

REPORT TO: Health and Wellbeing Board
DATE: 13 January 2016
REPORTING OFFICER: Director of Adult Social Services
PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing
SUBJECT: Better Care Fund Quarter 2 report 2015/16
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform the Board of the Quarter 2 report for July to September 2015/16 for the Better Care Fund (BCF) that has been submitted to NHS England and progress with the implementation of the BCF, following approval at the Better Care Board on 26th November 2015.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the content of the report be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Quarterly Reporting Template

Each quarter, the Better Care Support Team publish a template for submission detailing various elements of the Better Care Fund. For Quarter 2 July to September 2015/16, the template included the following sections:

- Budget Arrangements
- National Conditions
- Non-elective and payment for performance
- Income and Expenditure
- Local Metrics
- Preparations for BCF 16/17
- New Integration Metrics
- Narrative

Due to the timescales involved with the submission of the templates, Quarter 2 is coming to the Board retrospectively.

3.2 Submission Points

The quarterly reports are due for submission to NHS England at 5 points during the year:

- 29th May – for the period January to March 2015
- 28th August 2015 – for the period April to June 2015
- 27th November 2015 – for the period July to September 2015

- 26th February 2016 – for the period October to December 2015
- 27th May 2016 – for the period January to March 2016

3.3 **Annual Reporting/Year-End Reporting**

NHS England and the LGA are developing Year-End reporting guidance and an annual report template which will build on the quarterly reporting. There are currently some outstanding queries around accounting and audit being worked through before these can be finalised and issued. Once finalised, they will be available on the Better Care Fund webpage.

4.0 **Quarter 2 Report July to September 2015/16**

Quarter 2 was submitted to NHS England on 27th November. The detail of this is attached at the Appendix. A summary of the Q2 report is as follows.

Tab 2 – Budget Arrangements:

This page just confirms that the budget arrangements for the BCF are contained within a Section 75 Joint Working Agreement.

Tab 3 – National Conditions

This page confirms that we are on track with all the National Conditions.

Tab 4 – Non-Elective Admissions and Payment for Performance

The target for Q2 was 4,293 non-elective admissions into hospital, all-age per 100,000 population. The actual figure for Q2 is 4,139, therefore the target has been achieved.

Tab 5 – Income and Expenditure

Actual expenditure to date is £193 below forecast due, in the main, to the delay in providers sending invoices into the Council, the host of the pool. However, this is actively being progressed to ensure payments are made in a timely manner. The Urgent Care Centres are now operational and the current financial position is as expected at the mid-point of the year.

Tab 6 – Local Metrics

- **Permanent admissions to residential care** – The Q2 figure is 53 admissions. As we are halfway through the year, we are on track to meet our year-end target of 138 admissions.
- **Reablement** – This data is collected on an annual basis between 1st October and 31st December, so is not available to assess progress.
- **Hospital Readmissions where original admission was due to a fall.** The target for Q2 was 40 and the actual was 23. This performance metric has shown a considerable improvement at 23 hospital readmissions where the original admission was due

to a fall. This is the lowest performance recorded in a single quarter and is due to the changes in the falls pathway that have seen significant improvements to the overall system.

- **Do Care and Support help you to have a Better Quality of Life?** As this is an annual survey, there is no information for this quarter.

Tab 7 – Preparations for the BCF 16/17

Following the announcement that the BCF will now continue through into 2016/17, the Q2 template has questions relating to the planning of this. In Halton we have begun discussions around next year's BCF and are planning, at this stage, for the funding to be the same as this year.

Tab 8 – New Integration Metrics

This is a new set of integration metrics that NHS England is developing for next year. This includes Integrated Digital Records, Use of Risk Stratification and Personal Health Budgets.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None identified.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The success of the BCF is reliant on the success of the schemes within it. These schemes will be regularly monitored through the BCF ECB and Better Care Board.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

7.1 Children & Young People in Halton

Effective arrangements for children's transition services will need to be in place.

7.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

Any long-term integration arrangements will need to focus upon staffing issues.

7.3 A Healthy Halton

Developing integration further between Halton Borough Council and the NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group will have a direct impact on improving the health of people living in Halton. The plan that is developed will be linked to the priorities identified in the Integrated Commissioning Framework.

7.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

7.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

8.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 If an area fails to meet any of the standard conditions of the BCF, including if the funds are not being spent in accordance with the plan with the result that delivery of the national conditions is jeopardised, the Better Care Support Team may make a recommendation to NHS England that they should initiate the escalation process. The process ultimately leads to the ability for NHS England to use its powers on intervention provided by the Care Act legislation, in consultation with DH and DCLG as the last resort. The quarterly reporting templates allow for any variation in spending from the plan to be explained.

9.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

9.1 This is in line with all equality and diversity issues in Halton.

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

None within the meaning of the Act.