

National Conditions

Selected Health and Well Being Board:

Cheshire East

The Spending Round established six national conditions for access to the Fund.
Please confirm by selecting 'Yes', 'No' or 'No - In Progress' against the relevant condition as to whether these have been met, as per your final BCF plan.
Further details on the conditions are specified below.
If 'No' or 'No - In Progress' is selected for any of the conditions please include an explanation as to why the condition was not met within the year (in-line with signed off plan) and how this is being addressed?

Condition	Q1 Submission Response	Q2 Submission Response	Q3 Submission Response	Please Select (Yes or No)	If the answer is 'No', please provide an explanation as to why the condition was not met within the year (in-line with signed off plan) and how this is being addressed?
1) Plans to be jointly agreed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
2) Maintain provision of social care services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
3) In respect of 7 Day Services - please confirm:					
i) Agreement for the delivery of 7-day services across health and social care to prevent unnecessary non-elective admissions to acute settings and to facilitate transfer to alternative care settings when clinically appropriate	Yes	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No	In progress
health settings available seven days a week to ensure that the next steps in the patient's care pathway, as determined by the daily consultant-led review, can be taken (Standard 9)?	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No	In progress
4) In respect of Data Sharing - please confirm:					
i) Is the NHS Number being used as the consistent identifier for health and social care services?	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No	In progress
ii) Are you pursuing Open APIs (ie system that speak to each other)?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
iii) Are the appropriate Information Governance controls in place for information sharing in line with the revised Caldicott Principles and guidance?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
iv) Have you ensured that people have clarity about how data about them is used, who may have access and how they can exercise their legal rights?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
5) Ensure a joint approach to assessments and care planning and ensure that, where funding is used for integrated packages of care, there will be an accountable professional	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No - In Progress	No	In progress
6) Agreement on the consequential impact of the changes on the providers that are predicted to be substantially affected by the plans	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
7) Agreement to invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
8) Agreement on a local target for Delayed Transfers of Care (DTOC) and develop a joint local action plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

National conditions - detailed definitions

The BCF policy framework for 2016-17 and BCF planning guidance sets out eight national conditions for access to the Fund:

1) Plans to be jointly agreed

The Better Care Fund Plan, covering a minimum of the pooled fund specified in the Spending Review, and potentially extending to the totality of the health and care spend in the Health and Wellbeing Board area, should be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board itself, and by the constituent Councils and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

In agreeing the plan, Clinical Commissioning Groups and local authorities should engage with health and social care providers likely to be affected by the use of the fund in order to achieve the best outcomes for local people. Furthermore, there should be joint agreement across commissioners and providers as to how the Better Care Fund will contribute to a longer term strategic plan. This should include an assessment of future capacity and workforce requirements across the system. The implications for local providers should be set out clearly for Health and Wellbeing Boards so that their agreement for the deployment of the fund includes recognition of the service change consequences. The Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) will again be allocated through the Better Care Fund. Local housing authority representatives should therefore be involved in developing and agreeing the plan, in order to ensure a joined-up approach to improving outcomes across health, social care and housing.

2) Maintain provision of social care services

Local areas must include an explanation of how local adult social care services will continue to be supported within their plans in a manner consistent with 2016-17.

The definition of support should be agreed locally. As a minimum, it should maintain in real terms the level of protection as provided through the mandated minimum element of local Better Care Fund agreements of 2015-16. This reflects the real terms increase in the Better Care Fund.

In setting the level of protection for social care localities should be mindful to ensure that any change does not destabilise the local social and health care system as a whole. This will be assessed compared to 2015-16 figures through the regional assurance process.

It should also be consistent with 2012 Department of Health guidance to NHS England on the funding transfer from the NHS to social care in 2013-14:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/213223/Funding-transfer-from-the-NHS-to-social-care-in-2013-14.pdf

3) Agreement for the delivery of 7-day services across health and social care to

Local areas are asked to confirm how their plans will provide 7-day services (throughout the week, including weekends) across community, primary, mental health, and social care in order:

- To prevent unnecessary non-elective admissions (physical and mental health) through provision of an agreed level of infrastructure across out of hospital services 7 days a week;
- To support the timely discharge of patients, from acute physical and mental health settings, on every day of the week, where it is clinically appropriate to do so, avoiding unnecessary delayed discharges of care. If they are not able to provide such plans, they must explain why.

The 10 clinical standards developed by the NHS Services, Seven Days a Week Forum represent, as a whole, best practice for quality care on every day of the week and provide a useful reference for commissioners (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/clinical-standards1.pdf>).

By 2020 all hospital in-patients admitted through urgent and emergency routes in England will have access to services which comply with at least 4 of these standards on every day of the week, namely Standards 2, 5, 6 and 8. For the Better Care Fund, particular consideration should be given to whether progress is being made against Standard 9. This standard highlights the role of support services in the provision of the next steps in a person's care pathway following admission to hospital, as determined by the daily consultant-led review, and the importance of effective relationships between medical and other health and social care teams.

