

REPORT TO THE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

30th May 2022

2021/22 Better Care Fund Year End Return

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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide the Board with an update on the Better Care Fund Return for 2021-22.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Health & Wellbeing Board members are asked to:

- Note the contents of the report and template

3. Background

3.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is one of the government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration. It requires clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and local government to agree a joint plan, owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). These are joint plans for using pooled budgets to support integration, governed by an agreement under section 75 of the NHS Act (2006)

4. 2021-22 BCF Policy Statement

4.1 The BCF Policy Framework sets out four national conditions that all BCF plans must meet to be approved. These are:

- A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to CCG minimum contribution.
- Invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services.
- Plan for improving outcomes for people being discharged from hospital.

5. Barnsley's 2020-21 BCF Plan

5.1 The 2021/22 Better Care Fund Plan builds on previous plans and continues to be set within the wider context of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Barnsley Integrated Care Partnership Health and Care Plan for 2021/22.

5.2 The vision and principles of integration have become well established and, in many respects, integrated ways of working are now seen as 'business as usual' for delivering the right service, at the right time and in the right place and a number of the BCF schemes

as well as other established core services are delivered in an integrated way bring health and social care providers together to best meet the needs of individuals

5.3 The Barnsley Health and Care Plan 2021/22 sets out our local priorities, reflecting our partnership of health and social care and focus on wider determinants.

6. **BCF Year End Return**

6.1 The key points to highlight from the return are

6.2 There was an increase to the stated planned expenditure with an increase in the CCG contributions to the DFG budget, that is within the BCF.

6.3 Throughout 2021/22 there has been continued improvements to joint working across health and social care as the Barnsley Integrated Care Partnership responded to the COVID pandemic and ensure services and organisations were working as effectively as possible together and supporting each other, and to move the focus to recovery.

6.4 The strong foundations in Barnsley have enabled effective partnership working and decision making during 2021/22 to ensure a coordinated and joined up working, as evidenced through the continued work on the Health and Care Plan.

6.5 The continued development of a Neighbourhood Teams alongside the increasing maturity of the Barnsley Primary Care Network.

6.6 Whilst there is aligned and joined up working taking place there are further opportunities for alignment of commissioning across some elements of health and social care and the development of more joint commissioning to support further alignment and integration of services. During 2022/23 there will be opportunities to consider how to take this forward alongside the emergence of new Integrated Care Board and enhancements to the place based partnership arrangements.

6.7 Sharing of records remains a challenge with many different systems still in place and the vast IG implications

6.8 Some targets will not be achieved. These can almost solely be attributed to the impact of the COVID pandemic. The pandemic has led to a number of people not following the correct support pathways due to capacity issues in community support.

7. **Financial Implications**

7.1 The attached BCF template detailed the overall funding within the BCF pool and the respective expenditure for 2021/22.

8. **Conclusion/ Next Steps**

8.1 The Board are asked to note the contents of this report and to note the attached BCF Year End Return.

9. Appendices / Background Papers

Annex 1 – Barnsley BCF Year End Return template 2021-22