

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is not a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has not been included in the relevant Forward Plan

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ADULTS & COMMUNITIES

WINTER PLAN – ADULT SOCIAL CARE 2020-2021

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to inform Cabinet of the Winter Plan – Adult Social Care 2020-2021. The report describes the key objectives, actions and associated resources required to deliver the plan.

This plan forms part of a wider Winter Plan that brings together responses from Primary Care, Community Health and Barnsley Hospital.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Cabinet Members note the contents of the Winter Plan – Adult Social Care and the associated resourcing of the plan.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 In September the Minister for Care launched the Adult Social Care Winter Plan. The plan described the ambitions for the sector and the challenges facing adult social care this winter.

The plan also described the key actions for national bodies (Department of Health and Social Care), local systems (local authorities and NHS England) and adult social care providers.

This national plan covers four themes:

- preventing and controlling the spread of infection in care settings
- collaboration across health and care services
- supporting people who receive social care, the workforce and carers
- supporting the system

- 3.2 Much of what is described above is already in motion; however, local authorities were asked to ensure that they had in place specific plans to address the pressures of Winter 2020/2021. Local authorities were required to write to DHSC and confirm they have done this by 31 October 2020.

- 3.3 Whilst a specific plan was not required to be submitted to the DHSC, we took a decision to create a specific plan.

3.4 Risks and challenges

- 3.4.1 The winter plan takes account of the various risks linked to the winter period, including the additional issues and challenges associated with Covid-19 (Coronavirus).
- 3.4.2 Through understanding the risks and challenges for winter 2020/21, intelligence has been used to ensure Barnsley responds to winter and Covid-19 pressures using historic, current, predicted intelligence and scenario planning. This intelligence will support our response and use of funding.
- 3.4.3 The surveillance cell provides regular Covid-19 intelligence reports which, alongside Surge Planning data have assisted with modelling the impact of Covid-19 upon Adult Social Care. Specifically, the winter plan has addressed impacts on the external and internal care market through understanding our current capacity, points of anticipated crisis for each sector and mitigating actions (detailed within the financial breakdown section of this report).

3.5 Winter Pressures Action Plan

- 3.5.1 The winter plan addresses the identified risks and challenges through four key themes which set out actions for Local Authorities, CCGs and providers (health and social care) to take. These four key themes, which are summarised within the Winter Plan and detailed within the Winter Pressures Action Plan are:
 - Prevent and control the spread of infection
 - Collaboration across health and social care services, the Community & Voluntary sector and support to the system.
 - Supporting people who receive social care, the workforce and carers

3.6 Funding objectives and conditions

- 3.6.1 The Government announced on 15 September 2020 additional funding for councils of £240m to help council alleviate winter pressures on the NHS, getting patients home quicker and freeing up hospital beds across the country. The additional funding, which has been made available in 2020/21, is intended to reduce the number of patients that are medically ready to leave the hospital from being delayed because they are waiting for adult social care services. It's expected that the funding used by councils would focus on expanding capacity, capability, resilience, and reducing risk through to spring 2021. This funding links with the Winter Action Plan and will specifically support Adult Social Care through winter by:
 - Helping to reduce extended lengths of stay in hospital and delayed transfer of care
 - Improving weekend discharge arrangements so that patients are assessed and discharged earlier
 - Speeding up the process of assessing and agreeing on what social care is needed for a patient in the hospital

- Make sure everyone who needs care or support can get high quality, timely and safe care throughout the autumn and winter period
- Protect people who need:
 - Care, support or safeguards.
 - Social care workforce and carers from infections; including seasonal flu and Covid-19 through infection control and testing.
- Making sure that people who need care, support and safeguards remain connected to essential services and their loved ones while protecting individuals from infections including Covid-19

4. PROPOSAL AND JUSTIFICATION

4.1 That Cabinet Members note the contents of the Winter Plan – Adult Social Care and the associated resourcing of the plan.

5. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE/SERVICE USERS

5.1 Barnsley's Winter Plan will ensure that we are prepared for the additional pressures that Barnsley will face this Winter, in particular a growing resurgence of Covid -19 cases. This plan sets out the clear and robust steps, that we are taking to ensure Barnsley Council is prepared for Winter and that we protect people who need care and support and the workforce that supports them.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director – Finance (S151 Officer) in relation to the spending plan supporting the Winter Plan.

6.2 The amount of funding available to support or resource the attached Adult Social Care Winter Plan is £3.7m. This is comprised of; £1.2m of winter pressures funding and £2.5m Infection Prevention Control funding provided to help reduce the transmission of Covid 19 in the following months to 31 March 2021. The following sections provide details of both funding streams (see attached Appendix A).

Winter Pressures Funding (£1.2m)

6.3 This represents non-recurrent funding provided by the Govt to fund adult social care interventions / support aimed at alleviating winter pressures on the NHS, getting patients home quicker and freeing up hospital beds. The funding has been subsumed as part of the Better Care Fund (BCF) arrangements.

6.4 The funding conditions require the LA to develop a plan for spending the funding and to confirmation that these plans have been discussed with local NHS partners. The following table summarises the proposed use of the winter pressures £1.2m funding (detailed spending plan included in the attached Winter Plan report):

Winter spend plan	(£)
Social work assessment capacity	£0.4m

OT capacity / Equipment	£0.1m
Block purchase of beds	£0.1m
Increased capacity in Homecare / Reablement	£0.1m
Additional care packages	£0.5m
	£1.2m

- 6.5 The funding requirement for the above proposals has been quantified on a full year basis, with commitment expected to extend beyond 31 March 2021.

Infection Prevention Control Fund (£2.5m)

- 6.6 The Adult Social Care Infection Prevention Control Fund was first introduced in May 2020 and has since been extended until March 2021 with an extra £2.5M allocated to the Council for distribution to care providers. The purpose of this fund is to support adult social care providers to reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission within and between care settings over the winter period / months to 31 March 2021.
- 6.7 The table below summarises the expected funding allocation to care providers:

Local Authority	Total allocation amount	Allocation to care homes	Allocation to community care providers	Allocation for other care settings
Barnsley	£2.462m	£1.549m	£0.420m	£0.492m

- 6.8 The grant funding conditions highlight the specific use of the funding by care providers, with monthly reports required to be submitted to the Council and to the Government on the use of the funding.

7. COMMUNICATIONS IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 A set of easy read slides have been produced to describe the winter plan that can be used across the organisation. These will be made into an accessible video that can be watched on Barnsley Council's website. Through using social media, we will guide residents and local media to this information.
- 7.2 The co-ordination of our approach to Winter planning continues to be governed through the existing health and care governance arrangements.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 This plan has been co-produced through contributions from the Stronger Communities Team and health and care colleagues. Care home plan is reflective of a system wide approach to supporting care homes.

9. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A – Financial Implications
 Appendix 1 – Winter Plan 2020/21

10. BACKGROUND PAPER

10.1 Covid-19 Winter Plan Action Log

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

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