

HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD 14 MARCH 2024

DARLINGTON BETTER CARE FUND 2023/25 PROGRAMME SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To provide an update on the Better Care Fund papers submitted for the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board to be held on 14th March.
- 1.2. A number of queries were raised by the chair in advance of this meeting, and this summary report aims to address these, and should be read in conjunction with the main report.

2. BCF Programme Review

- 2.1. Paragraph 12 of the submitted report summarises a joint review, between the Local Authority and ICB colleagues, across all funded schemes that form part of the Darlington Programme Plan is underway.
- 2.2. By way of an update, this review remains on-going and will form part of the 2023-24 Programme End of Year submission. Whilst there has yet to be confirmation of the actual requirements and submission date for the report, it is anticipated that the deadline will be the end of May 2024. The services are split between ICB led reviews and DBC led reviews, and these are then moderated jointly as part of the BCF Partnership Board governance arrangements.
- 2.3. To ensure members of HWBB are fully involved in this review, the following have been agreed:
 - 2.3.1. A task and finish group of HWBB will be established to review the outcomes prior to any decisions being made through the Partnership Board
 - 2.3.2. The draft outcomes will be presented to HWBB members prior to Partnership Board

3. BCF National Programme Submission paperwork and templates

- 3.1. All system areas, as part of the national BCF Programme submission guidance are required to complete 2 templates:
 - 3.1.1. Planning Template: this template, in the form of an excel workbook, captures information relating to compliance with National conditions, detail on expenditure and scheme level detail
 - 3.1.2. Narrative: this template, in the form of a word document, details how all systems deliver against the 4 national conditions of the Programme
- 3.2. It is acknowledged that these templates are complicated and do not allow for HWBB members to summarise progress across the Programme. Whilst it is a requirement for these templates to form part of the submission pack, moving forward, HWBB members will be presented with a summary of the above 2 templates.

- 3.3. As part of the approval and submission process, all system Plans have to be agreed by HWBB, this can either be in advance of or after submission. Historically, the quarterly submissions and end of Year Plans have been approved prior to submission by the Chair and then reported at the next meeting. One factor in this is due to the limited time between guidance and deadlines being published and co-ordinating these dates with HWBB scheduled meetings.
- 3.4. Moving forward, all HWBB members will be consulted prior to submission. This is in-line with the recent quarter 3 submission which was circulated electronically to all members prior to final submission.
- 3.5. Annex A, attached to this report, summarises each of the areas contained within the submission template.

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Annex A: Darlington Better Care Fund: Submission template summary

Planning Template (excel document)

This template contains 8 tabs, ALL of which need to be completed as part of the submission validation process:

- Tab 1 – Guidance: details all of the information systems are required to capture in completing tabs 2-8, as well as the submission requirements
- Tab 2 – Cover: this tab pulls together information from all of the other tabs and provides a visual validation for the national team. That is, where any sections of the template are incomplete, this is shown as “red”. In addition, this also details the main contacts across the Local Authority and ICB who are responsible in the submission process.
- Tab 3 – Summary: again, this tab pulls through key information from the Income, Expenditure, metrics and Planning requirements tabs, to produce a summary of performance, which is collated across all systems by the national team
- Tab 4 – Capacity and Demand: This section requires the Health & Wellbeing Board to record expected monthly demand for supported discharge by discharge pathway. This tab is partly pre-populated by foundation trust and includes the “red”/”green” validation, to ensure all information has been included
- Tab 5 – Income: this tab breaks down the funding elements by source. There are a number of funding sources that make up the Pooled Budget, and these are:
 - Disabled Facilities Grant
 - Local Authority Discharge Funding
 - ICB Discharge Funding
 - Improved Better Care Fund
 - Any additional contributions from the LA or ICB
- This section then ensures, through validation that the funding breakdown is in line with the programme allocations
- Tab 6a – Expenditure: this section details all schemes that are funded through the programme, their allocations, the source of funding as well as a brief summary descriptor. In addition, there are drop down options for each scheme type to be identified. The expenditure amounts and funding source are pulled into tab 5 to provide the Income summary. As with other tabs, validation is built into the template, highlighting any missing information as “red”
- Tab 6b – Expenditure Guidance: linked to 6a, where each funded scheme has to be aligned to a “type”, this tab provides guidance for each scheme type to ensure these are correctly identified.
- Tab 7 – Metrics: as part of the Programme Plan there are 5 metrics against which performance is measured. All systems are required to include, against each of the metrics, the planned target, actual performance for previous years and a supporting narrative on the plan to meet these targets. As a reminder the metrics are:
 - 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

- Tab 8 – Planning Requirements: This tab requires the Health and Wellbeing Board to confirm whether the National Conditions and other Planning Requirements detailed in the BCF Policy Framework and the BCF Planning Requirements document are met. To summarise these:
 - National Conditions
 - Jointly agreed Plan between the LA and ICB
 - 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"
 - Planning Requirements
 - PR1 A jointly developed and agreed plan that all parties sign up to
 - PR2 A clear narrative for the integration of health, social care and housing
 - PR3 A strategic, joined up plan for Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) spending
 - PR4 A demonstration of how the services the area commissions will support people to remain independent for longer, and where possible support them to remain in their own home
 - PR5 An agreement between ICBs and relevant Local Authorities on how the additional funding to support discharge will be allocated for ASC and community-based reablement capacity to reduce delayed discharges and improve outcomes.
 - PR6 A demonstration of how the services the area commissions will support provision of the right care in the right place at the right time
 - PR7 A demonstration of how the area will maintain the level of spending on social care services from the NHS minimum contribution to the fund in line with the uplift to the overall contribution
 - PR8 Is there a confirmation that the components of the Better Care Fund pool that are earmarked for a purpose are being planned to be used for that purpose?
 - PR9 Does the plan set stretching metrics and are there clear and ambitious plans for delivering these?

Narrative Template (word document)

Where as the Planning template is very much a collection of information based on pre-populated or “choice” cells through drop down options, the narrative template allows for more detailed text to be developed to support the Planning template. The key areas to be addressed through the narrative template are:

- Detail of partners involved in developing the Plan
- Key priorities for the period of the Plan
- Governance arrangements
- How each of the 4 national conditions are met