

## **SCHEDULE 1 – SCHEME SPECIFICATION**

### **Part 1 – Better Care Fund (BCF) Services Schedule 2025/26**

#### **TEMPLATE SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Unless the context otherwise requires, the defined terms used in this Scheme Specification shall have the meanings set out in the Agreement.

#### **1 OVERVIEW OF INDIVIDUAL SERVICE**

##### **1.1 Name of the Individual Scheme:**

Better Care Fund – please refer to the tables for the individual schemes at section 5 – Services

##### **1.2 Relevant context and background information**

The Local Authority (LA) has responsibility for commissioning and/or providing social care services on behalf of the population of the borough of Brent.

The ICB has the responsibility for commissioning health services pursuant to the 2006 Act in the borough of Brent.

The Better Care Fund has been established by the Government to provide funds to local areas to support the integration of health and social care and to seek to achieve the National Conditions and Local Objectives. It is a requirement of the Better Care Fund that the ICB and the LA establish a partnership for this purpose.

Section 75 of the 2006 Act gives powers to local authorities and clinical commissioning groups to establish and maintain pooled funds out of which payment may be made towards expenditure incurred in the exercise of prescribed local authority functions and prescribed NHS functions.

Since 2015, the Government's aims around integrating health, social care and housing, through the Better Care Fund (BCF), have played a key role in the journey towards person-centred integrated care. This is because these aims have provided a context in which the NHS and local authorities work together, as equal partners, with shared objectives. The plans produced are presented and agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and represent a single, local plan for the integration of health and social care.

In every year of its operation, most local areas have agreed that the BCF has improved joint working and had a positive impact on integration.

There are no pooled funds.

#### **2 AIMS AND OUTCOMES**

The aims and benefits of the Partners in entering into this Agreement are to:

- (1) Improve the quality and efficiency of the health and social care to improve outcomes for residents.
- (2) Meet the National Conditions and Local Objectives for BCF;
- (3) Make more effective use of resources to support the integration of Health and Social Care.

### 3 THE ARRANGEMENTS

The ICB and LA are the lead commissioners for their respective projects. Each project is funded as a non-pooled fund.

### 4 FUNCTIONS

Under the Care Act 2014, local authorities are under a duty to carry out their care and support responsibilities with the aim of joining-up the services provided or other actions taken with those provided by the NHS and other health-related services (for example, housing or leisure services). This general requirement applies to all the local authority's care and support functions for adults with needs for care and support and for carers. The duty applies where the local authority considers that the integration of services will:

- promote the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs or carers in its area
- contribute to the prevention or delay of the development of additional support and care needs of citizens
- improve the quality of care and support in the local authority's area, including the outcomes that are achieved for local citizens

The BCF contributes to the LA fulfilling its Duty in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

### 5 SERVICES

A 1-year plan 2025/26 was signed off on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025 by NHS England. The plan for the year as it relates to Brent ICB and Brent LA schemes are outlined in the tables below. These are defined by funding streams.

Schemes Funded by Disabled Facilities Grant								£6,597,406
Scheme ID	Scheme Name	Brief Description of Scheme	Expenditure 25/26	BCF Scheme Type	Source of Funding	Area of Spend	Commissioner	Provider
38	Disability Facilities Grant (DFG)	Provision of an integrated universal access service to support home adaptations. Budget is pooled with other grants to provide this service.	£6,597,406.00	DFG related schemes	DFG	Social Care	LA	Local Authority

Schemes Funded by Additional NHS Contribution								£621,072
Scheme ID	Scheme Name	Brief Description of Scheme	Expenditure 25/26	BCF Scheme Type	Source of Funding	Area of Spend	Commissioner	Provider
4	Step down beds - line 2 of 2	Block contract beds for step down patients co-located in extra care	£221,072.00	Bed-based intermediate care (short-term bed-based rehabilitation, reablement or recovery)	Additional NHS Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
8	Reablement Service - Line 2 of 2	Staff delivering reablement services at home	£400,000.00	Home-based intermediate care (short-term home-based rehabilitation, reablement and recovery services)	Additional NHS Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority

