Analysis

15. A full analysis of all funded schemes is currently underway between Local Authority and ICB colleagues and will be reported back to HWBB.

Outcome of Consultation

16. The feedback received from the BCF national team will be presented to HWBB. Feedback was expected during November. However, to date this has not been received.