

Report to HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Oldham Better Care Fund Plan 2019-20

Portfolio Holder:

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Purpose of the Report

To obtain agreement for the Oldham Better Care Fund Plan 2019-20 from the Health and Wellbeing Board, prior to submission to NHS England for approval.

Executive Summary

The Better Care Fund (BCF) provides a mechanism for joint health, housing and social care planning and commissioning. It brings together ring-fenced budgets from Clinical Commissioning Group allocations, and funding paid directly to local government, including Disabled Facilities Grant, the improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) and the Winter Pressures Grant. One of the four national conditions require that a BCF Plan must be signed off by the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) and by the constituent local authorities and CCGs. The plan needs to be submitted to the Department of Health by 27 September 2019.

Recommendations/Requirement from the Health and Wellbeing Board

1. That HWB agree the content of the Oldham BCF Plan to enable submission to NHS England for approval.

Oldham Better Care Fund Plan 2019-20

1. Background

- 1.1 The report outlines the current position regarding the Better Care Fund nationally and provides details regarding the implementation of the BCF in Oldham in 2019-20.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 One of the four national conditions of the BCF is that local area plans are signed off by the local Health and Wellbeing Board. The national conditions are outlined in the report.
- 1.4 The plan for 2019-20 represents an updated version of the work undertaken as part of the 2017-19 plan. Until the latest Spending Review issued by Government was announced it was unclear whether the BCF would continue beyond 2019-20. Although the detail of the position is still to be clarified it is expected that the various different funding elements of the BCF will continue through 2020-21.

2. Current Position

- 2.1. The Better Care Fund (BCF) provides a mechanism for joint health, housing and social care planning and commissioning and brings together ring-fenced budgets from CCG allocations and funding paid directly to local government – Disabled Facilities Grant, the improved Better Care Fund and Winter Pressures grant.
- 2.2. The BCF is administered by NHS England, the Department of Health and Social Care and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The details of the operation of the BCF are set out in two documents: *2019-20 Better Care Fund: Policy Framework* and *Better Care Fund Planning Requirement for 2019-20*.
- 2.3. In June 2018, a review of the BCF was announced by Government to ensure that it supports the integration of health and social care. However, the Policy Framework states that 2019-20 will be a year of minimal change. Any major changes will be implemented from 2020-21. The Policy Framework does emphasise greater consideration of the role housing has in supporting health and social care provision.
- 2.4. An update on the planned review is expected later this year. It is anticipated that any future BCF plans will need to reflect both the NHS Long Term Plan and the development of Primary Care Networks. The strategic narrative, submitted as part of the plan, starts to address these links and will be incorporated in the current work to refresh the Oldham Locality Plan.
- 2.5. It should be noted that authorities forming part of the GM Health & Social Care Partnership are able to use their Locality Plan as the BCF Plan for the area. The

work being undertaken to refresh the Locality Plan needs to take in to account the requirements of the BCF mechanisms.

- 2.6. The total value of the BCF for 2019-20 in Oldham, including DFG (£2.06m); iBCF (£9.76m) and Winter Pressure Funding (£1.22m), is **£30,772,550**.

Scheme/Grant	£'000
BCF	17.73
iBCF	9.76
Winter Pressures	1.22
DFG	2.06
Total	30.77

- 2.8 Conditions for access to the fund are based on satisfying four national conditions:

- An agreed plan signed off by HWB and by the constituent local authorities and CCGs.
- A demonstration that the area will maintain the level of spending on social care services from the CCG minimum contribution in line with the agreed uplift
- That a specific proportion of the area's allocation is invested in NHS-commissioned out of hospital services, which may include seven-day services and adult social care
- A clear plan on managing transfers of care including implementation of the High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfers of Care. As part of this all HWBs must adopt the centrally set expectations for reducing DTOC. Oldham has a target of 15 bed days per day which is the contribution to the Greater Manchester daily target of 211 bed days.

- 2.9 The Oldham Plan meets both of the financial conditions by applying the agreed uplift of 5.83% to the minimum contribution (£17.6m) and supports NHS-commissioned out of hospital services.

- 2.10 In addition, four national metrics are required to be collected and submitted as part of the designated reporting mechanisms. These are:

- Non-elective admissions
- Admissions to residential and care homes
- Effectiveness of reablement; and
- Delayed Transfers of Care

- 2.11 Details of the metrics for 2019-20 are outlined in the Oldham Plan (on the metrics tab). A specific emphasis on reducing DTOC remains in the planning guidance. This is an area where Oldham continues to perform well, within Greater Manchester, Oldham currently ranks the second lowest for total DToc and third lowest for Social Care attributed DToc. Oldham performs less well on the number of long-term residential placements.

- 2.12 Plans will be approved by NHS England after a joint NHS and local government assurance process at a regional level. The have added additional conditions to the approval process beyond the national conditions and metrics, that state all funding

must be transferred in to one or more pooled funds (s75) and that plans will be agreed in consultation with DHSC and MHCLG.

- 2.13 Plans are due for submission to NHS England no later than 27 September 2019 although HWB sign off can be obtained following submission in recognition that both the Policy Framework and Planning Requirements were delayed substantially.
- 2.14 The BCF Plan was discussed at the Joint Leadership Team on 16 September 2019 where the plan was agreed. It was recommended to submit the plan for consideration by Health & Wellbeing Board for agreement prior to submission to NHS England.

3. Data and Intelligence

- 3.1. Not applicable for the purposes of the plan.

4. Links to Health and Wellbeing Outcomes

- 4.1. Better Care Fund is a nationally established scheme, the four national metrics, outlined in 2.10, are required for continued involvement in the BCF. In Oldham, the BCF supports over 50 different projects and schemes. Each of the projects and schemes link to various performance indicators, outputs and outcome measures.

5. Key Issues for Health and Wellbeing Board to Discuss

- 5.1. Feedback on the plan and agreement on proceeding with submission of the plan to NHS England for approval.

6. Key Questions for Health and Wellbeing Board to Consider

- 6.1. The key question for the Board is: Does the Board agree that the Plan should be submitted to NHS England for approval?

7. Additional Supporting Information

- 7.1 Documents:

2019-20 Better Care Fund: Policy Framework (HM Government)

Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2019-20 (HM Government)

(<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/part-rel/transformation-fund/bcf-plan/>)

8. Consultation

- 8.1 The schemes have been running for a number of years and consultation has been undertaken between Oldham Council and Oldham CCG including Finance, Legal and HR departments. The plan is an extension of the 2017-19 plan and ongoing consultation has taken place throughout this period. As the BCF will now continue through at least 2020-21 consultation will be undertaken to develop the plan going forward. If the review of BCF is completed it is anticipated that more substantive

changes to the Better Care Fund will be put in place, as a result wider consultation will be carried out.

9. Appendices

9.1. Appendix 1 Oldham Better Care Fund Plan 2019-20