Schemes Funded by Better Care Grant				£16,462,867				
Scheme ID	Scheme Name	Brief Description of Scheme	Expenditure 25/26	BCF Scheme Type	Source of Funding	Area of Spend	Commissioner	Provider
1	Residential and Nursing Care Provision	Spot provision of residential and nursing care placements	£5,567,931.00	Long-term residential or nursing home care	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
5	SW to support step down beds	1 x SW to support patient throughput across all step down bed provision	£73,904.00	Bed-based intermediate care (short-term bed-based rehabilitation, reablement or recovery)	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
6	Supported Living Unit Provision	Supporting a working age population, with mental health conditions or learning disabilities, to retain maximum independence whilst living in a supported living unit.	£3,417,698.00	Housing related schemes	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
10	Home Care (line 1 of 2)	Provision of home care packages	£5,221,676.00	Long-term home-based social care services	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
17	Mental Health Hospital Discharge Team - inc. MH Units and Acute Hospital sites	Supporting discharge from acute hospitals, MH units and complex patients with LD and autism.	£605,451.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
21	Community Equipment	Community Equipment	£260,000.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
22	Technology Assistive Care Pilot	Pilot scheme to introduce tele assistive care equipment to support hospital discharge and care and independence for residents in their own home (launch Oct '25).	£200,000.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
25	Practice Development Lead (PDL)	To drive improvements in professional practice across all OTs including training, and service delivery and flow across the system, monitoring standards and driving innovation.	£85,367.00	Wider support to promote prevention and independence	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
29	Night Time Floating Support Service	Providing overnight packages in addition to day time calls, to support recovery at home, admission avoidance and reduce care home admissions. Focus on discharge from acute, but expanded service also able to accommodate a cohort of longer term patients.	£861,840.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	Better Care Grant	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
32	Clinical Specialist Support Nurse - acute hospitals	Supporting discharge from acute hospitals to care homes by completing assessment process on behalf of homes to speed up discharge and encourage home to accept patients	£65,000.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	Better Care Grant	Social Care	NHS	Local Authority
33	Dementia program	Admiral nurse training costs (plus contribution from Dementia UK for salaries) and support for dementia patients and carers to discharge with support to both community and care home settings. Encouraging care homes to accept challenging placements, and supporting carers to reduce carer stress and support patients to remain at home for longer.	£104,000.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	Better Care Grant	Social Care	Local Authority	Local Authority

