

Health and Wellbeing Board – October 2020

# Buckinghamshire Integrated Care System

Better Care Fund (BCF) 2020/21 Plan

Tracey Ironmonger – Interim Service Director, Integrated Commissioning,  
Buckinghamshire Council



## What is the BCF?

- The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme spanning both the NHS and local government which seeks to join-up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing, and live independently in their communities for as long as possible
- One of the most ambitious programmes ever introduced across the NHS and local government, the BCF encourages integration by requiring CCGs and local authorities to enter into pooled budget arrangements and agree an integrated spending plan. In 2019-20, £6.4 billion was pooled in the BCF.

## 2020-21 Update

- The 2019-20 Q4 return has just been submitted, having been delayed as a result of COVID.
- COVID has meant that the BCF Plan for 2020-21 has still not been formally approved by Government.
- To date, only financial allocations have been published, with advice that local systems assume spending be set at ring fenced levels, with a continuation of existing schemes from 2019-20.
- 2020-21 is a transition year, with a 3 year plan expected for 2021-22 onwards incorporating post-COVID priorities e.g. D2A

2020-21 Better Care Fund Plan

# 2020-21 Better Care Fund Plan

# 2020-21 overview



BCF 2020-21  
(£40,258,107)

- The BCF financial allocations for 2020-21 were published on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- The total allocation for 2020-21 is **£40,258,107 (4.3% increase on 2019-20)**. This includes :
  1. Minimum CCG contribution
  2. Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF - which now incorporates Winter Pressures Grant)
  3. Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)
- BCF planning guidance is still to be published, but expected shortly and expected to link to COVID learning, such as new Hospital Discharge Guidance.
- National reporting for Managing Transfers of Care (formerly called Delayed Transfers of Care) has been discontinued based on adoption of Home First principle.

# Funding overview

## 1. Minimum CCG Contribution

- Total allocation is £31,781,988
- £10,652,122 is mandated for Adult Social Care and allocated against several schemes already in place
- This is a **5.6% increase** on the 2019-20 allocation



CCG Minimum  
Contribution  
(£31,781,988)

## 2. Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)

- The iBCF is in its final year of allocation
- Confirmed as £4,892,680 for 2020-21 and now includes the Winter Pressures Grant
- Another one year allocation paid directly to BC and at the **same level** as 2019-20



iBCF  
(£4,892,680)

# Funding overview

## 3. Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)

- Confirmed as £3,583,439 for 2020-21
- This is at the **same level** on 2019-20
- DFG was previously passported directly to District Councils, but now sits under the new unitary authority



# Schemes funded through the BCF

- **Contracts:**
  - Home from Hospital Service delivered by British Red Cross
  - Memory Support Service delivered by Alzheimer's Society
  - Integrated Carers Service delivered by Carers Bucks
  - Falls pathway
- **Contribution to service provision:**
  - Development of 7 day working and hospital discharge teams
  - Assistive Technology
  - Intermediate care services, including reablement
  - Care Act requirements such as Information, Advice and Guidance
  - Supporting care home providers to deliver quality care
  - Integrated community services delivered by Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust

# Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)

- The iBCF is a single year allocation for 2020-21
- Without planning guidance and certainty around funding for 2021-22 onwards, not all spend has yet been agreed.
- For 2020-21 there are currently two areas of focus:
  - **Protecting preventative services:**
    - Maintaining the level of grant funding into preventative services with a focus on deliverable outcomes to support maximising and maintaining independence

## Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) continued...

- **Supporting the system to manage demand pressures, particularly over winter**
  - Hospital brokerage service provided free of charge to self funders
  - Nursing care home beds to support reablement and facilitate discharge from the acute hospitals
  - Additional capacity within domiciliary care
  - Additional residential and live in care placements

# High Impact Change Model (HICM)

- Buckinghamshire continues to develop the nine changes that will further improve admission avoidance and ensure effective discharge.
- The ninth change is a new domain and focusses on housing and home based support such as Telecare.
- HICM guidance has been updated in light of COVID, together with a link to new Hospital Discharge Guidance and strategic adoption of a Home First approach.
- NHSI/E are hosting a series of webinars through September and October to outline more detail for this.

# High Impact Change Model (HICM)

HICM maturity levels below allow local systems to self-assess where they are on their integration journey. It is worth noting that within each of these definitions, there is a constant cycle of development and improvement required and some domains may be more evolved than others, even within the same level of maturity.

**Not yet established:** Processes are typically undocumented and driven in an ad hoc reactive manner

**Plans in place:** Developed a strategy and starting to implement, however processes are inconsistent

**Established:** Defined and standard processes in place, repeatedly used, subject to improvement over time

**Mature:** Processes have been tested across variable conditions over a period of time, evidence of impact beginning to show

**Exemplary:** Fully embedded within the system and outcomes for people reflect this, continual improvement driven by incremental and innovative changes

# High Impact Change Model (HICM)

	HICM Domain	Estimated maturity by March 2021
<b>Chg 1</b>	<b>Early discharge planning</b>	Established
<b>Chg 2</b>	<b>Systems to monitor patient flow</b>	Established
<b>Chg 3</b>	<b>Multi-disciplinary / Multi-agency discharge teams</b>	Established
<b>Chg 4</b>	<b>Home first / discharge to assess</b>	Established
<b>Chg 5</b>	<b>Seven-day service</b>	Established
<b>Chg 6</b>	<b>Trusted assessors</b>	Established
<b>Chg 7</b>	<b>Focus on choice</b>	Established
<b>Chg 8</b>	<b>Enhancing health in care homes</b>	Established
<b>Chg 9</b>	<b>Housing and related services</b>	Established

