

JOINT STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD SUB- COMMITTEE

9 FEBRUARY 2023

REPORT TITLE:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND
REPORT OF:	PLACE DIRECTOR (WIRRAL), NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE

REPORT SUMMARY

The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is a national allocation of resources to local authorities and the NHS from His Majesty's Government. The Fund has specific resource allocations, criteria and management mechanisms that have been set by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

This paper sets out the purpose of the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund, how the resources have been allocated, the conditions attached to the funding and how this has been applied in Wirral.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough and is not a key decision.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

1. The Joint Strategic Commissioning Board Sub-Committee (JSCBSC) notes the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund submission. This was approved by the Director of Adult Social Care and Health, Wirral Council in consultation with the Place Director, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside on the delegated authority of the JSCBSC.
2. A further update report on the application of and outcomes from the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is brought to a future meeting of the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board Sub-Committee and Wirral Place Based Partnership Board.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 On 8th December 2022 the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board Sub-Committee (JSCBSC) delegated the approval of the Wirral plan for the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund to the Director of Adult Social Care and Health, Wirral Council in consultation with the Place Director, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside. This decision was made to enable the Wirral system to meet the timetable for submission of expenditure plans against the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) by 16th December 2022.
- 1.2 The JSCBSC also requested an update report on the submission made to the DHSC.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is a national allocation of resources to local authorities and the NHS from His Majesty's Government. The Fund has specific resource allocations, criteria and management mechanisms that have been set by the DHSC. There are therefore no other options for the Wirral system than to apply to utilise our allocations through the processes identified in the guidance. The Wirral system met the deadline of 16th December 2022 for the submissions of plans to the DHSC.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 On 22nd September 2022, the His Majesty's Government announced its *Plan for Patients*. This plan committed £500 million for the rest of the financial year 2022/23, to support timely and safe discharge from hospital into the community by reducing the number of people delayed in hospital awaiting social care. The intention of this fund is to focus on, but not be limited to, a 'home first' approach and discharge to assess (D2A).
- 3.2 On 18th November 2022, the Government confirmed that the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund would be released through local authorities and integrated care boards (ICBs) to pool into local Better Care Fund (BCF) arrangements. In line with usual BCF requirements, the use of both elements of this funding should be agreed between local health and social care leaders.
- 3.3 The funding has been allocated to achieve the maximum reduction in delayed discharges. The funding has been provided in 2 tranches – the first (40%) in December 2022, and the second (60%) by the end of January 2023 for areas that have provided a planned spending report and fortnightly activity data and have met the other conditions. Ministers have set specific conditions governing the use of this additional funding, which were set out in the report to the JSCBSC on 8th December 2022.

- 3.4 The impact the additional funding is having will be tracked by the following metrics:
- the number of people discharged to their usual place of residence (existing BCF metric).
 - the absolute number of people 'not meeting criteria to reside' (and who have not been discharged).
 - the number of 'Bed days lost' to delayed discharge by trust (from the weekly acute sitrep).
 - the proportion (%) of the bed based occupied by patients who do not meet the criteria to reside, by trust.
 - the number of care packages purchased for care homes, domiciliary care and intermediate care (to be collected through a new template).
- 3.5 NHS England and the DHSC will monitor continued compliance against the funding conditions set out in the guidance, through interactions with local areas and scrutiny of the spending reports and the discharge related metrics. Where there are higher or increasing delayed discharges (beyond the national average) or where there are significant challenges, local areas will be offered a package of support to encourage improvement. In these cases, the expectation will be that ICBs (including relevant trusts) and local authorities will implement the recommendations provided by the support programme teams.
- 3.6 A progress review across all areas is due to take place in January 2023. This report has been written in advance of this review.
- 3.7 The announcement on 18th November 2022 confirmed that the total allocation to Wirral Council is £1.5m and the allocation to NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, our local ICB, is £19.2m. The allocation from NHS Cheshire and Merseyside for the NHS component of Adult Social Care Discharge Fund for Wirral is £2.8m.
- 3.8 NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, Wirral Council and provider organisations have worked together on a range of measures that seek to support timely and safe discharge from hospital into the community by reducing the number of people delayed in hospital awaiting social care. These formed the basis of the Wirral response to the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund.
- 3.9 The Wirral submission for the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is set out in Appendix 1. The Local Authority component of this Fund was approved by the Director of Adult Social Care and Health, Wirral Council with the delegated approval of the JSCB. This took place in consultation with the Place Director, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, who was authorised to approve the NHS component of the Fund. It is recommended that
- The JSCBSC notes the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund submission.
 - A further update report on the application of and outcomes from the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is brought to a future meeting of the Joint

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The total Adult Social Care Discharge Fund allocation to Wirral Council is £1.5m, the allocation to NHS Cheshire and Merseyside is £19.2m. Wirral has received an increased allocation, compared with an expected “fair share” distribution, of £2.8m.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The funding is subject to specific conditions set by the DHSC.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 The guidance that supports the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is very clear in specifying that the resources should be used to support timely and safe discharge from hospital into the community by reducing the number of people delayed in hospital awaiting social care. The intention of this fund is to focus on, but not be limited to, a ‘home first’ approach and discharge to assess (D2A). It is hoped that the resources will support additional workforce in these areas.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 There is a risk that the second tranche of the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund will not be allocated to Wirral without clear plans and evidence of improvement. The monitoring mechanisms for the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund and associated deliverables will support the system in mitigating this risk.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, Wirral Council and provider organisations have worked together on a range of measures that seek to support timely and safe discharge from hospital into the community by reducing the number of people delayed in hospital awaiting social care. These formed the basis of the Wirral response to the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside have a legal requirement to make sure their policies, and the way they carry out their work, do not discriminate against anyone. The business of these groups will be conducted with an awareness of the general duty requirements and place equality considerations. No Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for this report, although associated actions may require an EIA.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Wirral Council and NHS Cheshire and Merseyside are committed to carrying out their work in an environmentally responsible manner.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Community Wealth Building in Wirral focusses on partnerships and collaboration. These partnerships are led by Wirral Council with external partners and stakeholders, including residents. NHS Cheshire and Merseyside will support the Council in community wealth building by ensuring health and care organisations in the borough have a focus on reducing health inequalities and contribute to the development of a resilient and inclusive economy for Wirral.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Wirral Place Adult Social Care Discharge Fund Submission

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Our Plan for Patients, Department of Health and Social Care, 22nd September 2022, [Our plan for patients - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Adult Social Care Discharge Fund, Department of Health and Social Care, 18th November 2022, [Adult Social Care Discharge Fund - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report is being considered by the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board Sub-Committee in accordance with Section 2.4 (a) of its Terms of Reference: to exercise delegated authority on behalf of the Council in respect of: (a) pooled funding arrangements with the NHS or other governmental bodies

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Joint Strategic Commissioning Board Sub-Committee	8 th December 2022