



LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

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

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	22 June 2021
Subject:	Better Care Fund Final Report 2020/21

Summary:

The Better Care Fund (BCF) has an annual assurance and reporting mechanism into NHS England/Improvement. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic 2020/21 assurance has been more light touch; however an end of year finance report has been submitted. This report updates the Health and Wellbeing Board that the submission was made on time 24th May 2021 and seeks retrospective approval from the Board.

Actions Required:

That the Health and Wellbeing Board approves the Better Care Fund Final Report 2020/21.

1. Background

An update regarding the BCF was received by the Board in March 2021, which clarified that although the financial elements of the 2021/22 plan had been agreed, there is no further information regarding the next planning cycle or the assurance model to be used. It has however been indicated that a further roll over year is expected pending the multi-year spending review expected in the autumn. The Board will be updated as soon as possible after the national policy statement for 2021/22 is published.

In previous years there has been a BCF planning and assurance cycle which has included a new BCF plan submitted prior to, or near to the start of the period with both quarterly performance and finance reports throughout the cycle. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic a light touch regime was established in 2020/21. This included an end of year summary and a very brief response at the end of Q3. The Q3 return confirmed:

- Plans covering all mandatory funding contributions have been agreed by HWB areas and minimum contributions are pooled in a section 75 agreement (an agreement made under section 75 of the NHS Act 2006).
- The contribution to social care from the CCG via the BCF is agreed and meets or exceeds the minimum expectation.
- Spend on CCG commissioned out of hospital services meets or exceeds the minimum ringfence.
- CCGs and local authorities confirm compliance with the above conditions to their Health and Wellbeing Boards.

This Board report confirms that the end of year return was submitted by the deadline of 24 May 2021. NHE England requires Health and Wellbeing Boards to provide the end of year reporting of BCF plans. Due to the local election coinciding with the submission period, delegated authority was sought from the Vice Chair of the Board (John Turner) pending the new Council appointing members to the Board and the election of the Chair and Vice Chair for the new session.

2. Conclusion

It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board approve the Better Care Fund end of year return.

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.

4. Consultation

None required.

5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Better Care Fund 2020/21 return

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