
Better Care Fund 2023-24 Year End Report

Report being considered by:	Health and Wellbeing Board
On:	11 July 2024
Report Author:	Maria Shepherd, BCF Integration Lead
Report Sponsor:	Councillor Heather Codling, Chairman of HWB
Item for:	Information



1. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is for the Board to note the 2023/24 year end Better Care Fund (BCF) Report. The report was submitted to NHS England on 23rd May 2024 with the necessary sign off from the Chairman of the HWB.

2. Recommendation(s)

To note the Better Care Fund 2023-2024 end of year report.

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 Better Care Fund is a pooled budget across Health and Social Care and sits within a Section 75 Agreement with the Integrated Care Board.
- 3.3 The Policy Framework requires systems to have a jointly agreed plan across Health and Social Care which demonstrates how it meets the two objectives: 1) enabling people to stay well, safe, and independent at home for longer, and 2) providing the right care at the right time in the right place.
- 3.4 The Policy Framework requires quarterly reports to be submitted, using a template to report on the performance against the five national metrics.
- 3.5 The five national metrics are:
 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.
- 3.6 West Berkshire met the targets for Falls, Discharge to usual place of residence, and Reablement.
- 3.7 West Berkshire met the target for avoidable admissions in Q1 and Q4 but did not meet the target in Q2 or Q3. We will continue to work with Health partners to promote: Virtual Wards, Health checks, Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings with health partners, Intermediate Care and Rapid Response (2 hrs and 2 day), Joy App, Carers Information and Advice, Out of Hospital services including night sitting, the Mental Health Street Triage and recruitment and retention of Social Workers and Occupational Therapists.
- 3.8 West Berkshire did not meet the target for permanent admissions to residential or nursing homes. The target relates to 205 new admissions, the year end outturn was 213 new admissions. We will continue to challenge the Acute Trusts as 60% of these admissions related to people coming out of hospital. (In 2022/23 it was 68%).
- 3.9 The other route of access for new admissions is through the Community, in 2023/24 there were 86 new admissions compared to 66 in 2022/23. This demand is likely to continue as West Berkshire has an ageing population and we are seeing individuals with increasing complexity.

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)

None – the report is for information only.

7. Conclusion(s)

The 2023-24 End of Year report must be signed off by the Chairman of HWB.

8. Consultation and Engagement

Heather Codling, Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman, Integrated Care Board and Locality Integration Board.

9. Appendices

Appendix A – 2023-24 End of Year Template

Background Papers:

[Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25](#)

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.