Schemes Funded by NHS Minimum		£32,418,883						
Scheme ID	Scheme Name	Brief Description of Scheme	Expenditure 25/26	BCF Scheme Type	Source of Funding	Area of Spend	Commissioner	Provider
2	P3 Beds to support discharge from acute hospitals	6 weeks funding to support discharge into residential care	£1,076,690.00	Long-term residential or nursing home care	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
3	Step down beds - line 1 of 2	Block contract beds for step down patients co-located in extra care	£640,666.00	Bed-based intermediate care (short-term bed-based rehabilitation, reablement or recovery)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
7	Reablement Service - Line 1 of 2	Costs for packages of care to residents and staff delivering reablement services at home.	£3,328,038.00	Home-based intermediate care (short-term home-based rehabilitation, reablement and recovery services)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
9	Reablement training	Provision of training for reablement providers to drive up quality and effectiveness reablement.	£20,000.00	Home-based intermediate care (short-term home-based rehabilitation, reablement and recovery services)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
11	Home Care (line 2 of 2)	Provision of home care packages	£563,898.00	Long-term home-based social care services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
12	1 to 1 complex care in the community	Providing short-term 1 to 1 in the community, whilst placement sought, to facilitate hospital discharge or due to unpaid carer absence (e.g. their hospitalisation).	£750,000.00	Short-term home-based social care (excluding rehabilitation, reablement and recovery services)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
13	Integrated Neighbourhood Team	Supporting neighbourhood teams within PCN and community services	£505,467.00	Wider support to promote prevention and independence	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
14	BCF Lead	To own operational delivery for BCF planning, assurance and reporting for Brent.	£80,433.00	Evaluation and enabling integration	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
15	ICP Team	Team delivering integrated programs and transformation	£295,048.00	Evaluation and enabling integration	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
16	Acute Hospital Discharge Team	Funding entire HDT team including safeguarding and review teams.	£2,200,941.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
18	Housing Officers supporting discharge from acute and MH hospitals.	Supporting assessment, facilitating discharge and ongoing care planning for all patients with any housing need inc. Care Act, Human Rights or Housing criteria.	£137,724.00	Housing related schemes	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
19	Ashford Place - Dementia / Mental Health Early Discharge Support Team	Reducing hospital stays by facilitating community discharges, enhancing the independence, well-being, and health of local residents, inc. low-severity mental health concerns, learning disabilities, and dementia.	£140,000.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Other (Ashford Place Dementia / Mental Health Hub)	NHS	Charity / Voluntary Sector
20	Community Equipment OT supporting hospital discharges (equipment needs)	Ensuring swift provision of community equipment, aids and adaptations, prevention in health decline and mobility admission avoidance and carer support	£80,585.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
23	MHRA Equipment Safety checks	OT / OTA capacity to complete safety checks on equipment in community required by MHRA.	£56,000.00	Assistive technologies and equipment	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
24	Integrated first response, community based service.	Maximising independence and prevention through strength based practice in community via Trusted Assessments inc. OT, part of wider multi disciplinary team reducing risk of loss of independence by early intervention, inc. swift provision of community equipment, aids and adaptations, SW assessments and carer support.	£206,586.00	Short-term home-based social care (excluding rehabilitation, reablement and recovery services)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
26	Complex Care Training for Care Homes / Community Carers	Support for training, staff development, governance inc. dementia	£60,000.00	Wider support to promote prevention and independence	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
27	Handyman service	Provided through a Charity partner aimed at preventing accidents and promoting independent living, making minor adaptations and repairs.	£69,000.00	Housing related schemes	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Charity / Voluntary Sector
28	Bridging Service supporting patients on discharge home from acute hospitals	Deliver up to 5 days of care, to enable any patient ready to be discharged home on the same day. Patients are then assessed at home, for either reablement, or longer term needs.	£1,034,414.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	Local Authority
30	Complex patient discharge support	Health funding for complex care patients in P3 beds and other settings. For conditions including delirium, dementia and challenging behaviour. Funding covers additional staff required to facilitate, plus placements and 1 to 1 hours until baseline assessments inc. DSTs where appropriate can be completed.	£1,378,832.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	LA	Local Authority
31	Gap patient discharge support	Health funding for 'gap' patients where there are identified health needs e.g. NWB requiring POC at home to facilitate discharge, but no health pathway exists and being managed through the LA.	£139,834.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	Local Authority	Local Authority
34	Information and Access Team, additional capacity to prevent avoidable admissions	Delivering additional capacity into support timely community review and intervention related to safeguarding referrals.	£198,400.00	Wider support to promote prevention and independence	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
35	Autism Community Co-ordinator	Co-ordinating and supporting residents with an autism diagnosis in the community to thrive, avoiding hospital admission, supporting carers and maintain maximum possible independence.	£56,551.00	Wider support to promote prevention and independence	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
36	Brent Carers service	Supporting unpaid carers by providing information, advice, emotional support, training, and advocacy services to enhance their well-being and ensure they are recognized and valued.	£223,981.00	Support to carers, including unpaid carers	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Charity / Voluntary Sector

