

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 19 March 2020

REPORTING OFFICER: Director of Adult Social Services

PORTFOLIO: Children, Education & Social Care

SUBJECT: Halton Borough Council and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group : Joint Working Agreement (Better Care Fund)

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present an overview of the new Joint Working Agreement (JWA) between Halton Borough Council (HBC) and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which will take effect from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2023, and which will replace the current JWA which is due to expire on 31st March 2020; current draft can be found at *Appendix 1*.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board

- 1) **Note the contents of the report and associated Appendix; and**
- 2) **Approve delegated authority to the Director of Adult Social Services in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Children, Education & Social Care, to finalise the new Joint Working Agreement.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 HBC and NHS Halton CCG have had a JWA, including a pooled budget, in place for the commissioning of services for people with Complex Care needs since April 2013; from April 2015, the JWA included the Better Care Fund.

3.2 A review of the JWA was undertaken during the first six months of 2019/20, the outcome of which was presented to Executive Board on 19th September 2019 along with options for future joint working arrangements.

3.3 Following agreement by Executive Board, where it was agreed that the Continuing Healthcare (CHC) and Community Care budget elements of the pooled budget would be separated out, work has progressed on development of a revised JWA for the Better Care Fund (including the Disabled Facilities Grant, Winter Pressures and Improved Better Care Fund).

3.4 As both HBC and NHS Halton CCG remain committed to developing our integrated approach to service delivery and transformation to improve the Health and Well-Being of Halton residents, we have also been working on developing financial, commissioning and contracting arrangements for Joint Funded packages, Funded Nursing Care and Direct Payments which fall under the CHC and Community Care Budgets, but which

would now sit outside of the pool budget w.e.f 1st April 2020.

Details of these arrangements will be presented to Executive Board once finalised.

- 3.5 The JWA has been reviewed by both HBC and NHS Halton CCG and has been amended/updated to reflect changes in organisational structure, governance arrangements associated with the JWA and agreed Pooled Budget.

At the time of writing this report, some minor issues associated with governance arrangements are still to be finalised before the end of March 2020, along with the final amount to be included within the pooled budget.

As such, the Executive Board are asked to give delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Social Care and the Director of Adult Social Services to finalise the new JWA.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None identified.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 At the time of writing this report, HBC and NHS Halton CCG are in the process of finalising the Better Care Fund pooled budget for 2020/21.

- 5.2 With effect from 1st April 2020, the revised pooled budget will include:-

- Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)
 - Includes spend in areas such as Intermediate Care Services, Carers, Equipment Services, Care Homes, Domiciliary Care, Telecare, Supported Discharge, