

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Director of Finance & Resources

to
Health and Wellbeing Board
on
21 March 2018

Report prepared by: Ian Ambrose
Group Manager, Financial Management
Better Care Fund Pool Manager

For information only		For Discussion		Approval required	X
-------------------------	--	----------------	--	----------------------	---

Better Care Fund Pool – 2017/18, 2018/19

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1 Purpose of Report

To consider the operation of the Better Care Fund Pool during 2017/18 and 2018/19.

2 Recommendation

Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:

- 2.1 Agree the variation to the 2017/18 Better Care Fund to allow the reallocation of the funds associated with the jointly commissioned Carer's Break scheme back to the respective parties for reinvestment back into their other Better Care Fund schemes;
- 2.2 Note the financial flows of the 2018/19 Better Care Fund; and
- 2.3 Note the updated S75 agreement between Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and NHS Southend Clinical Commissioning Group.

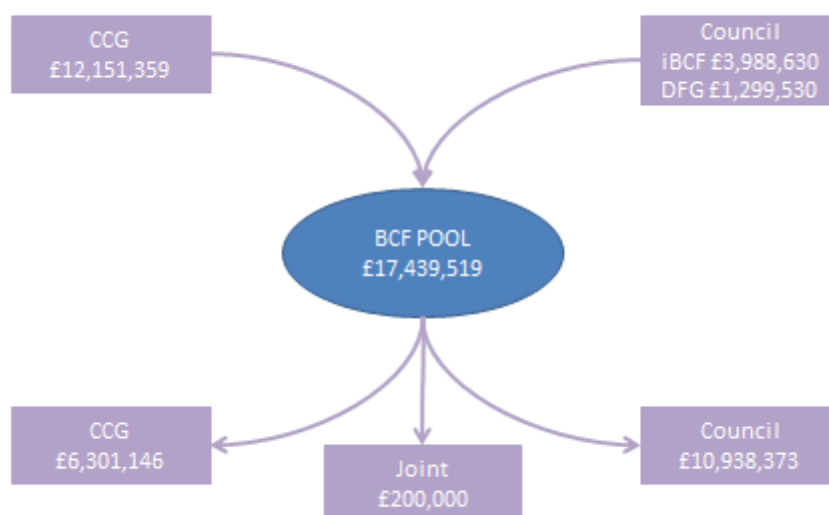
3 Background

- 3.1 The Council has responsibility for commissioning and/or providing social care services on behalf of the population of the borough of Southend-on-Sea.

- 3.2 The Clinical Commissioning Group (“CCG”) has the responsibility for commissioning health services pursuant to the 2006 Act in the borough of Southend-on-Sea.
- 3.3 The Better Care Fund (“BCF”) has been established by the Government to provide funds to local areas to support the integration of health and social care and to seek to achieve the National Conditions and Local Objectives. It is a requirement of the BCF that the CCG and the Council establish a pooled fund for this purpose.
- 3.4 Section 75 of the 2006 Act gives powers to local authorities and clinical commissioning groups to establish and maintain pooled funds out of which payment may be made towards expenditure incurred in the exercise of prescribed local authority functions and prescribed NHS functions, regardless of original source.
- 3.5 The purpose of the S75 Agreement is to set out the terms on which the Partners have agreed to collaborate and to establish a framework through which the Partners can secure the future position of health and social care services through lead or joint commissioning arrangements. It is also the means through which the Partners will pool funds and align budgets as agreed between the Partners.

4 Operation of the 2017/18 BCF Pool

- 4.1 Under the 2017/18 BCF, the £17.440M pool flows to fund £6.301M CCG led schemes, £10.939M Council led schemes, and £0.200M jointly commissioned schemes around Carer’s Breaks. The flows of money are illustrated below.



- 4.2 Under the BCF agreement for 2017/18, the funded schemes approved were:

- £6.301M CCG for Integrated Community Services

- £10.939M Council as follows
 - £4.274M Protecting Social Services
 - £1.476M Reablement, including supporting the Care Act
 - £3.889M iBCF schemes, including addressing the High Impact Change Model, and
 - £1.300M Disabled Facilities Grants
- £0.200M on a jointly commissioned Carer's Break service.

4.3 However, since the agreement was struck, despite work being undertaken to scope the commissioning of the Carer's Break service no scheme expenditure has been incurred.

4.4 The commissioning of an integrated health and social care carers service is an opportunity for the integrated commissioning function to build on and develop the existing function. As such, it is therefore important that there is meaningful consultation with all key stakeholders to determine the needs of the Southend carers population. Further, our aim is to jointly produce the integrated commissioning service. For these reasons a longer process / timeline than would be normally expected has been agreed to ensure the robust development of an integrated carers service.

