

# Southend Health & Wellbeing Board

Joint Report of  
Simon Leftley, Deputy Chief Executive (People), Southend Borough  
Council;  
Terry Huff, Accountable Officer, Southend and Castle Point and Rochford  
CCG

to  
**Health & Wellbeing Board**

on  
**04 Dec 2019**

Report prepared by:  
Nick Faint, Head of Integration and Partnerships, Southend Borough  
Council

For discussion		For information only	<b>X</b>	Approval required	
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## Better Care Fund

**2019/20**

Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

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### **1 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is as follows;

- 1.1 To update members of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) regarding the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2019/20; and
- 1.2 To provide HWB with the BCF plan 2019/20 submission made to NHS England on 27<sup>th</sup> Sep 2019 following sign off from the Deputy Chief Executive (People) (Southend-on-Sea Borough Council 'SBC') and the Accountable Officer (Southend Clinical Commissioning Group 'SCCG') in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair of HWB.

### **2 Recommendations**

HWB are asked to;

- 2.1 Note the Southend BCF plan for 2019/20 that was submitted to NHS England on 27<sup>th</sup> Sep 2019;

### **3 Background & Context**

- 3.1 The BCF for 2017/19 was established between SCCG and SBC from 1 April 2017. It is underpinned by a legal Section 75 Agreement between the two organisations that sets out the proposed schemes to be funded, the required

flows of income into the pooled budget and the distribution back to the scheme / organisational leads.

- 3.2 Throughout the course of 2017/19 HWB has reported quarterly BCF activity to NHS England and the LGA. The most recent return made to NHS England (31 May 2019) continued the theme of reporting that the Southend system continues to operate in challenging financial and operational circumstances but that integrated mitigations and projects are having an impact, key issues being reported were;
- 3.2.1 Non-elective admissions remain a significant system challenge;
  - 3.2.2 Admissions to residential care is stable and is being robustly managed within the context of a challenging adult social care environment;
  - 3.2.3 Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC) performance is good but still presents a significant challenge to both health and social care; and
  - 3.2.4 Reablement (those still at home 91 days after discharge) is undergoing a review and a trajectory of improvement has been identified.

## **4 Southend BCF 2019/20**

National

- 4.1 The BCF Planning requirements were published in June 2019 (**see Appendix A**).
- 4.2 The summary points for the BCF Planning Requirements are;
  - 4.2.1 For 19/20 the planning cycle will move from biennial (once every two years) to annual to reflect the current national uncertain position regarding funding for social care, the status of Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships and the NHS Long Term plan. A review of the BCF was announced in June 2018 and is due to be published later this year and in time to inform the future BCF, i.e. 20/21 and beyond.
  - 4.2.2 National conditions remain the same as in 2017/19; (1) plans to be jointly agreed; (2) NHS contribution to adult social care is maintained in line with inflation and previous years; (3) commissioning of out of hospital services; and (4) Managing Transfers of Care;
  - 4.2.3 The additional funding announced as a result of the 2015 Spending review and 2017 spring budget additional funding will continue; the improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) provides a focus on managing transfers of care and sustaining the social care market place. Additionally, it is a requirement of the BCF that the allocated 'winter pressures' grant be pooled into the BCF pool; and
  - 4.2.4 Metrics to measure performance will continue to focus on non-elective admissions; admissions to residential care homes; reablement; and DToC;

Principles

- 4.3 In September 2019 the HWB agreed the following principles that will be followed whilst setting the BCF 2019/20 plan, these are;
- 4.3.1 BCF fund is largely committed to existing community health and integrated social care activity;
  - 4.3.2 The existing section 75 agreement will be amended to accommodate 2019/20 BCF plan;
  - 4.3.3 All national conditions will be met, consistent with previous planning round approaches; and
  - 4.3.4 Both SCCG and SBC will contribute the mandated funds to the BCF pool. This will be the same as all previous planning rounds with an anticipated uplift set and agreed by both Central Government and NHS England.

#### Financial

- 4.4 Within the Planning Requirements there are mandated funding streams that are to be pooled via the BCF, these are;
- |       |                          |             |
|-------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 4.4.1 | CCG Minimum Contribution | £12,875,651 |
| 4.4.2 | DFG                      | £1,516,820  |
| 4.4.3 | iBCF                     | £6,744,235  |
| 4.4.4 | Winter Pressures         | £824,000    |
- 4.5 The total Southend BCF pool £21,960,706

#### Planning

- 4.6 NHS England required that the Southend BCF plan was submitted on 27<sup>th</sup> Sep 2019. The plan was submitted according to the planning guidance (**Appendix A**) and is provided at **Appendix B**.
- 4.7 The Southend plan summarises the vision that Southend has in terms of delivering an integrated health and social care model via the Locality approach, reviews the 2017/19 activity and presents a plan with supporting evidence that demonstrates how the locality approach will be implemented.
- 4.8 The plan confirms agreement to the 4 national conditions.
- 4.9 Further, the plan outlines the associated financial elements for Southend BCF 2019/20, which includes income and expenditure.

#### iBCF

- 4.10 The Planning guidance at Appendix A defines the national conditions associated with BCF. One of these conditions is that local areas are responsible for managing transfers of care.
- 4.11 To enable local areas to manage transfers of care a grant for adult social care (iBCF) was announced in 2015 and will continue for 2019/20.

- 4.12 The iBCF will be paid direct to Local Authorities via a Section 31 grant from the Department for Communities and Local Government. Conditions attached to the grant are described below.
- 4.13 The grant conditions are;
- 4.13.1 Grant is to be spent on adult social care and used for the purposes of meeting adult social care needs, reducing pressures on the NHS - including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready - and stabilising the social care provider market.
- 4.14 A recipient local authority must:
- 4.14.1 pool the grant funding into the local Better Care Fund, unless the authority has written Ministerial exemption;
- 4.14.2 work with the relevant Clinical Commissioning Group(s) and providers to meet National Condition 4 (Managing Transfers of Care) in the Better Care Fund Planning Requirements 2019-20; and
- 4.14.3 provide quarterly reports as required by the Secretary of State.
- 4.15 To support the planning for the allocation of iBCF the Government has updated a High Impact Change model which supports the requirements for meeting the national condition re 'Managing Transfers of Care'. The High Impact Change model outlines a number of step changes that should be considered and planned against to ensure local areas are able to manage more efficiently transfers of care.

## **5 National Assurance of the BCF plan**

- 5.1 NHS England have delegated responsibility for assuring plans to regional level whilst maintaining responsibility for moderation.
- 5.2 During the period 21<sup>st</sup> October – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 plans were assured by regional representatives from both local government and NHS England.
- 5.3 During the course of late October and early November plans were moderated at both regional and national level and letters confirming plan status are expected during December 2019.

## **6 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 6.1 As part of its governance role, HWB has oversight of the Southend BCF 2019/20.

## **7 Financial / Resource Implications**

- 7.1 None at this stage

## **8 Legal Implications**

- 8.1 None at this stage

## **9 Equality & Diversity**

9.1 The BCF plan should result in more efficient and effective provision for vulnerable people of all ages.

## 10 Appendices

Appendix A – 2019 – 20 Better Care Fund Planning Requirements	
Appendix B – Southend Better Care Fund Plan 19/20	