

Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member Health & Social Care

Officer Contact: Jayne Ratcliffe, Director of Adult Social Care (DASS)

Report Author: Claire Hooley, Head of Commissioning and Market Management – Working Age Adults

Contact: 4292 / Claire.Hooley@Oldham.gov.uk

Date: 7th September 2023

Purpose of the Report

To provide Adult Social Care Management Team and Oldham's Integrated Care Partnership Board with details of the Oldham Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2023-25 and to obtain sign off in line with the requirements of the national conditions of the BCF.

Requirement from ASC DMT and Oldham's Integrated Care Partnership Board

1. That the Boards considers the content of the Oldham BCF Plan 2023-25 and provide any suggested amendments.
2. Subject to any agreed amendments the Boards agree to sign off the plan in line with the requirements of the national conditions of the BCF.

Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25

1. Background

- 1.1 The details of the operation of the BCF are set out in two documents: [Better Care Fund policy framework 2023 to 2025](#) and [Better Care Fund planning requirements 2023-25](#). These documents form the basis of the Oldham BCF plan for 2023-25.
- 1.2 The timeline provided by the Better Care Fund national team is presented in the table below. From this we understand that the plan has been agreed both regionally and will be agreed nationally once we confirm that the plan has been agreed by the Health & Wellbeing Board as required under National Condition 1.

BCF Planning requirements published	5 April
Optional draft BCF planning submission (including intermediate care capacity and demand plan) submitted to BCM and copied to the BCF team	19 May
BCF planning submission (including intermediate care and short-term care capacity and demand plan; and discharge spending plan) from local HWB areas (agreed by ICBs and local government). All submissions need to be sent to the local BCM, and copied to england.bettercarefundteam@nhs.net	28 June
Scrutiny of BCF plans by regional assurers, assurance panel meetings and regional moderation	28 June – 28 July
Cross-regional calibration	3 August
Approval letters issued giving formal permission to spend (NHS minimum)	3 September
All section 75 agreements to be signed and in place	31 October

- 1.3 In line with the national requirements the Oldham BCF Plan was due to be submitted by the deadline of 28th June 2023. The process allows for submission of the plan prior to approval of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Subsequently, Oldham's plan has been approved by the regional Better Care Fund Panel and was provided to the central team for sign-off. On 31st July the NHSE Regional Assurance Team that Oldham's BCF plan has been recommended for approval.
- 1.4 For 2023-25 the BCF plan is in three parts: an overall template that provides information on income, expenditure, type of schemes funded, metrics and how the plan meets national conditions; a narrative plan outlining the key areas of focus in Oldham and a Capacity and Demand template.
- 1.5 The Better Care Fund's vision has been to support people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives, through joining up health, social care and housing services seamlessly around the person. The BCF Policy Framework centres of these objectives and now sets separate National Condition for each:
- enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
 - provide people with the right care, at the right place at the right time.

1.6 As well as supporting delivery of the [Next Steps to put People at the Heart of Care](#), the BCF programme underpins key priorities in the NHS Long Term Plan by joining up services in the community and the government’s [plan for recovering urgent and emergency care \(UEC\) services](#).

1.7 Differing from previous years, this year’s BCF plan spans two years for the period 2023-25, with the delivery of the BCF supporting two key priorities for the health and care system that align with the two existing BCF objectives of:

- improving overall quality of life for people, and reducing pressure on UEC, acute and social care services through investing in preventative services
- tackling delayed discharge and bringing about sustained improvements in discharge outcomes and wider system flow.

1.8 Additional funding has been allocated to the BCF allocations which include:

- a 5.66% increase to the NHS minimum contribution into the BCF each year
- an extra £1.6 billion nationally to support hospital discharge – Oldham’s allocation to this funding is presented in the table below at paragraph 2.2

Additionally, as announced in the [Next Steps to put People at the Heart of Care](#) a further £102 million nationally to support adaptations is likely to be dispersed as an additional tranche of the DFG funding, with the position to be confirmed later in the year.

