

Title of Report:	Better Care Fund – Progress Report
Report to be considered by:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Date of Meeting:	26 th March 2015
Forward Plan Ref:	N/a

Purpose of Report:

To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board on the current position regarding the Better Care Fund Plan schemes and seek approval to the revised NEL targets.

Recommended Action:

Health and Wellbeing Board agree to the revised NEL targets.

Reason for decision to be taken:

N/A

Other options considered:

None

Key background documentation:

None

Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Tandra Forster
Job Title:	Head of Adult Social Care
Tel. No.:	01635 519736
E-mail Address:	tforster@westberks.gov.uk

1. Better Care Fund Plan

- 1.1 The West Berkshire Better Care Fund Plan was finally approved by the Department of Health on the 6th February 2015. No changes were made to any of the original schemes or the financial arrangements.
- 1.2 No changes were made to any of the original schemes or the financial arrangements. Some very minor rewording was required to evidence to the Department of Health that social care services were being protected using a combination of Better Care Fund monies and changes to the council's 2015/15 budget in order to cover the Care Act funding gap.
- 1.3 Subsequent to the approval of the BCF plan, an issue has arisen that necessitates a change requiring approval from the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.4 The table below sets out the original BCF NEL % changes as included in the September submissions. Since these submissions were made the CCGs have reviewed their most recent NEL activity ytd which revises the baseline denominator. We have also got an indication from those improvement intervention schemes approved year to date of those which are expected to have an impact on NEL activity. This has resulted in a shift across all three unitary authority areas.

	Original NEL % Reduction	Revised NEL % Reduction
West Berkshire HWB	1.0%	1.3%
Reading HWB	2.8%	1.1%
Wokingham HWB	2.0%	1.2%

2. Section 75 Agreement

- 2.1 All of the pooled budget arrangements and transfers of funding from the NHS to Local Authorities will be covered by a Section 75 agreement, this will replace the existing S256 agreements.
- 2.2 The Integration Finance sub-group is overseeing this process. The West Berkshire Section 75 agreement document is with the Council's Head of Legal and the associated 9 different schedules are in various stages of development..

3. BCF Projects progress

- 3.1 The following provides a very high level update on the progress of each of the projects;

(1) Hospital At Home

The business case has now been reframed to shift the focus to early supported discharge and admission avoidance. Further work has been completed on the costs/benefits assessment and, this is to be reviewed by the Hospital at Home Project Group. The focus is on health provider provision and more discussion is required to understand the impact for social care services. The West Berkshire BCF Plan recognised that costs would fall on both health and social care and therefore appropriate financial provisions were made.

(2) Integrated Health and Social Care Hub

Lots of initial work completed to map existing arrangements, practical requirements e.g. technology and the phasing. A new project manager has been appointed and the 'survey monkey' tool has been used to illicit feedback from a wide range of staff across both health and social care.

(3) Enhanced Care and Nursing homes support

Progress on this project has stalled but a new project manager has been appointed which should get things back on track. New NICE guidance may result in a shift in focus to include more engagement with local authorities to reflect our new responsibilities under the Care Act.

(4) Joint Provider Project (incorporating 7 day working and direct commissioning by specified health staff)

7 work streams have been identified for this project. Emphasis is work stream 1, pathway re-design.

(5) Personal Recovery Guide

The council has agreed to act as lead commissioner and its Procurement Board have agreed an exemption from the usual procurement requirements. This flexibility means that a pilot service will be up and running from April/May. Discussions have begun with 3 voluntary sector organisations one of which is Age UK who have a national lead for 'care navigation' and can bring some established good practice to this new service.

3.2 Appendix A has Highlight reports for both the Personal Recovery Guide and Joint Provider Project. Appendix B provides detail of the overall programme.

Appendices

Appendix A – Highlight Report

Appendix B – Programme Status Report

Consultees

Local Stakeholders:

Officers Consulted: Toby Ellis
Paul Coe
Steve Duffin
Shairoz Claridge

Trade Union: Not applicable