

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR COUNCILS TO ALLEVIATE WINTER PRESSURES**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This report outlines how the additional funding is being allocated on adult social care services in order to support the expectations that are attached to it.

**Background**

2. In October 2018, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care announced £240m of additional funding for councils to spend on adult social care services to help councils alleviate winter pressures on the NHS. The Allocation for Darlington Borough Council amounted to £501, 172.
3. It is clear that the funding has to be spent in a way that supports the expectations that apply to it. These are referenced within the letter from Matt Hancock (Secretary of State for Health and Social Care) and can be summarised as follows:

Spend is expected to focus on:

- a) Reducing Delayed Transfers of Care (DTC)
- b) Helping to reduce extended lengths of stay in hospital
- c) Weekend discharge arrangements, so that patients are assessed and discharged earlier
- d) Speeding up the process of assessing and agreeing what social care is needed for patients in hospitals.

It is expected that the totality of the grant will be spent on providing adult social care services, in addition to funding already planned.

**Recommendation**

4. That Scrutiny Committee members note the contents of this report.

**James Stroyan**  
**Assistant Director Adult Services**

S17 Crime and Disorder	No impact
Health and Well Being	The allocation of Winter funding supports the health and well-being of Darlington residents who need care and support during the Winter period.
Carbon Impact	No impact
Diversity	No impact
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	This is government grant funding to be used to alleviate Winter pressures on the social care and health system.
Key Decision	None
Urgent Decision	None
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Use of funding is compatible with One Darlington
Efficiency	No impact

## MAIN REPORT

### Allocation of funding in Darlington

1. Given the expectations attached to the funding, it is clear that it should be used to support people to remain at home, wherever this is possible. A 'Home First' approach supports both timely discharge and admission avoidance and is central to achieving good outcomes for individuals.
2. Supporting those social care services that enable people to maintain or re-gain their independence is consistent with a strength-based approach to providing support. It is important that funding is used to maximise independence and is not spent in ways that create premature dependence on long term care.
3. To support these objective, it has been agreed that the funding will be used to provide additional capability within the areas identified in table 1 below. Allocated funding is indicative only and may need to be adjusted across the identified areas in response to actual demand.

**Table 1**

Additional Winter Monies		Value £501,172	
Scheme	Indicative Funding Allocation	Description	Expectation/condition supported
Rapid Response Domiciliary care	£20,000	A 'Home First' service that ensures there are no delays due to care packages. This service can also support admission avoidance.	Reducing DTOC, Helping to reduce extended length of stay, Weekend discharge arrangements
Reablement capacity	£110,000	Supporting additional capacity to ensure assessments and packages are in place to target discharges and admission avoidance.	Reducing DTOC, Helping to reduce extended length of stay, Weekend discharge arrangements, Speeding up the process of assessing what social care is needed for patients in hospital
Domiciliary Care Packages	£100,000	To provide ongoing support at home following hospital discharge or admission avoidance intervention.	Reducing DTOC, Helping to reduce extended length of stay, Weekend discharge arrangements
Spot purchase Step Down/Step Up reablement beds	£100,000	To provide additional capability to provide time limited support for those ready for discharge, but who cannot return home immediately and for those who need a	Reducing DTOC, Helping to reduce extended length of stay, Weekend discharge arrangements

		period of residential reablement to avoid admission	
<b>7 Day Social Work Assessment</b>	£51,172	To fund additional social work capacity at weekends during the winter period. This capacity will support weekend discharge and admission avoidance.	Reducing DTOC, helping to reduce extended length of stay, Weekend discharge arrangements, Speeding up the process of assessing what social care is needed for patients in hospital
<b>Residential placements</b>	£120,000	To fund additional permanent residential placements that are anticipated as a result of winter demand associated with hospital discharge and admission avoidance	Reducing DTOC, Helping to reduce extended length of stay, Weekend discharge arrangements
<b>Total</b>	£501,172		

#### **Activity supported by the funding in December/January 2018/19**

4. The funding has been made available to Adult Social Care Teams to ensure that they are able to respond timely to operational demands associated with admission avoidance and transfers of care from hospital to the community. The following are examples of activity which has been supported over the winter period:
  - During December/January 57 Rapid Response care packages have been provided to support hospital discharges. This has equated to 323 hours of support.
  - An additional 22 spot purchased residential beds have been used to support hospital discharges, 9 of these admissions were made directly by NHS colleagues on a Trusted Assessor basis.
  - Social Workers and Occupational Therapist have provided support into hospitals on critical weekends and Bank Holidays providing a 7 day week response. They have completed 15 assessments and facilitated 5 weekend discharges.
  - 68 people received a Reablement support package in December. This represents a 28% increase in support compared to December 2018.

#### **December 2018 Delayed Transfer of Care Performance**

5. There were at total of 44 delayed days in December 2018. This is a significant performance improvement, when compared to December 2017 when there were a total of 128 delayed days.
6. For December 2018 Darlington, when compared to all Single Tier and County Councils in England, is ranked 5 on the overall rate of delayed beds. A rank of 151 is given to the area with the highest rate of delays.

## **Governance**

7. The monitoring of the impact and performance benefits of this additional funding will take place alongside the arrangements already established for the management of BCF and iBCF. Management sits with the Directorate Leadership Team (DBC) and reports to enable partner oversight will be submitted to the Integration Board and shared with the Local Accident and Emergency Board (LADB) for information. Activity reports will also be made to the Department of Health and Social Care as required.