



City of Westminster



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

Westminster Health & Wellbeing Board

RBKC Health & Wellbeing Board

Date:	3 rd July 2019
Classification:	General Release
Title:	Better Care Fund Programme 2017/2019 Update
Report of:	Bi-Borough Executive Director of Adult Social Care Managing Director Central London CCG Managing Director West London CCG
Wards Involved:	All
Financial Summary:	Contained in Report
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This paper summarises the outcome (Q4 Return) of the Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2018/19 for both Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea. The full report, as authorised by HWBBB in March, was approved by the chair prior to its submission to NHS England. See Appendix 1 for key highlights.
- 1.2. The NHS Long Term Plan confirms that there will be a BCF for 2019/20. Following detailed work these past months, we now have a jointly developed integration plan for 2019/20. In terms of the principles, Local Authority and CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) partners previously indicated that funding within the BCF would be reduced to the minimum level in 2019/20. We consider however that, when finalised, the schedule of services and financial commitments contained therein will represent the best use of the BCF minimum investment in future years and make the most positive impact in our integrated working, on

patient outcomes; and place the interests of residents in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea at the centre of our approach. It will also enable the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) to fulfil its statutory duty to promote integrated ways of working and deliver a more sustainable health and social care system for the future across the Bi-Borough.

- 1.3. The reduced scope of the plan supports a more focussed approach to joint working. It does not mean that activities hitherto within the Plan will cease to be delivered, simply that some services / initiatives will be delivered and governed outside of the BCF framework going forward.
- 1.4. Delays in issuing the national guidelines means that many HWBBs will not have formally approved their 2019/20 Plans before they need to submit them for assurance, something which NHS England duly recognises. The expectation in Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea is the submission deadline is likely to be before the HWBB meets in October. It is therefore proposed that sign-off of the plans be delegated to the Chairs and our final Plans will therefore need to be tabled at HWBB retrospectively.
- 1.5. Resource pressures across the system will require continuing discussions between partners over efficiency requirements during the coming year. Plans to merge the 8 CCGs across NWL, currently subject to wider stakeholder consultation, could also have a bearing going forward on our proposed plans as the year progresses.

2. Key Matters for the Board

2.1 The Board is asked to:

- Note headline details of the BCF Q4 return that was submitted to NHS England in April 2019 – Appendix 1.
- Due to timing issues, delegate responsibility for sign-off of our 2019/20 BCF plans to the Chairs in order for us to obtain the necessary assurance from NHS England that we have plans in place for the delivery of our BCF plan in 2019/20.
- Note that the final submission, once approved by NHS England, will be retrospectively tabled at HWBB. This is aimed to be at the meeting on 10th October 2019.
- In the meantime, note the approach in Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea outlined within this report.

3. Background

- 3.1 When the Health and Wellbeing Board met on 9th March, it agreed that the chair should sign-off the Q4 Return due at end April 2019. Progress against the 2018/19 Plan at year's end is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

19/20

- 3.2 Details of joint investments have still to be finalised; however, CCG and local authority partners have worked closely to deliver an agreed Plan for 2019/20 with clear schedules of joint services, financial commitments and monitoring arrangements. Discussions have delivered agreement between officers on Better Care Fund Budgets for 2019/20. These budgets will require formal sign off through appropriate governance routes within the Local Authorities and CCGs. We are also planning to seek pre-assurance to our plans from the Regional BCF Support Team.
- 3.3 As reported at HWBB in March 2019, Local Authority and CCG partners plan to reduce funding within the BCF in 2019/20. As such, the value of the new plan from April 2019 is £60m across health and social care in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. This compares to a previous Better Care Fund Plan (April 2017– March 2019) of £140m per year.
- 3.4 Key exclusions from the new plans are learning disability services, package costs for mental health services and older people and a range of voluntary and community sector contracts. The CCGs and councils remain committed to joint working and shared investment outside the BCF. These services will all have refreshed governance to support continued service quality and value for money. This approach provides a firm commitment to services in the BCF whilst enabling significant funding to be monitored through business as usual arrangements outside the Better Care Fund.

Narrative Plan

- 3.5 The Better Care Fund submission will require a narrative plan to accompany financial schedules. The services and resources that form part of the 2019/20 Better Care Fund are organised into five themes as follows.

a. High quality care in the community, preventing unnecessary hospital admissions and ensuring timely discharge.

