

REPORT TO: Health & Wellbeing Board

DATE: 12th October 2022

REPORTING OFFICER: Director Adult Social Services

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: Better Care Fund (BCF) 2022-23 Plan

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the Better Care Fund Plan 2022/23, for information, following its submission on 26th September.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the BCF Plan for 2022/23 is noted for information.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 BCF Plan 2022/23

The BCF Planning guidance for 2022/23 was published on 20th July 2022 with a submission date of 26th September. The requirements for this year's plan to be approved align to four National Conditions:

- A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners;
- NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to NHS minimum contribution;
- Invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services; and
- Implementing the BCF policy objectives.

3.2 There are three related documents attached to this report:

- BCF Plan 2022/23 – Narrative
- BCF Planning Template (Excel spreadsheet)
- Capacity and Demand (Excel spreadsheet)

3.3 In terms of the planning template and the BCF schemes, much of the 2022 - 23 submission remains a continuation of the successful approach in 2021-22, and as such has been rolled forward from that BCF Plan. The narrative has been updated in terms of recent developments with the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board: Halton Place.

3.4 Following submission on 26th September, all BCF Plans will be scrutinised by

regional assurers, assurance panel meetings and regional moderation, with formal approval letters being issued at the end of November. This approval gives formal permission to release the NHS minimum amount, as per our plan.

- 3.5 In line with the new financial governance arrangements put in place from September 2022, the BCF Plan will be presented through the One Halton Finance and Performance Sub-Committee on Thursday 22nd September, with formal approval delegated to the Director of Adult Social Services from the Council and the Associate Director of Finance and Performance for the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside IBC: Halton Place.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None identified at this stage.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Better Care Fund sits within the wider pooled budget arrangement and the financial context of the local health and social care environment. The pooling of resources and integrating processes and approach to the management of people with health and social care needs will support effective resource utilisation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 A Healthy Halton

Developing integration further between Halton Borough Council and the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board: Halton Place will have a direct impact on improving the health of people living in Halton. The plan that is developed is linked to the priorities identified for the borough by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 Management of risks associated with service redesign and project implementation are through the governance structures outlined within the Joint Working Agreement.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 8.1 None identified at this stage.

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

None within the meaning of the Act.