

REPORT TO: Health & Wellbeing Board

DATE: 17th September 2014

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities

PORTFOLIO: Health & Wellbeing

SUBJECT: NHS support for Social Care

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To inform Members of the Health & Wellbeing Board of recent announcements about NHS support for Social Care.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve the revised funding allocation as detailed in 5.3 & 5.4.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Similar to previous years the Department of Health has allocated non-recurrent budget allocations to NHS England nationally, for transfer to Local Authorities to invest in social care services to benefit health, and to improve overall health gain.

3.2 This year, 2014, there are two components to the allocation; NHS transfer and Preparation for the Better Care Fund.

3.3 The payments are once again to be made via an agreement under Section 256 of the 2006 NHS Act, as agreed in previous years.

4.0 **CURRENT POSITION**

4.1 The Department of Health announced revised allocations and transfer arrangements for 2014/15. The funding transfer to Local Authorities will be carried out by NHS England and Halton will expect to receive; NHS transfer £2,396,355 and Preparation for the Better Care Fund £533,000. Total allocation £2,929,355.

4.2 A number of conditions must be satisfied, prior to the transfer of funding:

4.2.1 **Main Transfer:**

- The funding must be used to support Adult Social Care Services, which also has a Health benefit. However, beyond this broad condition, the Department wants to provide flexibility for local areas to determine how this investment in social services is best used.
- The Local Authority must agree with local Health partners how the funding is best used and the outcomes expected from this investment, as part of the wider discussions on the use of their total health and care resources.
- It is recommended that the Health and Well- Being boards are the most appropriate place to discuss the allocations, ensuring that there is regard to the JSNA and existing commissioning plans.
- Local Authorities must demonstrate how the funding transfer will make a positive difference to social care services and outcomes for service users, compared to service plans in the absence of the funding transfer.
- The funding may be used to support existing services or transformation programmes, where such services or programmes are of benefit to the wider health and care system, provide good outcomes for service users, and would be reduced due to budget pressures in local authorities without this investment.
- The funding may also be used to support new services or transformation, again where joint benefit with the health system and positive outcomes for service users have been identified.
- The Board will also have regard to the recommendations from “Caring for our future” White paper, which may require some small revenue costs.
- The Local Authority will be required to provide assurances to the NHS commissioning Board, that the conditions for funding transfer are being met.

4.2.2 **Preparing for the Better Care Fund:**

- The funding must be used to prepare for the implementation of pooled budgets in April 2015 and to make early progress against the national conditions and the performance measures set out in the local agreed plan.
- A condition of the transfer is that the local authority has agreed a completed Better Care Fund plan with its partner

CCG, and that this plan has been signed off by the Health and Well-Being Board.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 As a Council with Adult Social Care Responsibilities, Halton Borough Council faces a number of challenges over the next 2 years related to some of the unique circumstances within the Borough, including:

- Efficiency savings of approximately £21.7M in 2015/16 and £14.2M in 2016/17.
- Projected population growths of 7%, and projected increases in the number of older people of 33%
- Third highest levels of deprivation in Merseyside
- All age all-cause mortality rates are higher than the regional and national average
- Projected rise in people requiring community based services from 3,340 to 4,220

5.2 In light of the current financial and other pressures within the LA it is proposed that the majority of this allocation is utilised to support the whole system, which are of benefit to the wider health and care systems and provide good outcomes for service users.

5.3 Proposed funding main allocation for 2014/15:

- Maintain the Telecare Service- £140,000
- Additional support to the Community Care budget - £500,000
- Support of mainstream service delivery - £1,756,355

5.4 Proposed funding allocation Implementation & Preparation of Better Care Fund including early progress against national conditions and performance measures - £533,000

- Early progress against national conditions and performance measures an additional 14 Intermediate Care Beds-£300,000
- Preparation and Implementation, it should be noted that further work is required to develop detailed plans and contingencies- £233,000

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

To maintain the capacity, quality and range of social care services ensuring that the services provided are relevant to the health, social care and cultural needs of the local population and support people to remain as independent as practicable through a rehabilitative and enabling approach to care delivery.

6.4 A Safer Halton

To maintain safe and effective discharge from hospital for residents of Halton. Promote the protection and dignity of vulnerable adults.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None identified.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 As outlined in paragraphs 5.1 – 5.2 of this report there are increasing financial pressures on the Local Authority's budget, in particular on the Community Care Budget.

7.2 If the proposals in relation to the revised funding allocations, as outlined in paragraph 5.3, are not approved, then this will have a detrimental effect on the ability of the whole system to be able to deliver existing services, for example Telecare Services, as there is no alternative funding available to deliver this particular service.

7.3 If the proposals to use the allocations in 5.4 are not approved, this will have a detrimental effect on the ability of the Council and CCG to be able to achieve the performance requirements as outlined in the Better Care Fund.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 No adverse impact and positively promotes social inclusion.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None.