

Better Care Fund & Care Act Briefing

Resources PDS

Sep 2014

Part 1

BETTER CARE FUND

Background

- » £3.8bn Better Care Fund (BCF) announced June 2013
- » Support integration of Health and Social Care Services
- » Ensure local people receive improved care outcomes
- » NOT NEW MONEY
- » Pooled Budget – shifts NHS resources into social care and community services
- » For benefits of NHS and Local Government
- » Protection of Social Care a key priority
- » Original Objectives and Funding Changed by Government in announcement June 2014

The Better Care Plan

- » BCF forms part of CCG's Better Care Plan
- » This plan covers the period 2014/15 to 2018/19
- » Supports NHS England Vision for '**high quality care for all, now and for future generations**'
- » Delivery of key performance metrics related to outcomes including:
 - » Admissions to residential and nursing care homes
 - » Hospital discharge and reablement
 - » Delayed transfers of care from hospital
 - » **Emergency admissions**
 - » Patient and service user experience
 - » People with personalised care plans (local metric)

BCF – Budget Summary

- » Locally £5.9M 2014/15 rising to £12M in 2015/2016
- » Significant Increase 2015/2016 reflects national announcements.
- » Range of specific programmes and commitments against the fund – agreed in March 2015.

Before Changes Announced by Government:

- » **Included allocation of £3M to fund ASC Demographic Change and Preventative Services.**
- » Planned to include this to within the Council Budget for 2015/2016.
- » Helps to address significant ASC cost pressures.

BCF – Changing Requirements

- » Plans Approved and Submitted by 31 March 2014
- » Concerns expressed across health sector
- » Government Announcement June 2014
- » £1bn of £3.8bn Fund now to be linked specifically to NHS Commissioned Services
- » Specific Target for reductions in Emergency Admissions (pay for performance)
- » Revised plans now to be Approved and Resubmitted
- » Must reflect this clear Policy intention
- » Protection of Social Care remains a priority
- » Some impacts of Care Act must also be included

BCF – Key Financial Changes

- » Overall totals remain unchanged - £12M
2015/16
- » £480K now contributes towards total cost of new
Care Act
- » Reduced £2.6M now available for ASC
Demographic and Preventative Services
- » Will impact on Council Budget for 2015/16

BCF – Specific Priorities (1)

In addition to Council ASC demographics and preventative services, the priorities for how the BCF Fund will be used include in summary:

Community Cluster Team Model

- » Deliver integrated approach with five BANES practice clusters to respond to increasing volume, complexity and acuity of older people.

Social Care Pathway Redesign

- » Support and safeguard older and vulnerable people to remain independent through timely interventions to decrease, contain and stabilise emerging risks, care and support needs.

BCF – Specific Priorities (2)

Hospital Discharge Initiatives

- » Develop, implement and evaluate research pilots to provide reduce length of stay in hospital and delayed transfers.

Liaison Services

- » Securing a model of integrated care that extends across community health, social care, acute, primary secondary and specialists services to promote seamless delivery.

Wellbeing College Pilot

- » Pilot to act as a vehicle for increasing the levels of early intervention and increasing capacity of the local community for self management of long term conditions.

BCF – Specific Priorities (3)

Mental Health Reablement

- » Provide a 3 bed Adult of working Age Pre-Crisis/Respite facility.

Social Prescribing

- » Enable clinicians and healthworkers to redirect suitable patients away from NHS and towards local community services.

Support for Carers

- » Support those with caring responsibilities to identify themselves as carers at an early stage.

BCF – Further Details

- » New guidance being issued regularly by Government.
- » Report to Health & Wellbeing Board – 17 Sep 2014
- » Further details:
<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s32309/Better%20Care%20Fund.pdf>
- » Deadline for submission to Government is 19th September 2014
- » Follow up and formal assurance process from NHS England
- » Confirmation end of 2014 to support inclusion as part of Council Budget and funding agreements with CCG.

Part 2

THE CARE ACT

Care Act - Background

- » Care Act received Royal Assent in May 2014
- » Main response of Government to Wanless and Dilnott reports and includes:
 - » Aim to re-set balance in the funding of adult social care
 - » Consolidate ASC legislation into single Act
 - » Emphasis on LA's providing people with support to find own solutions and ensure care market responsive to individual needs
- » Act implements in phases from April 2015
- » Significant increase in costs and responsibilities for Local Authorities

Phase One – April 2015

- » Mandatory provision of support to Carers
- » New responsibilities for Wellbeing, prevention, information, advice and market shaping
- » Introduction of a National Eligibility Criteria
- » New duty to make eligibility decisions more transparent
- » New duty to assess and support people funding their own care
- » Safeguarding Adults Board becomes a statutory body
- » New duty to investigate abuse of vulnerable adults
- » New right to a Universal Deferred Payment Agreement

Phase Two – April 2016

- » Introduction of:
 - » Independent Personal Budgets
 - » Care Accounts
 - » Care Cap

- » A raised Capital Allowance from £23,500 to £118,000

Financial Implications

- » One-Off implementation costs up to £1M for new Adults Care Record and Client Finance System
(Funded by BCF and One-Off Transition Grant)
- » Recurring costs estimated at £2.6M in 2015/16 rising to £5M by 2019/20 – more analysis and evidence required
(Part Funded - £434K from BCF and £865K indicative Government Funding leaving Council to fund £1.3M+)
- » Significant increase in Deferred Charges Debt additional £5m to £10M over same period – issues include cost of loans, administration and legal powers

Next Steps

- » LGA continuing to highlight funding and related issues to Government
- » BANES response to current funding consultation.
- » Government continuing to review evidence e.g. from London School of Economics, ADASS, County Councils Network etc.
- » BANES to continue to raise awareness locally and provide briefings.
- » Final funding position anticipated as part of Settlement – Dec 2014
- » Finalise and agree budgetary provision for Council in Feb 2015 including how funded.