

WIRRAL COUNCIL

Health and Wellbeing Board

15 April 2015

SUBJECT:	Better Care Fund - update
WARD/S AFFECTED:	All Wards
REPORT OF:	Graham Hodgkinson, Director of Adult Social Services
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Councillor Christine Jones, Adult Social Care and Public Health
KEY DECISION?	Yes

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the latest position of the Better Care Fund (BCF).
- 1.2 The BCF was signed off with assurance from NHS England in September 2014.
- 1.3 The BCF represents partnership working between the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Local Authority and key providers.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 There has been a recent review of the original schemes to ensure that they remain aligned with Vision 2018, the CCG 5-year plan and in line with the considerable financial challenges the Health and Social Care economy faces.
- 2.2 The economy will be performance measured against its ability to reduce emergency admissions through BCF investment. This figure was originally set at a reduction of 5%, against 2014/15 baseline by 31 March 2016. However, in light of A&E performance over the winter period and the challenging admissions trajectory, Wirral has revised its position to a target of 3.5%. This remains a significant challenge, equal to a reduction of approximately 6 admissions a day.
- 2.3 There is a national requirement for the BCF to be managed via a pooled budget by April 2015. Resources will be pooled through a Section 75 agreement, which sets out governance arrangements including how risks such as under performance or overspend against individual schemes will be managed. It has been agreed that the pooled budget will be hosted by the local Authority. The CCG Director of Finance has jointly written the Section 75 request. The Director of Adult Social Services and the CCG Director of Finance will directly oversee the governance of the pooled budget.

- 2.4 As a consequence of both the realigned target and revision of schemes, the revised priorities and investments are included (Appendix 1)
- 2.5 The revised proposal (Appendix 1) increases the overall pooled budget from £33,368,863 to £35,021,863 and increases the contingency from £1,781,900 to £4,213,260.
- 2.6 Given the ambitious transformational programme; implementation and performance management of the schemes are the key priority. The BCF leads for the CCG and Local Authority will report monthly into the Joint Strategic Commissioning Group and quarterly progress to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2.7 A monthly Steering Group with providers is in place as is a monthly performance group to monitor performance and progress against the suite of national BCF targets, including the 3.5% reduction of unplanned admissions.
- 2.8 Periodic reporting to the Local Area Team and NHS England continues.
- 2.9 The BCF will remain closely aligned with the Systems Resilience Group and help drive the urgent care agenda.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 The BCF brings both opportunities and risks. The performance related element of the fund equates to a maximum potential risk of £7.206m being withheld by NHS England to offset the element of activity not reduced in the Acute sector. This equates to a maximum risk of £5.909m for the CCG and £1.297m for the Council. The risk sharing arrangement has previously been agreed at Health and Wellbeing Board on a 82% CCG/18% DASS basis.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 N/A

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Public and stakeholder consultation took place during 2014.
- 5.2 Engagement continues with providers via Systems Resilience Group/Urgent Care Recovery Plan Group and monthly Steering Group.

6.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

- 6.1 N/A

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

7.1 Voluntary Community and Faith organisations are key stakeholders in the development of Vision 2018.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

8.1 For 2015/16, the total joint resource available is £35,021,863.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Section 75 (pooled budget) is a formal legal agreement, setting out specific risk share agreements.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No because there is no relevance to equality. Consideration of Equality Impact Assessment will be given to specific scheme proposals.

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 N/A

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 N/A

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board;
13.1 approve the revised priorities.

13.2 note the progress and monitoring arrangements with regard to the section 75 pooled budget agreement.

14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 Wirral Council and CCG are required to establish a pooled budget to deliver the BCF priorities.

4.2 NHS England requires Wirral Council and CCG to deliver against national requirements identified in the BCF.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : Revised scheme summary

Appendix 2 : Summary of key changes

BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

Briefing Note	Date

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date