Scheme ID	Scheme Name	Brief Description of Scheme	Expenditure 25/26	BCF Scheme Type	Source of Funding	Area of Spend	Commissioner	Provider
37	Carer Engagement Officer	Providing information, advice and support for carers	£60,676.00	Support to carers, including unpaid carers	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	LA	Local Authority
39	Data / Systems Analyst	To provide BI capacity for all required discharge and other BCF related reporting, providing expertise and capacity to develop system led reporting functionality across all schemes, improving KPI tracking and analysis and supporting deep dives.	£80,433.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Social Care	Local Authority	Local Authority
40	Contribution to Child Safeguarding Board	The Child Safeguarding Board, coordinates multi-agency efforts to protect children from harm, ensuring compliance with the Children Act 2004, and promoting best practices in safeguarding and child welfare.	£49,541.00	Other	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	Local Authority
41	Contribution to Adult Safeguarding Board	The Adult Safeguarding Board, coordinates multi-agency efforts to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect, ensuring compliance with the Care Act 2014, and promoting best practices in safeguarding.	£26,983.00	Other	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	Local Authority
101	Community Rapid Response and Falls Service	Providing urgent care to individuals at home, helping prevent hospital admissions and supporting recovery after falls	£3,295,836.00	Urgent Community Response	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
102	Enhanced Care Home Support Team	Supporting care home patients with preventative measures to avoid hospital admissions	£1,037,549.00	Long-term residential or nursing home care	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
103	Community Based Schemes - Rehab beds in Furness Ward, Willesden. Line 1 of 2	Shared scheme to improve access to and outcomes for pathway 2 rehab for all ages, all NW London patients	£1,093,646.00	Bed-based intermediate care (short-term bed-based rehabilitation, reablement or recovery)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
104	Community Based Schemes - Rehab beds in Furness Ward, Willesden. Line 2 of 2	Shared scheme to improve access to and outcomes for pathway 2 rehab for all ages, all NW London patients	£120,575.00	Bed-based intermediate care (short-term bed-based rehabilitation, reablement or recovery)	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
105	ICCS - Integrated Care Co-Ordinators Service	Providing integrated care support with care coordinators	£235,335.00	Wider support to promote prevention and independence	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
106	Frailty and Integrated complex patient management service	Supporting patients with frailty and complex care needs	£1,368,010.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
107	Community and Neuro Rehab	Supporting recovery after neurological conditions or injuries, improving independence and quality of life.	£1,516,106.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
108	Tissue Viability	Supporting patients with tissue viability conditions in the community.	£516,058.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
109	Community Equipment	Services supporting safe discharges and enabling residents live at home independently.	£2,055,809.00	Assistive technologies and equipment	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	Local Authority
110	NHS Community Service - Ageing Well Anticipatory Care	NHS Community Service - Ageing Well Anticipatory Care	£199,290.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
111	NHS Community Service - Ageing Well Diabetes	NHS Community Service - Ageing Well Diabetes	£491,779.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
112	NHS Community Service - Ageing Well Fair shares of remainder/tackling inequalities	NHS Community Service - Ageing Well Fair shares of remainder/tackling inequalities	£289,699.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
113	NHS Community Services - Community Nursing	Providing specialized healthcare at home, supporting patients with chronic illnesses, disabilities, or post-hospital recovery needs.	£6,607,220.00	Long-term home-based community health services	NHS Minimum Contribution	Community Health	NHS	NHS Community Provider
114	Gap commissioning: Mildmay HIV and Homeless 1:1 (by ICB)	New scheme, title and funding confirmed NWL ICB	£87,500.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Continuing Care	NHS	NHS
115	Strategic Support from NWL ICB Central Team	Central ICB Support for Borough based teams	£33,750.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Other (NWL ICB)	NHS	NHS
116	Personal Health Budget Cards	New scheme, title and funding confirmed NWL ICB	£10,000.00	Discharge support and infrastructure	NHS Minimum Contribution	Other (NWL ICB)	NHS	NHS

## 6 COMMISSIONING, CONTRACTING, ACCESS

### ***Commissioning Arrangements:***

Brent Local Authority is the Lead Commissioner for the LA Schemes, and these schemes are directly provided.

Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) – these scheme costs are facilitated by the Council's Housing Directorate, following Occupational Therapy assessment.

Brent ICB is the Lead Commissioner for the ICB Schemes

### **Contracting Arrangements**

- (a) All Brent LA Schemes are commissioned using established commissioning protocols.
- (b) All ICB services are commissioned using NHS Standard Contracts.
- (c) The Lead Partners for the contracted service is responsible for the contract and commissioning of the individual service.
- (d) The Lead Partner for the contracted service has authority to terminate a contract in line with stipulated terms. They also maintain responsibility for delivering the service as agreed in the BCF plan and in line with statutory duties if applicable. This will include identifying a nominated replacement partner which could include but is not limited to the alternative partner. Financial arrangements would form part of the new contract agreed.
- (e) Eligibility for access to each service is in line with the published criteria by service.

