

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

BETTER CARE FUND (BCF) 2023-25 PLAN SUBMISSION

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To request that the Health and Wellbeing Board formally agree and sign off the North Lincolnshire Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) Policy Framework sets out the Government's priorities for 2023-25, including improving discharge from hospital, reducing the pressure on Urgent and Emergency Care and social care, supporting intermediate care, unpaid carers and housing adaptations.
- 2.2 The vision for the BCF over 2023-25 is to support people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives, through joining up health, social care and housing services seamlessly around the person.
- 2.3 ICB(s) and Local Authorities must enter into a pooled budget arrangement and agree an integrated spending plan for the Better Care Fund.
- 2.4 Better Care Fund Plans must meet four national conditions, which are:
- Plans to be jointly agreed
 - Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
 - Provide the right care in the right place at the right time
 - Maintaining NHS's contribution to adult social care and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services
- 2.5 The Better Care Fund must also include plans for how the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) grant will be utilised. The iBCF is paid directly to the council and the conditions remain the same as in 2022-23. These are:
- Meeting adult social care needs

- Reducing pressures on the NHS, including seasonal winter pressures
 - Supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready
 - Ensuring that the social care provider market is supported.
- 2.6 The Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) is also pooled into the BCF to promote joined-up approaches to meeting people's needs to support more people of all ages to live in suitable housing so they can stay independent for longer. Creating a home environment that supports people to live safely and independently can make a significant contribution to health and wellbeing.
- 2.7 The additional discharge funding is included within the plan for 23/25 and was approved separately by the HWBB in March 2023.
- 2.8 The BCF planning guidance for 2023-25 includes national performance metrics which are
- Avoidable admissions to hospital
 - Emergency admissions to hospital following a fall
 - People discharged from hospital to their usual place of residence
 - People admitted to residential and nursing care homes
 - Effectiveness of reablement
- 2.9 The 2023-25 Better Care Fund Plan is included as appendix 1. It has been developed around the Health and Care Plans to Integrate and seeks to continue to deliver existing schemes.
- 2.10 The North Lincolnshire 2023-25 BCF plan is required to be submitted on 28th June 2023.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 Option 1 – To formally agree and sign off the Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25
- 3.2 Option 2 – To not agree to sign off the Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Formally agreeing and signing off the Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25 means that delivery of the plan can continue in line with national requirements.
- 4.2 Not agreeing and signing off the Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25 will affect both delivery and assurance of the plan and could result in funds be reclaimed.

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

- 5.1 The BCF fund includes the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), the iBCF, additional discharge monies and the ICB minimum allocation as follows:

DFG	£2,587,067
LA Discharge Fund	£1,014,719
ICB Discharge Fund	£1,051,000
iBCF	£7,237,736
NHS minimum	£14,822,509
 Total	 £26,713,031

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 There are no implications associated with this report, however the BCF 2023-25 plan is a key enabler for the delivery of the Health and Care Plan to Integrate.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 Not applicable at this stage. Integrated Impact Assessments are undertaken as appropriate in line with commissioning intentions.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 Consultation on the development and delivery of the plan has involved local NHS trusts, social care providers, voluntary and community sector partners.

8.2 There are no perceived conflicts of interest associated with this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 It is requested that the Health and Wellbeing Board formally agree and sign off the 2023-25 Better Care Fund Plan

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report Please see attached report