- 3.5.1 This area has the biggest overall investment in the Better Care Fund in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea in 2019/20 and encompasses efforts to reduce Delayed Transfers of Care (DTC), the development of discharge to assess (D2A) programmes, Integrated Community Equipment Services, Reablement and investment in the social care market place. The Community Independence Service (CIS), which remains a joint priority across the partnership,

continues to play a key role in preventing non-elective admissions and minimising delayed transfers of care. The joint reablement offer remains vital to these ambitions.

b. Joint work on Mental Health Supported Accommodation and Homelessness.

3.5.2 The CCGs and Local Authorities have agreed the continued joint investment in Mental Health Supported Accommodation and Homelessness in both Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. The implementation of new arrangements following re-procurement of supported accommodation is a priority for the 2019/20 year and the plan will include a review of outcomes from this investment to inform future monitoring and development.

3.5.3 Joint Homelessness Team Services have been operating in both Boroughs for several years, this year will see a review of the effectiveness of these services in addressing the high demand for homelessness services in both Boroughs.

c. Advocacy, Carers Services, Advice and Guidance and Prevention

3.5.4 Joint investment in this area is designed to ensure that people have the support they require to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing. It also funds a range of Voluntary and Community Sector partners that support this work and contribute to promoting independence and wellbeing of people in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea.

3.5.5 A Voluntary and Community Sector Review is currently underway which aims to develop a more co-ordinated approach to working with our VCS partners. This work will inform future joint investment decisions. Joint investment in Advocacy, as previously reported, is also the subject of a re-procurement exercise in both Boroughs.

d. Aligning the Boroughs and CCG Better Care Fund with Wider Strategic Plans

3.5.6 This area of work is about ensuring the Plan supporting the delivery of the Long-Term Plan¹, the Adult Social Care six priorities², the Public Health Strategy and the HWBB's own 3 priorities for 2019/20: Dementia, Mental wellbeing and personal resilience; and Taking a Public Health approach to youth violence.

¹ The North West London Collaboration of CCGs has recently launched engagement on its Long-Term Plan which is the local response to the NHS Long Term Plan.

² Personalisation, Prevention, Safeguarding, Integration, Market Shaping and Quality Assurance.

e. Use of the iBCF, Winter Pressures, Disabled Facilities Grant funding as enablers for Better Care Fund Plans in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea.

3.5.7 The BCF Narrative Plan will also set out how iBCF, winter pressures and DFG funding will be deployed during the year supporting the goals of the overall Better Care Fund Plan locally as follows:

- Meeting adult social care needs
- Reducing pressures on the NHS, including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready
- Ensuring that the local social care provider market is supported

4. Future Governance Arrangements

4.1 Delivery against the 2019/20 Plan will be reported upon at future HWBBs.

4.2 We are working on a range of new or augmented governance arrangements to ensure that those services that used to form part of the BCF, but which now sit outside of the scheme, are subject to appropriate scrutiny and monitoring. In particular, we will be putting in place new arrangements for LD and amended governance arrangements for MH services which represent the bulk of these non-BCF services. Also, following joint work through the summer and autumn of 2018 partners agreed a number of contracts previously part of BCF Plans would revert to single agency commissioning. This included those s75 contracts funded solely by one partner but managed by another. These no longer sit within the BCF Plan.

5. Options / Considerations

5.1 This report is seeking the Board's approval for "Chairs" to sign off the 2019/20 BCF Plans for Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea and to note that, subject to that approval, the final submissions will then be brought to the HWBB, in October 2019, for consideration.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications.

7. Financial Implications, Value for Money and Pressures

7.1 The previous Better Care Fund Plan (April 2017– March 2019) had a total value of £140m per year across health and social care in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. As reported at HWBB in March 2019, Local Authority and CCG partners would be reducing funding within the BCF to the minimum level in 2019/20. The Better Care Fund Plan (2019/20) has a total value of £21.196m in Kensington and Chelsea and £38.171m in Westminster. These figures comprise

the Local Authority and Health commissioned services that make up the BCF minimum as well as include the Disabled Facilities Grant, iBCF and Winter Pressures funding for each Borough.

7.2 The figures used are based on NHS England advice to use 2018/19 budgeted figures as the baseline. They will be updated by a prescribed inflationary increase once formal guidance is issued.

7.3 Whilst NHS England are expected to meet the inflationary uplift to the CCG minimum, the financial climate remains challenging going forward, particularly within NWL CCG. Moreover, CCG plans for merger, should they be approved in autumn 2019, could also create further pressures on Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea budgets or investments. However, details are currently unclear.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact:

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Appendices: 1. BCF Q4 Returns for WCC and RBKC – Summary

Background papers: None