



## **Social Care Services Board**

### **23 June 2016**

## **Health and Social Care Integration: Better Care Fund 2016/17**

### **Purpose of report:**

To update the Board on the final Better Care Fund plan for 2016/17 and invite it to consider how it monitors its delivery in conjunction with the wider health and social care integration agenda.

### **Strategic aims of the Better Care Fund Plan 2016/17**

1. The national expectation is for 2016/17 plans to build on the Better Care Fund plans approved for 2015/16 – the Surrey BCF plan retains the three strategic aims agreed as part of the 2015/16 Better Care Fund plan which guide the approach in Surrey:
  - **Enabling people to stay well** - Maximising independence and wellbeing through prevention and early intervention for people at risk of being unable to manage their physical health, mental health and social care needs;
  - **Enabling people to stay at home** - Integrated care delivered seven days a week through enhanced primary and community services which are safe and effective and increase public confidence to remain out of hospital or residential/nursing care; and
  - **Enabling people to return home sooner from hospital** - Excellent hospital care and post-hospital support for people with acute, specialist or complex needs supported by a proactive discharge system which enables a prompt return home.

### **Background**

2. The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a national programme announced by the Government in the June 2013 spending round. The aim of the programme is to incentivise the NHS and local government to work more closely together around people, placing their wellbeing as the focus of health and care services. It is important to note that the funding comes from existing funding streams.

3. The BCF is one element of the wider NHS strategic planning arrangements set out to deliver the NHS Five Year Forward View. The Forward View is a shared vision for the future of the NHS, based around the new models of care and description of how the health service needs to change over the next five years if it is to close the widening gaps in the health of the population, quality of care and the funding of services.
4. The NHS planning guidance also introduces five year Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs) as the overarching strategic plan for local health and care systems – Better Care Fund plans in 2016/17 have been developed in line with the emerging STPs (which are due to be submitted by 30 June 2016).
5. 2015/16 was the first year of the BCF which in Surrey has meant the pooling of £71.4m (£65.5m revenue funding, £5.9m capital funding). For 2016/17 the Surrey Better Care Fund will total £73.1m (£66.2m revenue, £6.9m capital).
6. As with 2015/16, the legal framework for the Better Care Fund requires that in each area the Fund is transferred into one or more pooled budgets (established under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006) and that plans are approved by NHS England in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department for Communities and Local Government.
7. NHS England have set out conditions to the payment of the Better Care Fund - the framework remains broadly stable in 2016-17 with eight conditions local areas will need to meet through the planning process in order to access the funding. These are:
  - i. That the Better Care Fund Plan, covering a minimum of the pooled Fund specified in the Spending Review, should be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board itself, and by the constituent Councils and Clinical Commissioning Groups;
  - ii. A demonstration of how the area will meet the national condition to maintain provision of social care services in 2016-17;
  - iii. Confirmation of agreement on how plans will support progress on meeting the 2020 standards for seven-day services, to prevent unnecessary non-elective admissions and support timely discharge;
  - iv. Better data sharing between health and social care, based on the NHS number;
  - v. A joint approach to assessments and care planning and ensure that, where funding is used for integrated packages of care, there will be an accountable professional;
  - vi. Agreement on the consequential impact of the changes on the providers that are predicted to be substantially affected by the plans;
  - vii. That a proportion of the area's allocation is invested in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services, or retained pending release as part of a local risk sharing agreement; and
  - viii. Agreement on a local action plan to reduce delayed transfers of care.

### **Better Care Fund Planning Process**

8. The Better Care Fund guidance and templates for 2016/17 were published w/c 22 February 2016 and the following deadlines set:
  - 2 March 2016 – first submission of the 'BCF Planning Return template'

- 21 March 2016 - first submission of narrative Better Care Fund plans alongside a second submission of the BCF Planning Return template.
  - 25 April 2016 - final submission, once formally signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
9. Feedback was received through a regional assurance process led by NHS England which included moderation involving the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services.
  10. The Surrey Better Care Fund plan is structured as follows:
    - An overarching, high level narrative plan that includes the case for change; learning from the 2015/16 BCF; our shared vision; and narrative against the national conditions.
    - The BCF Planning Return template covering the finance and metrics
    - Annexes providing more detail around the local action plans, risk and a local plan for reducing delayed transfers of care (these annexes are not included in this report as they go into a significant level of detail. They have been circulated to the Board via email prior to the meeting. Interested parties are able to receive the relevant, publicly available annexes on request by contacting the report author).
  11. Whilst the NHS England led assurance process will continue through June 2016, informal feedback on the Surrey BCF plan for 2016/17 has been very positive – we anticipate final approval ‘ratings’ to be shared by the end of June 2016.
  12. ‘Section 75’ partnership agreements are in the process of being finalised and agreed between the County Council and each of the Surrey CCGs to enable the establishment of pooled funds.

### **Next steps**

13. The Board is invited to consider how it will scrutinise the implementation of the BCF in 2016/17 and the delivery of the local action plans.
14. It is also asked to consider how it will work with the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board to monitor progress and collaborate on shared priorities in relation to health and social care integration.

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**Report contact:** Justin Newman, Assistant Director Health and Social Care Integration, Adult Social Care and Public Health

**Contact details:** 020 8541 8750, [justin.newman@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:justin.newman@surreycc.gov.uk)

### **Sources/background papers:**

Cabinet report – 21 June 2016: Sustainability and Transformation Plans

Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board – 7 April 2016: Surrey Better Care Fund

Cabinet report – 22 March 2016: Health and social care integration

Cabinet Report – 24 November 2015: Progressing the integration of health and social care in surrey

2016/17 Better Care Fund Policy Framework (Department of Health / Department for Communities and Local Government publication)

Delivering the Forward View: NHS planning guidance 2016/17-2020/21

Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2016/17 – technical guidance (annex 4 to the NHS planning guidance)

**Annexes:**

Annex one: Surrey Better Care Fund Plan 2016/17

Annex two: Surrey Better Care Fund Plan 2016/17 – finance and metrics summary