

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date of Meeting: 16th June 2015
Report of: Lorraine Butcher – Executive Director of Strategic Commissioning
Title: Better Care Fund – Update Paper
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Janet Clowes – Health and Social Care

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board (HwB) is responsible for the ongoing oversight of the delivery of the Better Care Fund (BCF) plan during 2015/16 and whilst not a signatory of the s75 partnership agreement it will have a role in gaining assurance that partners are collectively working together to deliver the plan.
- 1.2 An updated position on the Cheshire East Better Care Fund plan was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HwB) on 28th April 2015. The HwB agreed the revised timescale for signing of the s75 agreements and acknowledged the risks associated with the delay. Partners agreed to support work to ensure the s75 agreements were signed off in line with the new timeframes. Given the timeframe for reporting to NHS England was not in line with the next meeting of the HWB (29th May v 16th June respectively), it was agreed to delegate responsibility for sign-off of the NHS England return to the Chair of the HWB for this to be done electronically.
- 1.3 South Cheshire CCG and Eastern Cheshire CCG have both signed their s75 agreements as of 29th May 2015 and these were executed by Cheshire East Council's Legal Services department on 1st June 2015.
- 1.4 The required report for NHS England was submitted on 27th May 2015 following sign-off from the Chair of the HWB. This report was focussed on allocations, budgets and national conditions rather than the high level budgets which future returns are expected to focus upon. A copy of this return can be seen in Appendix 1.
- 1.5 This report provides the HwB with an update on the progression of the Better Care Fund s75 agreement.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the content of this report.

3.0 Outstanding Actions

3.1 Next steps include:

- Formally pooling budgets
- Implementing a robust programme management and reporting framework regarding individual schemes and high level metrics
- Ensuring BCF scheme leads are working across departmental and organisational boundaries to maximise benefit to the public and avoid gaps/duplication

4.0 Implementing the Better Care Fund Plan

4.1 The Cheshire East Better Care Fund plan became operational on the 1st April 2015, with an ambition to improve the co-ordination and delivery of health and social care services across the Cheshire East area. The BCF plan is aligned with the local health and social care transformation programmes, Caring Together (Eastern Cheshire geography) and Connecting Care (South Geography).

4.2 The implementation of the BCF schemes is on target, including the dementia re-ablement service that became operational from 1st May 2015. It is anticipated that the Universal Outreach service will go live during 2015, subject to the tender evaluation process. These new services are focused on early intervention and prevention and aim to provide support and advice to Cheshire East residents so that they have the confidence and information to manage their situation before it escalates to a crisis.

4.3 As part of the transformation programmes and the BCF plan, partners are working collaboratively to review existing services including integrated care assessment and the support services delivered in the community with a particular focus on Short Term Assessment Rehabilitation and Recovery Services (STAIRRS).

4.4 The BCF plan includes ambitious performance monitoring targets, including a 3.5% reduction in non elective admissions (hospital admissions) during 2015/16 and this equates to a collective reduction of 1,422 non elective admissions across Cheshire East.

5.0 Performance Monitoring and Reporting

5.1 Further work is required by the BCF Commissioning Manager and the BCF Finance Lead to consolidate and co-ordinate performance monitoring and reporting, including delivery, performance and financial. It is acknowledged that there are a number of existing reporting mechanism in operation across organisations and where possible existing reporting mechanisms will be adopted.

- 5.2 The NHS England Operationalisation guidance outlines a minimum quarterly reporting process that must be signed off by the HwB. The deadlines for the returns are outlined below:

HwB Board Date	To NHS England	Period Covering
25 th August 2015	28 th August 2015	April to June 2015
24 th November 2015	27 th November 2015	July to September 2015
26 th January 2016	26 th February 2016	October – December 2015

- 5.3 The next Health and Wellbeing Board is scheduled for 25th August 2015 at which the NHS England return due 28th August 2015 will be formally presented for sign-off

Report prepared by:

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Appendix 1: BCF Quarterly Reporting Template for NHS England (Submitted 27th May 2015)