

Date: 18 November 2021

Title: BCF 2021-22 HWB Update

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Report Sponsor: Gill Quinton, Corporate Director, Adults and Health, Buckinghamshire Council

Purpose of Report: To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an overview of the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2021-22 and Buckinghamshire’s BCF plan

Report for information, discussion, decision or approval: For approval

Related [Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) Priority: This paper relates to priority 2 – Keep people healthier for longer and reduce the impact of long-term conditions.

Recommendations:

1. **To formally approve the 2021-22 Better Care Fund (BCF) plan for Buckinghamshire**
2. **To note** the update provided on the BCF including the budget for 2021-22, schemes funded and metric trajectories
3. **To delegate** authority for development of Buckinghamshire’s BCF plans to lead officers for Buckinghamshire Council Integrated Commissioning and Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group. This includes allocation of BCF expenditure, trajectories for locally set metrics, completion of supporting narrative, and assurance that all planning requirements and national conditions are met.
4. **To agree** that the Integrated Commissioning Team continue to service all requirements of the BCF, including reporting via the Integrated Commissioning Executive Team on performance and bi-annual updates to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Executive summary

- 1.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) with an overview of the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2021-22. This includes Buckinghamshire’s confirmed funding allocations, schemes to be funded through the BCF, national and local changes since 2020-21 and an update on the new and existing requirements for metrics with planned trajectories.
- 1.2 The paper asks for the HWB to formally approve the 2021-22 BCF plan for Buckinghamshire. Due to the HWB meeting taking place after the national BCF

submission deadline of 16th November, the BCF plan has been submitted to the national team, as permitted, with delegated authority pending the full HWB meeting.

- 1.3 The plan has been shared with and agreed by the Integrated Commissioning Executive Team and lead officers from both Buckinghamshire Council Adult Social Care and Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) before being shared with and signed off by Rachael Shimmin and Dr James Kent.

Content of report

- 1.4 The Better Care Fund (BCF) Policy was published on 19th August 2021. The subsequent planning guidance and budget allocations were published on 30th September 2021.
- 1.5 Each HWB area is required to submit, for national assurance, a BCF plan. This includes detail on proposed expenditure, metric trajectories, how the fund will be utilised to enhance and improve integrated working and agreement of the four national conditions.
- 1.6 The paper provides an overview of the 2021-22 BCF plan. It provides an overview of the BCF financial allocations for 2021-22 and the schemes and services that the BCF supports the delivery of and asks the Board to note these.
- 1.7 The paper focuses specifically on changes within the BCF both nationally but also locally a part of system work to review the BCF within Buckinghamshire.
- 1.8 An update on the requirements around metrics and proposed targets for all metrics are detailed and asks the board to note these. These have been set based on a number of factors including historical and current data, forecasts, joint discussions and feedback from the regional Better Care Fund team, whilst ensuring they are sufficiently stretching in line with the planning guidance.
- 1.9 The paper asks for formal approval of the 2021-22 BCF plan and for the HWB to delegate authority for the development of BCF plans to lead officers for BC Integrated Commissioning and Buckinghamshire CCG as well as the Integrated Commissioning Executive Team for servicing requirements related to BCF.

Consultation and communication

- 1.10 Previous iterations of this update prior to the cancelled October HWB meeting, were shared and approved by the Integrated Commissioning Executive Team (ICET), BC Adults and Health Board (AH Board) and BC Corporate Management Team (CMT). Amendments have been made to the recommendations and additional information

related to the metrics added since to reflect the development of Buckinghamshire's plan between the original and rescheduled dates.

- 1.11 In determining expenditure allocations for 2021-22, these were discussed and agreed with the BCF Working Group between April and October 2021, consisting of the following key attendees: BC Service Director for Integrated Commissioning; BC Service Director – Adult Social Care Operations; BC Head of Finance; Buckinghamshire CCG Interim Chief Finance Officer; Buckinghamshire CCG Deputy Chief Officer; Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust (BHT) Director of Finance and Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Finance Lead.
- 1.12 Trust related metric trajectories and narrative for National Condition 4 were discussed with BHT via individual conversations and shared with the Buckinghamshire ICP Discharge Cell. Discussions were held with Frimley Health Foundation Trust (FHFT) via a joint meeting between the Trust and BCF leads across the Trust's patch (Surrey, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire East, Hampshire).
- 1.13 Buckinghamshire's full BCF plan was shared with and agreed by ICET, BC Service Director for Integrated Commissioning; BC Service Director – Adult Social Care Operations, BC Corporate Director – Adults and Health and BC Chief Executive on behalf of the Council; and Buckinghamshire CCG Governing Body (virtual) and Buckinghamshire CCG Accountable Officer on behalf of the CCG. Finance leads for both organisations agreed the plan via ICET.

Next steps and review

- 1.14 The 2021-22 BCF plan will now undergo regional assurance before being formally approved by 11 January 2022.
- 1.15 The BCF Section 75 agreement will also be updated.

Background papers

None