



## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

# **ITEM 08**

Report sponsor: Andy Smith, Strategic Director  
of People Services

Report author: Alison Wynn, Assistant Director  
of Public Health

## **Better Care Fund Update 2019/20**

### **Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) a progress update for the Better Care Fund (BCF) for Derby as at the end of 2019/20.

### **Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 To receive and note the report and update for information.

### **Reason(s)**

- 3.1 Health & Wellbeing Boards are required to have oversight of the Integration and Better Care Fund in their localities to ensure that the required outcomes and performance that is expected is being delivered.
- 3.2 The BCF is a collaboration between NHS England, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the Local Government Association to help local areas plan and implement integrated health and social care services across England.

### **Supporting information**

- 4.1 The Integration and Better Care Fund (BCF) was originally created in 2013 as part of a wider process of change within NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. It was primarily aimed at driving forward integration of health and social care to improve outcomes for individuals and so they could be supported with health and social care needs as close to home as possible.
- 4.2 A range of activity has been delivered as part of the BCF programme to support the required outcomes. Detail of this activity and overview of 2019/20 will be provided at the Board.
- 4.3 In previous years, NHS England have required local systems to produce BCF Plans. Due to systems needing to focus effort into dealing with COVID-19, NHS England are not currently asking systems to produce BCF plans.
- 4.4 Systems are currently guided that although BCF plans from April 2020 will not have been formally approved, for the duration of the current outbreak of COVID-19, they

should assume that spending from ringfenced BCF funds, particularly on existing schemes from 2019-20 and spending on activity to address demands in community health and social care, is approved and should prioritise continuity of care, maintaining social care services and system resilience.

- 4.5 The minimum allocations for the BCF from CCGs for 2020-21 have been published ahead of the BCF Planning Requirements 2020-21. Allocations from both the CCG minimum and improved Better Care Fund are now available to allow support local planning for the use of the BCF to take place alongside the main NHS operational planning round and local authority budget setting.

### **Public/stakeholder engagement**

- 5.1 Social Care and NHS providers who are recipients of funding via the BCF are aware how their interventions support the wider health and social care system. Although they are not involved in the detailed planning process, there are a variety of partnership and performance meetings whereby BCF funded initiatives are discussed and improvements agreed and developed. Several of these form part of the Joined Up Care Derbyshire planning meetings, primarily under the Place, Urgent Care and Mental Health work streams.

### **Other options**

- 6.1 The Integration and Better Care Fund is a mandatory national requirement and all areas need to submit a plan should they wish to make use of the funding flexibilities between Councils and CCGs. Non-compliance is not an option. The integration agenda between health and social care remains a key priority for the current government and the BCF is seen as an integral lever for change and system transformation.

### **Financial and value for money issues**

- 7.1 The funding for 2020/21 is subject to an existing pooled budget between Derby City Council and Derbyshire CCGs. Monitoring and reviewing performance against the plan will enable the Council and the CCG to benefit from the flexibilities of the funding to support pressures in the local health and social care agenda, and to further progress the integration agenda.

### **Legal implications**

- 8.1 The Council and the Derbyshire CCGs must enter into a section 75 agreement as part of the Planning expectations, under section 75 of the NHS Act 2006. The existing agreement is being updated to reflect the 20/21 BCF plan. As a direct grant to the Council, the use of the IBCF and Winter Pressures must be reported to DCLG via the Council's statutory s151 Officer (Strategic Director of Resources).

## Other significant implications

- 9.1 The Integration and Better Care Fund supports the Councils and the CCG's overall budget as an income stream to allow delivery of key care services to support the overall health and care system in Derby. The loss of this fund would present a significant financial risk to the achievements of key elements of the STP and key performance measures designed to serve patients and citizens well.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	n/a	
Finance		
Service Director(s)	Kirsty McMillan, Service Director – Integration & Direct Services	02/09/20
Report sponsor		
Other(s)		