

The Better Care Fund in Tower Hamlets

Health and Wellbeing Board

21 February 2017

Integration – an HWBB Priority

- Developing an integrated system is a priority of the new HWB strategy. Our aims include:
 - providing targeted support to people with complex needs
 - ensuring that service priorities are shared across the system
 - ensuring that health and social care provision is as ‘seamless’ as possible
 - ensuring the best use of available resources
 - the council, the NHS and the voluntary sector working in partnership.
- The BCF acts as a catalyst for change, by clarifying strategic objectives and furthering the joining up of service planning and service delivery.

Our approach and vision

- Integrated care is a key plank of the strategic framework of the HWBB. It aims to:
 - improve health and wellbeing throughout all stages of life
 - reduce health inequalities; and
 - promote independence, choice and control.
- Services will:
 - empower patients, users and their carers
 - provide more responsive, coordinated and proactive care, including data sharing information between providers, to enhance the quality of care
 - ensure consistency and efficiency of care.

The BCF in Tower Hamlets

- In 2016-17 the BCF in Tower Hamlets amounts to c£21.5m.
- Aims to support health and social care services to work more closely together and move towards integrated health and social care services by 2020.
- Particularly focused on reducing avoidable hospital admissions; facilitating early discharge; reducing admissions to residential/nursing care; improving service user/carer experience, and the protection of social care services.

Issues and Expected changes

- National guidance and funding allocations delayed
- Need to maintain programme locally after 31 March
- Expecting a two-year programme, instead of one
- Need for alignment with STP
- Opportunity to 'graduate' from BCF regime
- Need for HWBB to approve BCF programme and plan, (next HWBB not till April – therefore propose JCE takes the lead)

Current thinking for 2017-19

- Expand scope of services included within Better Care Fund
 - Include additional services where integrated commissioning approach will improve quality and efficiency for adults with complex needs, e.g.
 - End of life/palliative care
 - Services to prevent Delayed Transfers of Care
 - Market development of Voluntary and Community Sector
- During 2017-18, develop joint commissioning arrangements to improve oversight of provider partnership models of integrated care, e.g.
 - Mental Health and Learning Disabilities
 - Children's services, including children with special educational needs and disabilities

Recommendations

1. Note the delay in the issuance of national guidance governing the BCF for 2017-19, which has delayed the production of the borough's proposed BCF programme and plan;
2. Delegate to the Joint Commissioning Executive (JCE) responsibility for signing off and submitting to NHS England the borough's BCF Plan and Programme for 2017-19;
3. Agree that the proposed BCF Plan and Programme should be circulated to members of the HWBB for comment prior to submission;.
4. Agree that a further report be presented to the Health and Well-Being Board's April meeting.