
Better Care Fund Plan 2023-2025

Report being considered by:	Health and Wellbeing Board
On:	3 October 2023
Report Author:	Maria Shepherd, Integration Lead
Report Sponsor:	Councillor Alan Macro
Item for:	Decision



1. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to gain formal sign-off for West Berkshire's Better Care Fund Plan 2023-2025. The plan consists of a narrative plan and planning template.

2. Recommendation(s)

To approve the Better Care Fund Plan for 2023-2025.

3. Executive Summary

3.1 The Better Care Fund Policy Framework for 2023-25 provides continuity from the previous rounds of the programme and is a two year plan.

3.2 The Policy Framework was published on 5th April 2023.

3.3 The Policy Framework sets out four national conditions:

- (1) A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- (2) Maintaining the NHS's contribution to ASC and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services.
- (3) Implementing the **two** BCF objectives of: Providing the right care, at the right place, at the right time and Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer.

3.4 The Policy Framework also sets out five national metrics:

- (1) Avoidable admissions - indirectly standardised rate of admissions per 100,000 population
- (2) Falls – Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over directly age standardised rate per 100,000. (This metric is new for 2023-25)
- (3) Discharge to usual place of residence – percentage of people, resident in HWB, who are discharged from acute hospital to their normal place of resident.

- (4) Residential Admissions – long-term support needs of older people (age 65 and over) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population.
 - (5) Reablement – proportion of older people (65 and over) who are still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation service.
- 3.5 The BCF planning requirements for 2023-25 required a narrative plan and a planning template to be submitted to NHS England. The planning template details the schemes funded by the BCF, targets for the five metrics, expected monthly demand and capacity for hospital discharge by pathway and expected monthly demand and capacity for intermediate care services from community resources.
- 3.6 BCF plans will be approved by NHS England following a joint NHS and Local Government assurance process at regional level.
- 3.7 The South East region advised us on 10th August 2023 that they were pleased to recommend our HWB BCF Plan for approval. The plan has subsequently been approved by NHS England.
- 3.8 West Berkshire's BCF Plan was submitted from the Health and Wellbeing Board on 28th June 2023 and delegated Authority was granted by the Chairman for this to happen prior to formal sign-off from the Board.
- 3.9 The National timetable suggests that section 75 agreements should be signed and in place by 31st October 2023.

4. Supporting Information

The formal governance for the Better Care Fund plan sits within the Locality Integration Board, a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

5. Options Considered

None.

6. Proposal(s)

To approve the Better Care Fund Plan as presented.

7. Conclusion(s)

One of the conditions set out within the Policy Framework is to have a jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners that is signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

8. Consultation and Engagement

Councillor Alan Macro, Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman; Steve McManus, Integrated Care Board Chief Executive; Sarah Webster, ICB; Nigel Lynn, Chief Executive; Paul Coe, LA Director of Adult Social Care; Joseph Holmes, LA Section 151 Officer; Adult Social Care Housing and DFG Leads; Public Health; Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire Integrated Care Board; Berkshire West

Urgent Emergency Care Board; Primary Care Networks; Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust; Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust; South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust; Representatives from Voluntary Sector; West Berkshire Healthwatch; Community Pharmacy; and Locality Integration Board.

9. Appendices

Appendix A – BCF Narrative Plan

Appendix B – BCF Planning Template

Background Papers:

None

Health and Wellbeing Priorities Supported:

The proposals will support the following Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities:

- Reduce the differences in health between different groups of people
- Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives
- Help families and young children in early years
- Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people
- Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all adults

The proposals contained in this report will support the above Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities by driving health and social care integration, using pooled budgets.