2. Current Position

2.1 The BCF continues to consist of three main funding contributions: NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (NHS GM ICB) contribution to the BCF; the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG); and the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF).

2.2 The total value of the BCF in Oldham for 2023-25 period is £80,369,133. This is broken down as follows for 2023-25:

Funding Sources	Income Year 1 (2023/24)	Income Year 2 (2024/25)
DFG	£2,343,287	£2,343,287
Minimum NHS Contribution	£21,951,512	£23,193,968
iBCF	£11,187,623	£11,187,623
Additional LA Contribution	£0	£0
Additional ICB Contribution	£822,739	£570,713
Local Authority Discharge Funding	£1,568,487	£1,594,524
ICB Discharge Funding	£1,420,360	£2,185,010
Total	£39,294,008	£41,075,125

2.3 Funding is dependent on meeting the following four national conditions:

National Condition 1: Plans to be jointly agreed

Plans must be agreed by the ICB and the local council chief executive prior to being signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

National Condition 2: Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer

Localities agree on how the services they commission will support people to remain independent for longer, and where possible support them to remaining their own home.

National Condition 3: Provider the right care in the right place at the right time

Localities agree on how the services they commission will support people to receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

National Condition 4: NHS minimum contribution to adult social care and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services

The NHS minimum contributions for social care and NHS commissioned out of hospital spend for all HWB areas in both 2023-24 and 2024-25 has been uplifted by 5.66%. ICBs and Councils may agree a higher level of spend, where this will deliver value to the system and is affordable.

2.4 The BCF funding received may only be used for the purposes of:

- meeting adult social care needs
- reducing pressures on the NHS, including seasonal winter pressures
- supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready
- ensuring that the social care provider market is supported.

2.5 The funding is utilised across health and social care to fund a wide range of provision for residents including the following:

- Residential enablement at Butler Green and Medlock Court
- Falls prevention
- A range of dementia services across the borough
- Community equipment and wheelchair provision
- Minor adaptations
- A range of Falls Services
- Warm Homes
- Alcohol liaison
- Carers' support
- Healthwatch
- Respite Care
- Dementia support services
- Stroke support services
- A range of services to support hospital discharge

2.6 During 2022-23 a review of the funding arrangements was carried out which resulted in an updated group of services supported by the various components of

the Better Care Fund. These are set out in the overall plan template and include funding being made available for the new Adult Referral Contact Centre (ARCC).

- 2.7 The Narrative Report of the Oldham BCF Plan for 2023-25 is required to include details on how we will continue to deliver significant improvements in the health and wellbeing outcomes of our residents as we move towards place-based, person-centred provision of care and services. Each section has been updated to reflect changes and progress that has occurred during 2022-23 and how the capacity and demand activity has impacted on what services are required through this funding for the next two years. As required, reference is made to the [High Impact Change Model](#)¹ and [Core20PLUS5](#)².
- 2.8 Work is taking place reviewing the section 75 agreement for it to be in place by 31 October as per the national BCF deadline (please see table at paragraph 1.2).

3. Key Issues for the Boards to Discuss

- 3.1 For the Boards to consider the contents of the BCF Plan for 2023-25 and make any suggested amendments.
- 3.2 To agree whether the Boards are prepared to sign off the plan, subject to any amendments it proposes, in order for the locality to meet National Condition 1.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Boards agree to sign off the Better Care Fund Plan for 2023-25.

5. Appendices

1. Planning template



230619 Oldham
HWB BCF 2023-25 PI

2. Narrative report



BCF 2023-25
Narrative Plan_FINAL

¹ The high impact change model offers a practical approach to manage transfers of care. It can be used to self-assess how local care and health systems are working now, and reflect on, and plan for, action they can take to reduce delays throughout the year. (LGA)

² Core20PLUS5 is a national NHS England approach to reducing health inequalities for adults. It defines a target population – the ‘Core20PLUS – and identifies ‘5’ focus clinical areas requiring accelerated improvement. (NHS England)