

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 27 March 2014
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities
PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing
SUBJECT: Better Care Fund Submission
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present the Board with the Better Care Fund (BCF) plan between Halton Borough Council (HBC) and the NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (HCCG).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the contents of the report and appendices be noted; and**
- 2) the Better Care Fund report (Appendix 1) be approved for submission to the Local Government Association (LGA) and NHS England prior to the 4th April deadline.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background Information

3.1 The BCF was announced in June last year as part of the 2013 Spending Round. It provides an opportunity to transform local services so that people are provided with better integrated care and support. The BCF is a joint submission between HBC and the NHS HCCG.

3.2 Each statutory Health and Wellbeing Board has responsibility for signing off the plan and monitoring its implementation on behalf of its constituent council and CCG.

3.3 During 2015/16 the Fund will be allocated to local areas, where it will be put into pooled budgets under Section 75 joint governance arrangements between HBC and the NHS HCCG. With this in mind, the BCF has been developed jointly with the NHS HCCG and in conjunction with the NHS HCCG's 2 year and 5 year plan, a concise key/reference ties the documents together and the detailed schemes are aligned with the consulted 2014/15 commissioning intentions.

3.4 There are performance conditions attached to the funding being released from 2015. Progress has to be achieved against national conditions and local/national metrics set out in the BCF in relation to funding allocated during April 2015 and October 2015.

3.5 Consultation has taken place throughout the drafting of the BCF submission, as follows:

- Dedicated workshop for the Health and Well Being Board
- provider stakeholders including 5 Borough Partnership Mental Health Trust, Halton GPs and the Urgent Care Group
- There was a specific meeting organised with the Chief Executive and Warrington and Halton NHS Foundation Trust, the Director of Service Modernisation at St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, the Director of Community Services and Operational Director for Integrated Commissioning at Halton to discuss and plan the schemes;
- Discussions have taken place with operational adult social care teams within the borough council; and
- Patients, service users and the public have been fully involved in the development of this plan through the Halton People's Health Forum (HPHF) and discussions with representatives from Healthwatch.
- The Health PPB have been updated on progress to deliver the submission.

3.6 The first draft of the BCF was submitted to the Local Government Association (LGA) and NHS England on 14th February where an initial assurance checklist was completed. Following receipt of this assurance checklist, Halton's BCF submission has been updated accordingly (attached at Appendix 1).

3.7 The final submission deadline to the LGA and NHS England is 4th April 2014. The Health and Wellbeing Board approved the final draft of the BCF at their meeting on 12th March 2014.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Nationally, the Public Health White Paper and the Health and Social Care Act both emphasise more preventative services that are focussed on delivering the best outcomes for local people. The joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy includes shared priorities based on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and local consultation.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Undertaking the recommendations within this report will ensure that the new pooled budget funding is accessible so that outcomes for people living in Halton can be improved further. The funding will form part of the existing pooled budget which is already in place.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified at this time.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

Any long-term integration arrangements will need to focus upon staffing issues.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Developing integration further between Halton Borough Council and the NHS HCCG will have a direct impact on improving the health of people living in Halton.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified at this time.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified at this time.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 HBC and the NHS HCCG may be at risk of losing funding if certain criteria/conditions described in the plan are not met. To avoid this, it is vital that we continue to work together on implementing the BCF plan.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 This is in line with all equality and diversity issues in Halton.

9.0 **REASON(S) FOR DECISION**

To approve the draft Better Care Fund joint submission by Halton Borough Council and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group 2014 - 2016.

10.0 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

The completion of the BCF is a statutory obligation for Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

11.0 **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

The final submission date for the BCF to the LGA and NHS England is 4th April 2014.

12.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None.