

REPORT TO: Health & Wellbeing Board

DATE: 20th March 2024

REPORTING OFFICER: Director Adult Social Services

PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Better Care Fund (BCF) – Quarter 2 & 3 Update 2023/24

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the Quarter 2 (Q2) & Quarter 3 (Q3) BCF 2023/24 following their submission to the National BCF Team.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board note the report and associated appendices.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Following submission of the 2023/25 plan in June 2023, quarterly monitoring has been mandated from Q2 2023/24 onwards. Attached are copies of the Q2 and Q3 reports which have been submitted.

3.2 Q2 & Q3 Returns: Tab 3 – National Conditions

There are four national conditions which we have confirmed we are meeting: -

- That we have a jointly agreed plan in place;
- We are implementing the BCF Policy Objective in respect to enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer;
- We are implementing the BCF Policy Objective in respect to providing the right care in the right place at the right time; and
- We are maintaining the NHS's contribution to Adult Social Care and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services.

The Board should note that when Q2 was returned, although the Section 75 has been finalised and agreed at Halton Place, it hadn't formally been signed off at NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Board level. The Section 75 has now been signed off and this fact is reflected within the Q3 return.

3.3 Q2 & Q3 Returns: Tab 5 – Metrics

There are five national metrics. We are on track to meet the avoidable admission

and falls targets. We are not on track to meet discharge to usual place of residence with a projected gap of 1%. The remaining 2 metrics are annual data collection and will be reported at Q4.

3.4 Q2 Return (Only): Tab 5.1 – 5.3 Capacity and Demand Plans

There have been minimal changes to the capacity and demand plan since it was submitted in June 2023. Where additional data has subsequently been made available, this has been utilised to review and update the plan. Particular attention has been made to areas where a deficit in capacity had been identified.

3.5 Q3 Return (Only): Tab 5 – Spend and Activity

For Q3 we have had to report on spend and activity linked to those schemes identified within the plan where we had identified anticipated output/deliverables.

Information has been completed outlining incurred expenditure and actual numbers of outputs delivered to the end of the third quarter (1st April 2023 – 31st December 2023).

All expenditure is planned to be spent by the end of the financial year and associated outputs achieved; no areas of concern have been identified.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None identified at this stage.

5.0 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 continues to support effective resource utilisation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None identified.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None identified.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Developing integration further between Halton Borough Council and the NHS

Cheshire & Merseyside will have a direct impact on improving the health of people living in Halton. The plan that has been developed is linked to the priorities identified for the borough by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None identified.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None identified.

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.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None identified.

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

10.1 None under the meaning of the Act.