

21 October 2022**TITLE OF REPORT: Gateshead Better Care Fund Submission 2022-23**

Purpose of the Report

1. To set out the Better Care Fund Plan submission requirements for 2022-23, how they have been met and to seek the retrospective endorsement of the Health and Wellbeing Board to the Gateshead submission to NHS England in order to support integrated health and care the benefit of local people.

How does the report support Gateshead's Health & Wellbeing Strategy?

2. The Better Care Fund (BCF) submission for Gateshead supports Gateshead's Thrive agenda and our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 'Good Jobs, Homes, Health and Friends' and, in particular, its policy objectives to:
 - Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
 - Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
3. The narrative BCF Plan recognises that the health and care needs of local people can only be addressed by partners working together through a whole system response. It is also recognised that interventions and approaches that are multifaceted and complementary are more likely to be successful in helping people in Gateshead to thrive. Prevention is embedded within key programmes of work.

Background

4. The Better Care Fund (BCF) has been in place since the 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 the health and care economy.
5. The most recent BCF submission for Gateshead to NHS England (NHSE) was for 2021/22 which was submitted last November. As part of the current NHS planning round, there is a requirement for areas to prepare a BCF submission for the current year – 2022/23. The timescale for producing the submission was very tight and colleagues across the system have worked together to meet the planning

requirements, including the submission of a plan for 2022/23 by the deadline of 26th September 2022, set by NHSE.

BCF 2022/23 Planning Requirements

6. NHSE guidance on BCF Planning Requirements for 2022/23 sets out details of national conditions to be met, funding requirements, metrics to be included in plans (against which the progress made by local areas will be monitored), the process for agreeing plans and providing necessary assurance to NHSE.
7. For 2022-23, there are four national conditions that all BCF plans must meet to be approved. These are:
 - (i) A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
 - (ii) NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to the NHS minimum contribution (for Gateshead, this represents an uplift of 5.7%).
 - (iii) Invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services.
 - (iv) Implementing the BCF policy objectives.
8. The core requirements of the submission largely remain the same as for previous years:
 - A BCF Planning template that sets out details of income and expenditure against schemes, metrics and compliance with national conditions
 - A Narrative Plan that accompanies the Planning template and which provides details of:
 - Our approach to integration;
 - Our priorities for 2022/23;
 - How we will meet BCF policy objectives to:
 - enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
 - provide the right care in the right place at the right time
 - How we have developed the Plan
 - How the needs of particular groups will be met
 - Our governance arrangements
9. There is a new requirement to complete a Capacity & Demand template for intermediate care as part of the submission to NHSE. Areas were asked to review demand for, and anticipated capacity for intermediate care, split by:
 - demand from community sources
 - demand for supported discharge from hospital
10. Health and care colleagues have worked together to complete the Gateshead BCF submission for 2022-23 in line with national requirements, through the Integrated Commissioning Group.

BCF Schemes 2022-23

11. As for the previous BCF submission (2021-22), schemes have been grouped under the following broad areas:

- Managing discharges and admissions
- Service pressures
- Planned care
- Carers
- Disabled Facilities Grant
- Market shaping and stabilisation
- Transformation

BCF Funding 2022/23

12. Details of the BCF financial breakdown for Gateshead for 2022/23 is set out below:

BCF Contribution	2022/23 (£)
Minimum NHS Contribution	£18,715,926 *
Disabled Facilities Grant (capital funding for adaptations to houses)	£ 2,111,149
Improved Better Care Fund	£ 11,386,636**
Total	£32,213,711

* i.e. an uplift of 5.7% on the Minimum NHS Contribution from 2021/22

** i.e. an uplift of 3% on the Improved Better Care Fund from 2021/22

13. As we were already at the mid-point of 2022/23 at the time of submission of our BCF Plan, we have sought to ensure the continuity of schemes in the current year in line with planning guidance requirements and to use the 2022/23 uplift to:

- provide additional support for 'discharge to assess' including increased community capacity from the minimum NHS contribution (£938,000) so that the process adopted under the hospital discharge programme can be continued;
- increase LA core spending power for key schemes (£334,800) from the Improved BCF contribution.

Gateshead BCF Submission for 2022/23

14. Existing joint working arrangements in place have been used to develop our BCF submission for 2022/23, including the Integrated Commissioning Group and Gateshead Cares System Board.

15. The Gateshead BCF submission documents for 2022-23 can be accessed through the following link: <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/3933/Gateshead-Better-Care-Fund>

Approval and Monitoring of BCF Plans

16. Assurance of final plans will be led by Better Care Managers with input from NHS England and local government representatives.
17. Reporting will recommence in 2022-23 and will cover progress in implementing BCF plans, progress against metrics and ongoing compliance with the national conditions of the fund.

Recommendations

18. The Health & Wellbeing Board is asked to
- (i) note the key components of the national BCF planning requirements for 2022/23 and how they have been met, as set out in this report;
 - (ii) endorse, retrospectively, the 2022/23 BCF submission for Gateshead.

Contact: John Costello (0191) 4332065