

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Glen Garrod, Executive Director of Adult Care and Community Wellbeing

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	29 September 2020
Subject:	Better Care Fund (BCF)

Summary:

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, NHS England 'paused' BCF reporting. The expectation nationally is that Quarter 4 2019/20 reporting was required by 4 September 2020.

BCF funding for 2020/21 has been confirmed with an increased minimum contribution from the CCG of £55.413m which represents an uplift of 5.5%. However the planning and reporting requirements for 2020/21 have yet to be confirmed.

There is also a national review of the BCF being undertaken to help improve and inform the BCF planning requirements for the next three years 2021-24.

Actions Required:

For information.

1. Background

The Lincolnshire 2019/20 Better Care Fund (BCF) plan was endorsed by the HWB and approved without conditions by NHS England. Quarterly updates were required as part of the national assurance process and the Q4 report was scheduled for submission 11 May 2020. This reporting was 'paused' due to the Covid 19 outbreak, initially until the 31 July 2020. It was confirmed on 20 August that a reduced Q4 report was required by 4 September 2020. The historical data and retrospective Lincolnshire report was submitted by the deadline and included as Appendix A to this report.

Appendix B is the local Q4 BCF report, however this report is marked as incomplete as external data sources were also stopped as part of the Covid 19 response.

The national conditions, planning and reporting requirements for 2020/21 have yet to be confirmed. The minimum NHS BCF contribution of £55.413m (increased from £52.533m in 2019/20) has however been confirmed. This is in addition to the £6.15m flat line increase in DFG allocations confirmed in February 2020. Indications from national officers being that the BCF planning for this year will be a further roll over from previous years with reduced administrative burdens on local officers.

Nationally the BCF programme team started work in January 2020 to review the BCF programme. In partnership with the NEL Commissioning Support Unit, the Future BCF Implementation Project has reviewed the BCF planning requirements and changes are set to be confirmed for 2021/24.

2. Conclusion

It is recommended that the Board note the content of this report and receive further updates once the national intentions around BCF are confirmed.

3. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The Council and Clinical Commissioning Groups must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The BCF is a funding vehicle to enable integrated and personalised approaches in responding to the JSNA and JHWS.

4. Consultation

Not applicable

5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Q4 BCF report
Appendix B	Lincolnshire BCF performance report

6. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Gareth Everton, Head of Integration and Transformation, who can be contacted on 07990 785126 or gareth.everton@lincolnshire.gov.uk.