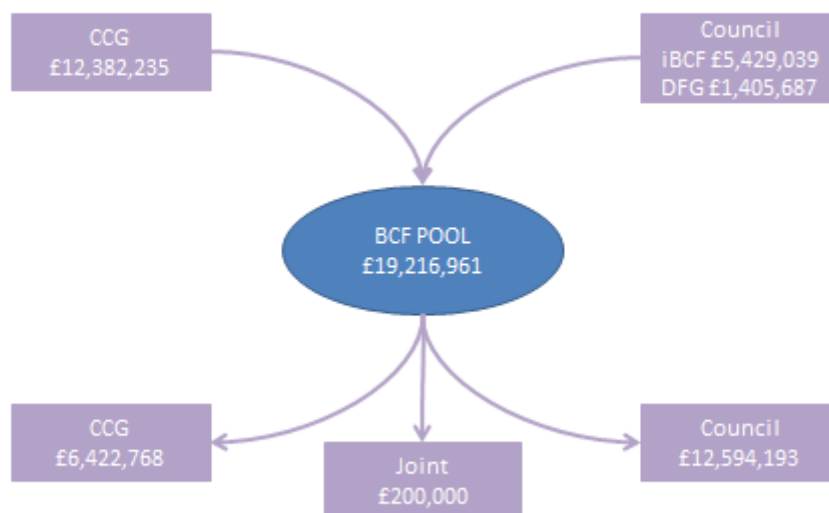
4.5 The CCG has formally requested, as required under the S75 agreement, that their contribution to this jointly funded scheme be redirected towards the delivery of their integrated community services scheme. It is recommended that Health and Wellbeing Board agree to this request. In doing so, effectively Health and Wellbeing Board will also be agreeing to redirect the Council's contribution back to the Council's wider BCF / iBCF schemes.

4.6 The Carer's Break jointly commissioned service will become operational in 2018/19.

4.7 It is anticipated that the 2017/18 BCF pool will be fully expended by the end of the financial year.

5 Operation of the 2018/19 BCF Pool

5.1 The 2018/19 BCF Pool was agreed at the same time as the 2017/18 Pool under a two year arrangement. Under the 2018/19 BCF, the £17.440M pool flows to fund £6.301M CCG led schemes, £10.939M Council led schemes, and £0.200M jointly commissioned schemes around Carer's Breaks. The flows of money are illustrated below.



5.2 Under the BCF agreement for 2018/19, the funded schemes approved are:

- £6.423M CCG for Integrated Community Services
- £12.594M Council as follows
 - £4.355M Protecting Social Services
 - £1.504M Reablement, including supporting the Care Act
 - £5.329M iBCF schemes, and
 - £1.406M Disabled Facilities Grants
- £0.200M on a jointly commissioned Carer's Break service.

5.3 Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the financial flows within the 2018/19 BCF pool.

6 Section 75 Agreement

6.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is underpinned by a S75 agreement between Southend on Sea Borough Council and Southend CCG. The S75 agreement was established 1 April 2015, and is maintained each year through a deed of variation to reflect the changing nature of the BCF activities each partner is undertaking, and the financial resources brought by each partner to the pooled funded and the amounts drawn down.

6.2 The main variations agreed for the current BCF period are

- The inclusion of the improved BCF (iBCF) funds that the Council receives from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government;
- The current two year funding agreement; and
- Introducing flexibility to pooling arrangements, so as to allow non-BCF funds to be pooled under this S75 agreement and the creation of jointly commissioned, jointly funded pooled budgets within the BCF framework.

- 6.3 The deed of variation and updated S75 agreement are included at Appendix 1. Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the deed of variation.

7 Reasons for Recommendations

Oversight of the Southend Better Care Fund and the operation of the Pool are within the remit of Health and Wellbeing Board. Under the S75 agreement that underpins the Better Care Fund, variation of the financial flows between the parties is subject to the approval of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

8 Financial / Resource Implications

- 8.1 As set out in the body of the report

9 Legal Implications

- 9.1 S.75 of the 2006 Act gives powers to local authorities and clinical commissioning groups to establish and maintain pooled funds out of which payment may be made towards expenditure incurred in the exercise of prescribed local authority functions and prescribed NHS functions, regardless of original source. The S.75 agreement is a legal agreement between the Council and NHS Southend CCG that provides the framework and facilitates the operation of the BCF.

10 Equality & Diversity

- 10.1 None arising from this report

11 Background Papers

None

12 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Deed of variation and updated S75 Agreement