

Better Care Fund Briefing Note for Health and Wellbeing Board

18th December 2015

This briefing note has been written for Health and Wellbeing Board members to update them on the emerging guidance for Better Care Fund (BCF) in 2016/17 and beyond. This guidance started to emerge during the spending review announcements on 24th November and further guidance was due week beginning 14th December¹. The guidance will include requirements for metrics, pay for performance, national conditions amongst other detail.

The key headlines relating to the BCF are:

- For 2017/17, BCF plans will be submitted as part of mainstream CCG plans via UNIFY. The implication for this is that submitted plans will focus more on metrics and finance, and less on narrative than was seen in 2015/16. The deadline for this submission is **8th February 2016**.
- Narrative will be required locally to understand plans and the Health and Wellbeing Board will be required to sign off plans. These plans will be brought to the Cheshire East HWB meeting on **26th January 2016**.
- The existing six national conditions will remain but language may be tweaked.
- The performance fund element will be retained and will continue to be based on reductions in non-electives with arrangements simplified where possible (timetable aligned to other plans, consistent baselines and targets).
- Localities² to “commit to a fully integrated health and social care system” by 2020. Plans to detail how this will be achieved will be required by 2017. The model for these systems will not be prescribed, and localities will be able to choose from a “menu” of options, including:
 - Continuation of BCF plan
 - Devolution
 - Developing an accountable care organisation
 - Developing a lead commissioner model (e.g. NE Lincs Care Trust Plus model).
- There will be a BCF real terms increase of 1.9% in 2016/17. The detail of where this money will come from has not yet been provided.
- Extra £1.5bn for social care by 2020
- £500m extra for disabled facilities grant

Planned timescales in Cheshire East to complete this work are shown below:

Task	Outcome	Date	Leads
Planning workshop (1)	Consensus across commissioning partners on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priorities for 2016/17• Agreement on schemes that will	5 th January 2015	CEC Brenda Smith Patrick Rhoden

¹ At the time of writing on the afternoon of 18th December, this additional guidance had not yet been received.

² The geography of these localities has not been defined at the time of writing.

	be included in 2016/17 BCF, including any new / additional areas of pooled funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement on funding allocation per scheme • Agreement on some elements of S75 agreement for 2016/17 		ECCCG Representative for Alex Mitchell Jacki Wilkes SCCCG Fiona Field Lynda Risk BCF Caroline Baines Louisa Ingham
Health & Wellbeing Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to Cheshire East BCF plans for 2016/17 	26 th January 2016	
Submission of BCF plans with CCG operational plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted plans in line with national requirements 	8 th February 2016	
Planning workshop (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding across the commissioning partners of how joint commissioning is progressing locally and what actions are required to further improve • Agreement on all elements of S75 for 2016/17 • Agreement on how the 2020 plan will be developed and who will “own” the process 	24 th February 2016	CEC Ann Riley (for Brenda Smith) Patrick Rhoden ECCCG Alex Mitchell Jacki Wilkes SCCCG Fiona Field Lynda Risk BCF Caroline Baines Finance lead (TBA)
Sign-off of S75 agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed agreements in line with national requirements 	31 st March 2016	
Implementation of BCF 2016/17 in line with agreed plans and s75 agreements.		1 st April 2016 – 31 st March 2017	
Begin development of plans for 2020		1 st April 2016 – 31 st March 2017	

Further information is available from:

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