

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD  
15 DECEMBER 2022**

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**ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Health and Wellbeing Board to the expenditure plans and related schemes in respect of the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund.

**Summary**

2. On 18 November 2002, the Government published guidance and funding allocations for the national £500m Adult Social Care Discharge Fund. The funding has been allocated through the Better Care Fund and the Health and Wellbeing is required to sign off the funding plans. The key focus of the fund is to facilitate initiatives to enable timely and effective discharge from hospitals. The funding will be distributed to local authorities (40% - £200m) and Integrated Care Boards (60%- £300m). In total the allocation to the North East and North Cumbria ICB is £13,453,000.
3. The Government's expectation is that councils and Integrated Care Boards work in partnership to spend the funds locally across the health and social care system. There is a requirement to submit spending plans by 16 December 2022 and adhere to central government reporting arrangements. After having been informed, Health and Wellbeing Boards can retrospectively challenge the plans agreed by the ICB and the Local Authority to ensure that the submission date is met.
4. Darlington locally has been allocated a total of £856, 314 with funding allocated of £417, 643 for the council and £438, 671 for the ICB. The funds will be paid in 2 tranches- with the first tranche being paid in December 2022 and the second in January 2023. Local areas may use up to 1% of their total allocation (local authority and ICB) for reasonable administrative costs associated with distributing and reporting on this funding.

**Recommendation**

5. It is recommended that:-
  - (a) Members approve the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund expenditure plan and the proposed schemes.

**Reasons**

6. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons :-

- (a) The recommendation is supported in order to facilitate the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund's expenditure in accordance with relevant guidance and grant conditions.

**Christine Shields**  
**Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Transformation**

**Background Papers**

A link to the details of the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is set out below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-discharge-fund>

A link to DHSC "Our Plan for Patients" is set out below:

[Our plan for patients - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

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S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Wellbeing	The Better Care Fund (BCF) is owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund will be distributed to pool into the BCF.
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There are no implications arising from this report.
Diversity	There are no implications arising from this report.
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	Frail elderly people at risk of admission and readmission to hospital
Budget and Policy Framework	N/A
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
Council Plan	Aligned
Efficiency	N/A
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

## MAIN REPORT

### Adult Social Care Discharge Fund

7. On 22 September 2022, the Government announced its “Plan for Patients” which allocated support funding of £500m nationally. The funding was allocated to reduce the number of people delayed in hospital awaiting social care provision. On 18 November 2022, the Government published guidance and grant conditions relating to the £500m Adult Social Care Discharge Fund to support the health and social care system during the winter period.
8. The Adult Social Care fund’s primary objective are:
  - to facilitate more people to be discharged in a safe, timely and effective manner to appropriate settings including from mental health in- patient settings
  - prioritise approaches that are most effective in terms of freeing up the maximum number of hospital beds and reducing bed days lost e.g. effective provision of domiciliary care and residential care to meet more complex need
  - boost adult social care workforce through recruitment and retention initiatives which will help to reduce delayed discharges.
9. The total allocation (Darlington Borough Council and the ICB) of £856, 314 must be spent for schemes/ activity between 1 December 2022 and 31 March 2023. Funds cannot be carried forward beyond 31 March 2023. The grant conditions state that the funds cannot be spent to compensate for expenditure already incurred or to fund general inflationary pressures.
10. The Council and the ICB are expected to work together to provide an expenditure plan by 16 December 2022. It is then expected that fortnightly activity reports are submitted which set out the delivery of the funded schemes. The first activity report is scheduled to be submitted on 30 December 2022. The final Adult Social Care Discharge Fund report is required to be submitted by 2 May 2023 alongside the end of year Better Care Fund report.

### Information and Analysis

11. A list of the proposed schemes and allocated funding is attached as an appendix to this report. The schemes are aligned with the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund’s key objectives set out above.

### Outcome of Consultation

12. In accordance with central government requirements, the schemes have been developed in consultation with partner organisations across Darlington’s health and social care system.