

**TITLE OF REPORT: Better Care Fund 2016/17 Submission**

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**Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek the endorsement of the Health & Wellbeing Board to the Gateshead Better Care Fund submission for 2016/17.

**Background**

2. The Better Care Fund (BCF) was originally announced by the Government in the June 2013 spending round, with the goal to secure a transformation in integrated health and social care. The BCF created a local single pooled budget to incentivise the NHS and local government to work more closely together around the needs of people, placing their wellbeing as the focus of health and care services, and shifting resources into community and social care services for the benefit of local people, communities and health and care systems.
3. The HWB approved the Gateshead Better Care Fund (BCF) 2015/16 submission for Gateshead at its meeting on 19 September 2014, which in turn was approved by NHS England in December 2014.
4. In January 2016, NHS England published a policy framework for the implementation of the BCF in 2016/17 which confirmed the statutory and financial basis of the BCF, the conditions of access to the Fund, and arrangements for the assurance and approval of plans.
5. This was followed in February 2016 by the publication of planning guidance which indicated that the BCF planning process should be integrated as fully as possible with the core NHS Operational planning arrangements (Item 4 on the agenda refers). The guidance also stated that local areas should be mindful in developing their plans about the linkages with five year NHS Sustainability & Transformation Plans (STPs) which NHS partners are required to produce by the end of June 2016. It is expected that these five year plans should set out a blue print for accelerating implementation of key elements of the NHS Five Year Forward View, be place-based and be built around the needs of local populations.
6. The planning guidance also sets out details of the submission requirements for the BCF for 2016/17 which are broadly aligned to the timetable for developing

CCG operational plans. Local partners are required to develop, and agree, through their Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB):

- (i) A short, jointly agreed narrative plan including details of how they are addressing the national conditions set;
  - (ii) Confirmed funding contributions from each partner organisation including arrangements in relation to funding within the BCF for specific purposes;
  - (iii) A scheme level spending plan demonstrating how the fund will be spent;
  - (iv) Figures for the national metrics.
7. As before, national conditions are in place covering 7 day services, maintaining provision of social care services in 2016/17, integrated data using the NHS number, a joint approach to assessments and having an accountable professional for case management, and the requirement to have plans agreed by partners including the consequential impact on providers. There are also two new national conditions relating to the development of a local plan to reduce delayed transfers of care and investment in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services.
8. National BCF metrics for measuring progress through the BCF continue to focus on non-elective admissions, admissions to residential and care homes, effectiveness of reablement, and delayed transfers of care.
9. The requirement for BCF plans to include a locally determined metric and a locally determined patient experience metric is again included within the requirements of the BCF planning return. It is proposed that they will continue to focus on the diagnosis rate for people with dementia and our existing patient experience metric relating to people with long term conditions.

### **BCF Development Milestones and Assurance Arrangements**

10. In developing our BCF submission for 2016/17, there was a requirement to submit an initial high level planning return to NHS England by 2<sup>nd</sup> March and a second planning return and brief narrative plan by 21<sup>st</sup> March, copies of which have already been provided to members of the Board <http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/Health-and-Social-Care/Health/Gateshead-Health-and-Wellbeing-Board.aspx> Newcastle Gateshead CCG and local NHS provider organisations were also required to submit further versions of their operational planning returns during this period. NHS England has recently indicated that the deadline for BCF final submissions is the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.
11. There will be no national assurance process for BCF Plans for 2016-17. Instead the NHS England regional team will work with the national Better Care Support Team to provide assurance that the planning process has been implemented to ensure high quality plans are in place which meet national policy requirements. Local government regional leads for the BCF will also be part of the moderation process at a regional level. As before, there is a requirement that plans are approved by local Health & Wellbeing Boards.

## **Gateshead's BCF Submission for 2016/17**

12. Gateshead's BCF funding allocation for 2016/17 is £16.488m (£15.008m revenue funding from Newcastle Gateshead CCG and Disabled Facilities Grant of £1.48m). The £16.488m pot for 2016/17 is £726,000 less than that for 2015/16 (£17.214m).
13. The BCF submission for 2016/17 has continued to be developed in line with government guidance subsequent to the second stage submission on 21<sup>st</sup> March (paragraph 10 above refers). An updated overarching Narrative Plan, Delayed Transfers of Care Plan (DTCOC), a BCF Scheme Review template, and a Planning Return will be available for the Board meeting which builds upon work undertaken to-date and feedback on our initial submissions from NHS England.
14. 2016/17 is seen as a transition year whereby schemes which have formed the core component of our BCF plans to-date are aligned with emerging models of care such as the care homes vanguard, the urgent emergency care vanguard and other models of care such as the redesign of community health services, primary care, out-of-hospital care, prevention, assertive early intervention and enablement services. During this transition period, our BCF plan will continue to be underpinned by a locality based model of care that seeks to wrap primary, community and social care around a discrete population.
15. The Gateshead BCF plan links with an emerging five year Sustainability & Transformation Plan being developed by Newcastle Gateshead CCG and other NHS organisations for the period 2016/17 to 2020/21, as well as NHS Operational Plans for 2016/17.

## **Governance Arrangements**

16. Governance arrangements for the BCF have previously been developed and endorsed by the Health & Wellbeing Board. A Gateshead Better Care Fund Programme Board, representative of the Council and Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group, continues to be in place to oversee implementation of the BCF Plan and to provide the necessary assurance that it is being delivered in line with government guidance. The Programme Board also addresses any governance issues that arise relating to the BCF and receives monitoring reports on the schemes, associated metrics and the pooled budget. It will continue to provide assurance to the Health & Wellbeing Board as required.

## **Proposal**

17. It is proposed that the Board endorse Gateshead's BCF submission for 2016/17. Work will continue in developing the detail of our plans prior to submission on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. A copy of the final submission will be circulated to Board members.

## Recommendations

18. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to endorse the Better Care Fund submission for 2016/17 to NHS England.

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