2020-21 Better Care Fund performance

# BCF performance

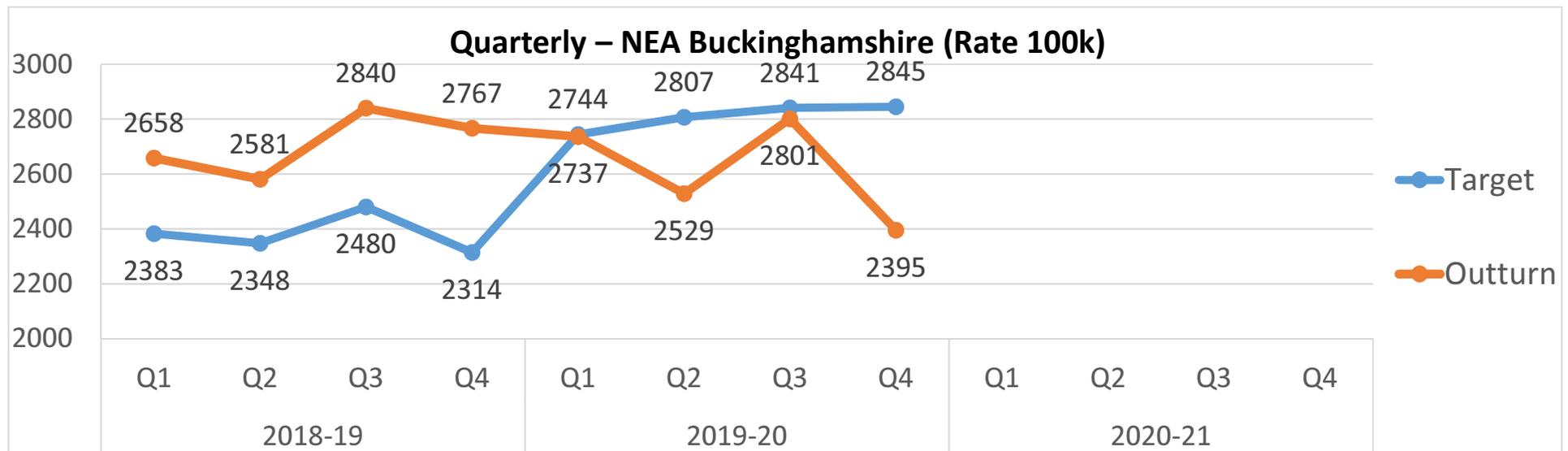
# Impact of COVID on BCF reporting

- COVID has resulted in postponement or delay in obtaining a number of metrics.
- Managing Transfers of Care (formerly called Delayed Transfers of Care) reporting has been discontinued based on adoption of Home First.
- No formalised central BCF reporting confirmed for 2020-21 yet.

## Better Care Fund Performance

# Non-elective admissions (NEAs)

- The increased target from last year was met at Q4 and for the full year. The target for 2020-21 is TBC, but monthly performance data is being collected.
- Admissions for quarter 1 of 2020 were considerably lower than the same in period in 2019 (1820, Q1 2020 vs 2737, Q1 2019) – this is due to the impact of COVID on admissions to hospital.



Source: NHS Digital - Secondary Uses Service (SUS)

## Admissions to care homes

- Target for 2019-20 was not met, with 416 admissions compared to a target of 400. However, this is still a low admission rate compared with the comparator regions.
- Target for 2020-21 has not yet been agreed as this is set and agreed locally through the BCF plan submission. If the target remains the same as 2019-20, based on admissions up to August, we are on track to meet the target.

## Effectiveness of reablement

- 2019-20 performance was 77% and met the target of 75%.
- 2020-21 target is yet to be agreed – this is agreed locally and submitted through the BCF plan
- From January 2020 to March 2020 there was an increase in clients accessing reablement and requiring no package of care at the end of their support. In addition, there was an increase in those leaving reablement with a decreased package or care.

# Managed Transfers of Care (MToC)

- To ensure that hospital capacity is kept free during COVID pandemic, new discharge arrangements have been implemented where patients are discharged from acute services and their needs are assessed in the community.
- Reporting suspended nationally in March 2020. No data available after February 2020.
- We achieved our target for January 2020, but not for February 2020.

# Recommendations for the Board

- **To note** the Better Care Fund budget for 2020-21.
- **To delegate** authority for approval of the 2020-21 plan, including locally set metrics, to lead officers for BC Integrated Commissioning and Buckinghamshire CCG.
- **To delegate** authority for allocation of expenditure for 2020-21 to lead officers for BC Integrated Commissioning and Buckinghamshire CCG.
- **To approve** that the Integrated Commissioning Team continue to service the requirements of the BCF nationally and locally, including regular reporting via the Integrated Commissioning Executive Team on performance and bi-annual updates to Health and Wellbeing Board.
- **To note** the current position in relation to Better Care Fund and performance.