

Walsall Council – Health and Wellbeing Board

13th June 2024

Better Care Fund: Planning 2024-25

For Assurance

1. Purpose

This update will retrospectively inform members of details contained within the Better Care Fund (BCF) 2024-25 Planning template, as per national requirements.

Agreed retrospective reporting is in place with delegated authority to Place Integrated Commissioning Committee (PICC) to support national submission dates, which fall outside Board meeting dates.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board retrospectively receives and agrees the BCF 2024-25 Planning template following national submission in June 2024 as per national assurance.

3. Report detail

Background

- 3.1 The BCF 2023-2025 Policy Framework, reaffirms a clear direction for the fund to be one of the government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration.
- 3.2 The BCF vision over 2023-2025 is to support people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives. National leads continue to prioritise integration as key driver, through joint approaches between health and social care, with a new emphasis on housing services to wrap seamlessly around the individual. To ensure alignment, the vision underpins two core BCF objectives:
- Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
 - Provide the right care in the right place at the right time - making sure people are supported with a discharge to the right place, at the right time, and with the right support that maximises their independence.

2024/25 Year Plan

- 3.3 The four metrics agreed for national BCF reporting in 2024/25 include:
- Unplanned hospitalisations for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions
 - Emergency hospital admissions for people over 65 following a fall.

- Proportion of hospital discharges to a person's usual place of residence
- Admissions to long term residential or nursing care for people over 65

Note: The metric for Reablement in the 2023-25 BCF Plan has been excluded for 2024/25.

3.4 The NHS metrics namely discharge to place of residence and avoidable admissions have been determined based on Integrated Care Board (ICB) baselines for a consistent approach across the Black Country. Social Care ambitions have been set as per Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) measures.

Key Messages to Note 2024/24 Planning	Walsall Place BCF Programme – 2024/25 Planning FINANCIAL YEAR 2024/2025											
Metrics	<p>Metrics identified for 2024/25: Summary of main challenges and achievements for each metric:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="371 869 1406 2018"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="371 869 884 909">Metric</th> <th data-bbox="884 869 1406 909">Ambition for 2024/25</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 909 884 1167">Avoidable admissions</td> <td data-bbox="884 909 1406 1167">Avoidable admissions remain a priority. Virtual wards at the Care Navigation Centre will continue to develop and support the reduction in hospital admissions and length of time in hospital.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 1167 884 1391">Falls</td> <td data-bbox="884 1167 1406 1391">Responsibility for falls is currently the responsibility and part of the locality community nurse team. Falls Prevention is a priority area of focus as part of commissioning an integrated approach.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 1391 884 1720">Discharge to Normal Place of Residence</td> <td data-bbox="884 1391 1406 1720">Effectiveness of the reablement offer is dependant on the independent sector domiciliary care market. Establishing the re-start of domiciliary care by domiciliary care providers in line with required time scales is key to discharge and meeting patient needs.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 1720 884 2018">Residential admissions</td> <td data-bbox="884 1720 1406 2018">Suitability of housing options should be aligned with the local market position statement. Work with housing colleagues to evaluate housing options with support/care packages tailored to individual need.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Metric	Ambition for 2024/25	Avoidable admissions	Avoidable admissions remain a priority. Virtual wards at the Care Navigation Centre will continue to develop and support the reduction in hospital admissions and length of time in hospital.	Falls	Responsibility for falls is currently the responsibility and part of the locality community nurse team. Falls Prevention is a priority area of focus as part of commissioning an integrated approach.	Discharge to Normal Place of Residence	Effectiveness of the reablement offer is dependant on the independent sector domiciliary care market. Establishing the re-start of domiciliary care by domiciliary care providers in line with required time scales is key to discharge and meeting patient needs.	Residential admissions	Suitability of housing options should be aligned with the local market position statement. Work with housing colleagues to evaluate housing options with support/care packages tailored to individual need.
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Finance	Accounting for all contributions, the planned BCF spend for 2024/25 is: £52,787,385																												
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Programme Actions for 2024/25	<p>Capacity and Demand Build on areas of good practice and applying learning from the capacity and demand training through strong collaboration of all system partners under Walsall Together allowing for further integration of health and social care.</p> <p>Activity Monitor increase in outturn levels within the Intermediate Care Service and Integrated Care Equipment Service to continue supporting demand and growth of the services.</p> <p>Staffing Capacity in the Intermediate Care Service Evaluate outcomes of the capacity and demand modelling exercise (supported by Walsall Together) to review capacity and demand and align the service against the national Intermediate Care Framework.</p> <p>Technology in the Intermediate Care Service Explore options for the development of a shared electronic dashboard to enable real time reporting of data across the health and social care interface ensuring one version of the truth.</p>																												

4. Implications for Joint Working arrangements:

Partners in Adult Social Care, Black Country ICB Walsall Place, Walsall Healthcare Trust and our main provider service for Intermediate Care have contributed to the development of the schemes outlined in the BCF 2024/25 Plan.

4.1 Financial implications:

Following increased capacity, demand and complexity of the Intermediate Care Service and Integrated Care Equipment Service in 2023/24, the whole sum of the Additional Discharge Fund allocation has been committed to 2024/25 to sustain the outturn levels achieved in 2023/24.

As part of risk management, monitoring of BCF schemes will be at PICC level.

4.2 Legal implications:

A Section 75 Agreement is in place for the BCF.

As part of risk management, the current risk share agreement under the Section 75 is being reviewed by PICC.

5. Health and Wellbeing Board Priorities - impact:

- 5.1 The programme supports the local approach to a healthy population, by aligning the outcome of supporting the independence to older people.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: **Better Care Fund: 2024/25 Planning template**

Appendix 2: **Better Care Fund: Planning Template 2023-25**

Author

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