

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
7 SEPTEMBER 2023**

BETTER CARE FUND 2023/25 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 2023/25 Programme.
2. Provide an update on the next steps across 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).
4. The Better Care Fund (BCF) Policy Framework sets out the Government's priorities for 2023-25, **including improving discharge, reducing the pressure on Urgent and Emergency Care and social care, supporting intermediate care, unpaid carers and housing adaptations**. BCF encourages integration by requiring integrated care systems and local authorities to enter into **pooled budget** arrangements and agree an integrated spending plan. The vision for the BCF over 2023-25 is to support **people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives**, through joining up health, social care and housing services seamlessly around the person. This vision is underpinned by the two core BCF objectives:
 - **Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer**
 - **Provide the right care in the right place at the right time**
5. The framework confirms the 4 national conditions for funding:
 - Jointly agreed Plan
 - Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
 - Provide the right care in the right place at the right time
 - Maintaining NHS's contribution to adult social care and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services"
6. As well as the 4 national conditions of funding, the plan includes the delivery against 5 key metrics of:

- Avoidable Admissions: Per 100,000 population
- Falls: Emergency Hospital Admissions due to falls in people aged over 65
- Discharge to Usual Place of Residence: Percentage of People who are discharged from acute hospital to their normal place of residence
- Residential Admissions: Long term support needs of people aged 65 and over met by admission to residential and nursing care homes
- Reablement: Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services

7. Funding for the 23/25 Programme is set out below. This includes Discharge Funding being part of the Pooled Budget for the first time.

Funding Sources	Income Yr 1	Income Yr 2	Expenditure Yr 1	Expenditure Yr 2
DFG	£1,063,345	£1,123,530	£1,063,345	£1,123,530
Minimum NHS Contribution	£9,651,859	£10,198,154	£9,651,858	£10,198,154
iBCF	£4,488,137	£4,742,165	£4,488,137	£4,742,165
Additional LA Contribution	£629,078	£288,839	£629,078	£288,839
Additional ICB Contribution	£0	£0	£0	£0
Local Authority Discharge Funding	£629,230	£1,044,522	£629,230	£1,044,522
ICB Discharge Funding	£404,677	£671,764	£404,677	£671,764
Total	£16,866,325	£18,068,974	£16,866,325	£18,068,974

8. It must be noted that the funding package for 2023/25 is not new monies, as these are allocated against ASC budgets.
9. Following publication of the Planning Guidance and confirmation of the submission requirements, the Plan for Darlington was submitted to the BCF national team on 28th June. This followed endorsement by the Programme Board.
10. Feedback on the submission of the Plan is currently awaited, which is the position across all HWB systems.

Next Steps

11. A service review is currently underway across all Programme 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 report the findings to the Pooled Budget Partnership Board in early October.

Recommendations

12. It is recommended that:-

- (a) Members note the submission of the Darlington 23/25 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

13. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons:

- (a) The 2023/25 Plan has been endorsed by the Pooled Budget Partnership as part of the agreed governance arrangements
- (b) Following completion of the review a report of the findings will be available.

Christine Shields
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Background Papers

Darlington BCF 2023/25 Plan Template
 Darlington BCF 2023/25 Plan Narrative

author Paul Neil : Extension 5960

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