



**Health and Wellbeing Board**  
**26<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

**Report from the Director of Adult Social  
Care**

For Action

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Brent Better Care Fund Plan**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The draft Better Care Fund Plan has been submitted to NHS London for comments and analysis. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider the plan and the schemes within it, ahead of its finalisation by 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to consider the draft Better Care Fund Plan and comment on the schemes proposed ahead of its finalisation by April 2014.

**3 Report**

- 3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board has previously considered a report on Health and Social Care Integration and the Better Care Fund (previously known as the Integration Transformation Fund). Since December, when the Board last considered this issue, work has continued on the Better Care Fund Plan and a draft has been submitted to NHS London and local government teams for analysis and comment, prior to submission of the final document by 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- 3.2 The Board will be aware that the Better Care Fund is a single pooled budget to support health and social care services to work more closely together. In previous years the NHS has transferred funding to councils with the aim of protecting adult social care and promoting health and social care integration. Clear objectives were set nationally for the funding, but there was flexibility for local areas to determine how this investment is best used. In 2013/14 the rules for the transfer of this funding have changed. The focus for the funding is still the same, but instead of the funding being agreed by the council and the CCG, there is now a requirement for the Health and Well being Board to approve the approach and recommend sign off to NHS England, who will release the funds. At the meeting in December, the Board approved the Section 256 agreement for this purpose.

- 3.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board should see the agreement of the Section 256 agreement as the first step towards the implementation of the Better Care Fund, which goes fully live in 2015/16. The funding targeted at transforming health and social care to deliver genuine integration is increasing over the next three years from:
- 2013/14: £900m nationally - £4.8m in Brent
  - 2014/15: £1.1bn nationally – local allocations to be issued in December
  - 2015/16: £3.8bn
- 3.4 The Board will recall that the Better Care Fund is not new money. As already described the £900m nationally for 2013/14 (£4.8m in Brent) is part of the adult social care base budget. There is an additional £0.2bn nationally in 2014/15, but is expected that this will relate to current funding. In 2015/16 the £3.8bn nationally will be made up of: a range of existing funds that are added to the integration pot, including:
- £1.1bn which makes up the budget for 2014/15
  - £130m carers breaks funds
  - £354m capital funding to include £222m Disabled Facilities Grant
  - £300m CCG Reablement monies
  - £1.9bn nationally, which will be provided through a top slice of 3% of the CCG budget which equates to £15.8m for Brent (MTFS 25/9/13) by 2015/16 without a corresponding reduction in spend.
- 3.5 As the pot grows over the next two years, the rules for the use of the money change. The Better Care Fund provides a minimum set of indicators to provide focus and against which success will be measured:
- Permanent number of admissions to residential care
  - Number of older people who receive reablement and rehabilitation services and are still at home after 91 days
  - Numbers of delayed discharges from hospital
  - Avoidable emergency admissions
- 3.6 However, these are system indicators, proxies for improvements in quality of life, but not necessarily recognised by service users. There also needs to be a clear focus on customer experience and perception. This will be done in three ways:
1. Embed outcomes in care plans and review progress to them
  2. Put in place ongoing monitoring of experience – jointly across health and social care
  3. Link to annual surveys: for example, Adult Social Care survey:
    - Percentage of people who are satisfied with the care and support they receive
    - The proportion of people who feel they have choice and control over their lives
    - Social care related quality of life index.

- 3.7 The draft Better Care Fund plan (which is appended to this report) sets out details of the schemes that have been developed that will enable the council, CCG and partners meet its objectives for the fund. In simple terms, there are two broad objectives that neatly summarise the ambitions for health and social care integration -
- To reduce the use of residential care and enable people to remain healthy and independent in the community.
  - To reduce hospital admissions and the length of time people stay in hospital.
- 3.8 Three of the schemes in Better Care Fund Plan contribute directly to these objectives and form a whole system response aimed at reducing hospital admission, the length of time a patient has to stay in hospital if they are admitted, and more planned and proactive care, based in the community. Those schemes are:
- Keeping the most vulnerable well in the community
  - Avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions
  - Effective multi agency hospital discharge
- 3.9 The fourth scheme is Mental Health Improvement, which is a local priority and will contribute to the overarching aims and objectives. However, it is acknowledged that it doesn't neatly fit into a system approach as the other schemes do.
- 3.10 The fifth scheme is a range of enabling programmes that will help us deliver system change. We accept that organisations can't keep working in the same way under the BCP banner and expect improvements to happen. All of the participating organisations have to buy into the vision for health and social care and be prepared to adapt to make change happen. In Brent we believe that we are progressing in this regard and that partners are signed up to the integration agenda to improve health and social care services.
- 3.11 The Health and Wellbeing Board should consider the draft Better Care Fund Plan and comment on the objective and schemes. Ultimately the Board will have to approve a final version of the plan. The intention is to hold a development session on health and social care integration in March 2014 to assist with this.

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Attached papers –

- Better Care Fund Presentation
- Draft Better Care Fund Plan
- Better Care Fund Plan finance templates