4) Better data sharing between health and social care, based on the NHS number

The appropriate and lawful sharing of data in the best interests of people who use care and support is essential to the provision of safe, seamless care. The use of the NHS number as a consistent identifier is an important element of this, as is progress towards systems and processes that allow the safe and timely sharing of information. It is also vital that the right cultures, behaviours and leadership are demonstrated locally, fostering a culture of secure, lawful and appropriate sharing of data to support better care.

Local areas should:

- confirm that they are using the NHS Number as the consistent identifier for health and care services, and if they are not, when they plan to;
- confirm that they are pursuing interoperable Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) (i.e. systems that speak to each other) with the necessary security and controls (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/open-api-policy.pdf>); and
- ensure they have the appropriate Information Governance controls in place for information sharing in line with the revised Caldicott principles and guidance made available by the Information Governance Alliance (IGA), and if not, when they plan for it to be in place.
- ensure that people have clarity about how data about them is used, who may have access and how they can exercise their legal rights. In line with the recommendations from the National Data Guardian review.

The Information Governance Alliance (IGA) is a group of national health and care organisations (including the Department of Health, NHS England, Public Health England and the Health and Social Care Information Centre) working together to provide a joined up and consistent approach to information governance and provide access to a central repository guidance on data access issues for the health and care system. See - <http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/infogov/iga>

5) Ensure a joint approach to assessments and care planning and ensure that,

Local areas should identify which proportion of their population will be receiving case management and named care coordinator, and which proportions will be receiving self-management help - following the principles of person-centred care planning. Dementia services will be a particularly important priority for better integrated health and social care services, supported by care coordinators, for example dementia advisors.

6) Agreement on the consequential impact of the changes on the providers that are

The impact of local plans should be agreed with relevant health and social care providers. Assurance will also be sought on public and patient and service user engagement in this planning, as well as plans for political buy-in. This should complement the planning guidance issued to NHS organisations.

There is agreement that there is much more to be done to ensure mental and physical health are considered equal and better integrated with one another, as well as with other services such as social care. Plans should therefore give due regard to this.

7) Agreement to invest in NHS commissioned out of hospital services, which may

Local areas should agree how they will use their share of the £1 billion that had previously been used to create the payment for performance fund.

This should be achieved in one of the following ways:

- To fund NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services, which may include a wide range of services including social care, as part of their agreed Better Care Fund plan; or

- Local areas can choose to put an appropriate proportion of their share of the £1bn into a local risk-sharing agreement as part of contingency planning in the event of excess activity, with the balance spent on NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services, which may include a wide range of services including social care (local areas should seek, as a minimum, to maintain provision of NHS commissioned out of hospital services in a manner consistent with 15-16);

This condition replaces the Payment for Performance scheme included in the 2015-16 Better Care Fund framework.

8) Agreement on local action plan to reduce delayed transfers of care (DTOC)

Given the unacceptable high levels of DTOC currently, the Government is exploring what further action should be taken to address the issue.

As part of this work, under the Better Care Fund, each local area is to develop a local action plan for managing DTOC, including a locally agreed target.

All local areas need to establish their own stretching local DTOC target - agreed between the CCG, Local Authority and relevant acute and community trusts. This target should be reflected in CCG operational plans. The metric for the target should be the same as the national performance metric (average delayed transfers of care (delayed days) per 100,000 population (attributable to either NHS, social care or both) per month.

As part of this plan, we want local areas to consider the use of local risk sharing agreements with respect to DTOC, with clear reference to existing guidance and flexibilities. This will be particularly relevant in areas where levels of DTOC are high and rising.

In agreeing the plan, Clinical Commissioning Groups and local authorities should engage with the relevant acute and community trusts and be able to demonstrate that the plan has been agreed with the providers given the need for close joint working on the DTOC issue.

We would expect plans to:

- Set out clear lines of responsibility, accountabilities, and measures of assurance and monitoring;
- Take account of national guidance, particularly the NHS High Impact Interventions for Urgent and Emergency Care, the NHS England Monthly Delayed Transfers of Care Situation Reports Definition and Guidance, and best practice with regards to reducing DTOC from LGA and ADASS;
- Demonstrate how activities across the whole patient pathway can support improved patient flow and DTOC performance, specifically around admissions avoidance;
- Demonstrate consideration to how all available community capacity within local geographies can be effectively utilised to support safe and effective discharge, with a shared approach to monitoring this capacity;
- Demonstrate how CCGs and Local Authorities are working collaboratively to support sustainable local provider markets, build the right capacity for the needs of the local population, and support the health and care workforce - ideally through joint commissioning and workforce strategies;
- Demonstrate engagement with the independent and voluntary sector providers.

Footnotes:

Source: For each of the condition questions which are pre-populated, the data is from the quarterly data collections previously returned by the HWB.