


<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Board</p> <p>23th March 2023</p>	
<p>Report of:</p> <p>Suki Kaur Deputy Director Partnership Development NEL ICB</p>	<p>Classification:</p> <p>Unrestricted</p>
<p>Report Title: Better Care Fund Planning 2023-2025</p>	

Originating Officer(s)	Nick French
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

The Better Care fund is now into it's 8 year. The intent of the programme is to integrate, or pool NHS and Local Authority budgets to create a seamless service for the general public.

The purpose of this report is to develop a joint health, social care and housing services offer to help older people and those with complex needs and disabilities to live at home for longer. A minimum of £7.2 billion nationally has already been committed to the BCF this year to enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home and get the care they need, when they need it by funding things like adaptations to homes for disabled people and rehabilitating people back into their communities after a spell in hospital.

The last THT agreed the dissolution of the LDB in favourer of a fortnightly Tower Hamlets Operational Management Group.

The Local Delivery Board met once a month to oversee the delivery of the Tower Hamlets Together programme on behalf of the Tower Hamlets Together (THT) Board and to focus more time on issues that the THT Board agenda couldn't allow.

A slide deck is attached to this report to explain the planning process.

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- Have awareness of the BCF planning process for 2023/25
- Input into the BCF Plan in advance of submission on the 23rd June 2023
- Agree to the retrospective sign off of the BCF Plan at the next HWBB
- Give consideration of additional services areas the Board may wish to include in the second year of the BCF Plan (24/25)

Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is grounded upon 6 principles that matter most to residents of Tower Hamlets. Detail how this report relates to these principles:

<p>1. Resources to support health and wellbeing should go to those who most need it</p>
<p>The Better Care Fund Plan for 2023-2025 will ensure the relevant Health and Social Care resources are allocated to meet the needs of residents who are most at risk of remaining in hospital due to lack of suitable community support services. Also, those residents living in the community who are at risk of losing their independence and being admitted to hospital care.</p> <p>This will be accomplished through the use of rigorous baseline data held by the NHS and the Local Authority; The use of longitudinal outcomes from previously BCF funded services, 'Identifying 'what works'.</p> <p>There will also be a continued shift away from domiciliary care community services, to a more 'therapy based' approach, improving and prolonging independent living in the community.</p>
<p>2. Feeling connected and included is a foundation of wellbeing and the importance of this should be built into services and programme.</p>
<p>The development of the BCF plan will draw on the expertise of Health Watch, the plethora of ethnically specific voluntary sector providers, and disability specific providers already delivering in the community. This will ensure residents feel connected and included in the Better Care Fund work.</p>
<p>3. Being treated equally, respectfully and without discrimination should be the norm when using services.</p>

<p>Local monitoring of the Schedules within The BCF delivery will ensure frontline staff are appropriately train to meet the diversity requirements within TOWER Hamlets.</p> <p>The use of NHS and Local Authority super output statistical date will ensure geographical equity in the delivery of BCF schedules.</p>
<p>4. Health and wellbeing information and advice should be clear, simple, and produced with those who will benefit from them.</p>
<p>The co-production of the BCF plan will ensure information relating to the plan will be in plain English and accessible to residents who communicate in other community languages.</p>
<p>5. People should feel that they have equal power in shaping and designing services and programme that impact on their health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>Feedback will be given to Health Watch and community providers demonstrating how their input to coproduction has influenced the BCF plan.</p>
<p>6. We should all be working together to make the best use of the assets we already have that support people's health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>At a strategic level the BCF plan will be agreed by the HWBB ensuring multi agency buy in. At an operational level the plan will be shaped by the Primary Care Transformation group and the Local Authority Urgent Care Working Group.</p> <p>Wherever possible consideration will be given to colocation of multiagency team, matrix management and the alignment of back-office functions.</p>

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory duty to approve local Better Care Fund Plans as set out in the national planning requirements.

2. ALTERNATOVE OPTIONS

2.1. To not provide agreement to retrospectively sign of the BCF Plan at the next HWBB. However, note that due to the late issuing of the National Planning Guidance and the deadline for submission of BCF Plans of the 23rd of June. Towerhamlets would have missed its opportunity to submit the 2023/25 plan

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1. Currently in its 8th year the aim of the Better Care Fund (BCF) is to deliver better outcomes and secure greater efficiency in health and social care services through increased integration of provision. To receive BCF funding, a local BCF Plan and programme needs to be agreed jointly by the council and the ICB, endorsed by the Health and Well-Being Board (HWBB) and finally approved by NHS England (NHSE). The jointly agreed programme then needs to be incorporated into a formal agreement under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006. BCF plans set out the local joint vision for, and approach to, integration, including how the activity in the BCF plan will complement the direction set in the NHS Long Term Plan and are also expected to take into account the wider context, including the development of Integrated Care Systems; the requirements of the Care Act, 2014, and wider local government transformation in the area covered by the plan - for example, programmes, such as Integrated Personal Commissioning. The Health and Wellbeing Board are required to approve Borough plans and due to the late issuing of guidance and scheduling of Health and Wellbeing Boards this year we are requesting retrospective approval. Note that the Better Care Fund is not additional funding to the council, instead it represents a continuation of existing funding to support the base budget spend on integrated services.

The timetable for the development and approval of the BCF Plan 2023-2025 is detailed in the table below.

BCF planning requirements published	4th April 2023
Presentation on BCF 2023-25 requirements to the THT Board	4 th May
Presentation on BCF 2023-25 requirements to the Health and Wellbeing Board	23 rd May
Optional draft BCF planning submission (including intermediate care capacity and demand plan) submitted to regional BCF team	19 th May
Sign off process with LBTH CEO, HWBB Chair and ICB	Early –mid June
BCF planning submission (including intermediate care and short term care capacity and demand plans: and discharge spending plan) from local HWB areas (agreed by ICBs and local government)	28 th June
Retrospective sign off from Health and Wellbeing Board	20 th July
Scrutiny of BCF plans by regional assurers, assurance panel meetings and regional moderation	28 June – 28 July

Regionally moderated assurance outcomes sent to BCF team	28 July
Cross regional calibration	3 August
Approval letters issued giving formal permission to spend (NHS minimum)	3 September
All section 75 agreements to be signed and in place	31 October

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1. The Better Care Fund is focussed on integrating health and social care services to better support people with a diverse range of illnesses and conditions. These include people with mental health problems, people at risk of being admitted to hospital and people being discharged from hospital with appropriate support. It also funds Reablement which supports people to learn or relearn skills necessary for daily living following ill-health or disability; the adaptation of the domestic accommodation of people with disabilities to enable them to live at home, and the training of staff in the use of assistive technology. As the Better Care Fund is used to fund a number of schemes across health and social care, equalities issues are picked up within each of these individual schemes.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1. The Better Care Fund is concerned with achieving best value in the health and social care economy, by ensuring that services are provided most appropriately across the system and that the allocation of resources supports efficiency improvements, as well as better outcomes for service users. It also seeks to reduce the historic problem of financial savings in one sector being achieved at the expense of additional costs in the other, through better joint planning and shared priorities

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- No Linked reports

Appendices

- APPENDIX 1: BCF 2021-22 Planning Template,
- APPENDIX 2: BCF narrative Plan Template

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report
BCF Planning Guidance 2003-2005

Officer contact details for documents: