


<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p><b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b></p> <p>23 September 2024</p>	
<p><b>Report of:</b> Warwick Tomsett</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b></p> <p>Unrestricted</p>
<p><b>Report Title: Better Care Fund Update</b></p>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	<p>Eleea islam THT Partnership Programme Lead</p>
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards

### Executive Summary

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is aimed at bringing together health and social care organisations to plan, fund and commission integrated services. It takes a person centred approach that:

- enables people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
- provides people with the right care, at the right place, at the right time

The BCF Policy Framework sets out four national conditions that all BCF plans must meet. These are:

1. A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
2. Plan for enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer and provide the right care in the right place at the right time
3. Provide the right care in the right place at the right time
4. Maintaining NHS's contribution to adult social care and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services.

The Tower Hamlets BCF Plan is a two-year plan from 2023-2025. As part of forward planning for 2025 onwards, it was agreed that we would undertake a review of our BCF.

This paper provides a progress update on the review.

## Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to note the update.

## 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 is governed by an agreement under section 75 of the NHS Act (2006), which sets out the agreed allocation of resources under a joint plan. The BCF programme underpins the NHS Long-term Plan and is therefore aimed at a partnership approach to bringing local NHS and Local Authority services together to deliver better outcomes for those who need it most.</p> <p>The BCF programme underpins key priorities in the NHS Long Term Plan by joining up services in the community and the government's <a href="#">plan for recovering urgent and emergency care (UEC) services</a>, as well as supporting the delivery of <a href="#">Next steps to put People at the Heart of Care</a>.</p> <p>The BCF facilitates the smooth transition of people out of hospital, reduces the chances of re-admission, and supports people to avoid long term residential care. The BCF is also a vehicle for wider joining up of services across health and local government, such as support for unpaid carers, housing support and public health.</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 BCF is the government's primary lever to support integration in health and social care at a local level. The BCF includes links to housing and public health to support people to stay at home for longer maintaining their independence as well as safe and timely discharge from hospital which is to be delivered in partnership with local services. This supports people to feel connected and promotes wellbeing.</p>
<p>3. Being treated equally, respectfully and without discrimination should be the norm when using services</p>
<p>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</p>

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 impact is addressed within each of these individual schemes.

4. Health and wellbeing information and advice should be clear, simple, and produced with those who will benefit from them

This is addressed in individual schemes as part of wider policies.

5. People should feel that they have equal power in shaping and designing services and programme that impact on their health and wellbeing

The individual BCF schemes lead on and work in collaboration with patients and service users to shape and improve services.

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.

See Section 5. Other Statutory Implications

## 1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

N/A

## 2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

N.A

## 3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT Slides attached

## 4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1. SEE SECTION 3 OF TABLE ABOVE

## **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

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

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### **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

#### **Linked Report**

None

#### **Appendices**

None

#### **Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)**

#### **List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

None

#### **Officer contact details for documents:**

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