## 7 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The financial contribution of the ICB and the LA to any Non-Pooled Funds are set out below and fund the agreed schemes noted in paragraph 5 above. Any variations to these contributions must be agreed by the Partners in writing.

### Financial Year 2025/26

	All Funds are Non-Pooled	NHS Contribution		LA Contribution		Uplift	Notes
		2024/2025	2025/2026	2024/2025	2025/2026		
1	Disabled Facilities Grant - DFG			£6,597,406	£6,597,406	£0	Note 24/25 increased in year from £5,799,407 to £6,597,406
2	Local Authority Beter Care Grant			£16,462,867	£16,462,867	£0	In 25/26 IBCF and LA Discharge Fund combined and renamed.
3	NHS Minimum Contribution to LA	£10,114,127	£13,384,197			£396,990	In 25/26 NWL ICB Discharge funding combined with NHS minimum. Table show s spend as split between Health and Local Authority
4	NHS Minimum Contribution to Health Spend	£18,729,888	£19,034,686			£52,973	
5	Additional North West London (NWL) ICB Contribution	£1,216,000	£621,072			£594,928	
6	NWL ICB Discharge Funding	£3,124,905	N/A				
	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>£33,184,920</b>	<b>£33,039,955</b>	<b>£23,060,273</b>	<b>£23,060,273</b>	<b>-£144,965</b>	

## 8 FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

### (2) Management of the Non-Pooled Fund

Contributions to Non-Pooled Funds are prescribed by the BCF Policy Framework and Annual Planning Requirements.

### (3) Audit Arrangements

All partners shall promote a culture of probity and sound financial discipline and control. Annual scheme expenditure will be audited in accordance with the annual audit process of the relevant organisation.

All internal and external auditors and any other persons authorised by the partners will be given the right of access to any document, information, or explanation they require from any employee, or member of the Partnership, in order to carry out their duties. This right is not limited to financial information or accounting records and applies equally to premises or equipment used in connection with this Agreement. Access may be at any time without notice, provided there is good cause for access without notice.

### (4) Financial Management

Each Partner will be responsible for establishing the financial and administrative support necessary to enable the effective and efficient management of the Non-Pooled Funds, meeting all required accounting and auditing obligations.

Where appropriate, contributions will be paid to Partners, invoices shall be paid for the agreed level of funding and shall be paid within 30 days of the invoice date.

Monitoring and reporting arrangements are in line with standard business protocols, managed jointly between the BCF Programme Team and Finance function.

## **9 VAT**

Each partner will be responsible for the treatment of VAT in accordance with relevant guidance from HM Customs and Excise.

## **10 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARTNERSHIP**

In accordance with the Department of Health and Social Care, Ministry for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Local Government, and NHS England - the Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2025-26 plans will be approved by NHS England following a joint NHS and local government assurance process at regional level.

The BCF plans for spending will be jointly agreed by Local Authority and North West London ICB.

A report will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) outlining the plans before the commencement of the services, or as soon as reasonably possible thereafter should there be delays from a government department or agency, or joint process impacting this requirement.

BCF Performance and Finance Reports will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on an annual basis.

The North West London ICB and Brent Council will plan and develop the Better Care Plan and monitor and review performance.

Each Lead partner is responsible for;

- monitoring and managing contract performance in accordance with the service contracts including any contractual requirement in relation to creating efficiencies and savings where possible.

The nominated program manager is responsible for preparing and submitting to the ICB the;

- Quarterly reports for the Borough based partnership
- Completing the annual return on income and expenditure together
- Providing any other information as may be required by partners or the ICP to monitor the effectiveness of the non-pooled funds
- Providing any other information as required to enable the partners to complete their own report and returns within statutory timescales

## **11 NON FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

The LA will provide the officer resources to plan, monitor and implement the BCF schemes and governance and funding conditions of reporting.

The ICB will provide the officer resources to plan, monitor and implement the BCF schemes and governance and funding conditions of reporting.

## **12 STAFF**

Staff are employed directly by the Local Authority, ICB or Providers.

### 13 ASSURANCE AND MONITORING

Annual reports will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

### 14 LEAD OFFICERS

Partner	Name of Lead Officer	Title	Address	Email Address
Brent Council	Rachel Crossley	Corporate Director Service Reform and Strategy	Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley Park, Wembley, HA9 0FJ	<a href="mailto:rachel.crossley@brent.gov.uk">rachel.crossley@brent.gov.uk</a>
NWL ICB	David Williams	Programme Director - Integrated Care	NW London ICB HQ, 15 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JD	<a href="mailto:david.williams26@nhs.net">david.williams26@nhs.net</a>

### 15 INTERNAL APPROVALS

Internal approvals via governance process of the individual Partner. For the Council this is through the BCF Board.

### 16 RISK AND BENEFIT SHARE ARRANGEMENTS

For operational requirements in relation to the non-pooled funds the lead partner shall inform the BCF Lead and ICB Borough based team on a minimum of a quarterly basis and report any risks to effective delivery. This will trigger a co-ordinated assessment to be completed and formal action plan to be drawn up. The assessment is to cover any and all linked risks to partners, services or patients including financial.

For quarterly budget and financial monitoring / reporting of the non-pooled funds if a lead partner has recognised that there is there is a risk of an underspend or an overspend the lead partner shall inform the programme manager and report any risks to effective delivery. This will trigger a co-ordinated assessment to be completed and formal action plan to be drawn up. The assessment is to cover any and all linked risks to partners, services or patients including operational.

All assessments of risk and benefit are to be reviewed jointly by the BCF Programme team comprising representatives of both Local Authority and the Brent ICB team to ensure solutions, risk and benefits are effectively addressed.

## **17 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

The Partners shall cooperate with any investigation undertaken by the Care Quality Commission, the Parliamentary and Health Services Ombudsman and/or the Local Government Commissioner for England or any regulatory authority/body.

The Partners shall cooperate with any audit undertaken by the Audit Commission (or any successor body), the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England and/or any local government audits.

The Partners will co-operate with any investigation undertaken by the Health Service Commissioner for England or the Local Government Commissioner for England (or both of them) in connection with this Agreement.

## **18 INFORMATION SHARING AND COMMUNICATION**

The Partners must comply with the provisions of the Data Protection Laws and any other relevant data protection law in force so far as applicable to this Agreement and the Services and must indemnify each other against all actions, costs, expenses, claims, proceedings and demands which may be brought against the other Party for breach of statutory duty under these statutes which arises from the use, disclosure or transfer of Personal Data by the other Party or its servants or agents.

For the purposes of this Clause 18, the terms “Data Controller”, “Data Processor”, “Data Subject”, “Data” and “Processing” will have the meaning prescribed under the Data Protection Laws.

Each Partner and provider of the scheme must also comply with the published standards of their organisation, noting best practice and patient care at the core of operational policy.

## **19 DURATION AND EXIT STRATEGY**

The BCF ICB and Council schemes are agreed on the updated plan for Financial Year 2025-26.

Each Partner is responsible for the detailed contract, budget, duration and delivery, planning service and design and continuance for the scheme they lead. Any termination of individual schemes would be in line with contracts agreed. A partner can only terminate contracts for which they are responsible and must raise all possible risk scenarios in a timely manner to the BCF Programme Team, who will escalate as required in line with their respective governance process. The process must assess risks to patient care and the wider program, including any actions required to mitigate.

Partners are responsible for ensuring that statutory duties for all services which form part of the Local Authority or ICBs are maintained.

The ownership of equipment or other assets belong to the schemes are considered the property of the Lead Partner. When a scheme closes, any assets must be assessed for appropriate re-distribution within related schemes delivered by the partner to support residents and patient care.

The Lead Partner holds responsibility and liability for all on going contracts including payments and debts related to the schemes they contract. This includes schemes solely funded through the BCF Programme or schemes for which BCF provides a portion of the funding.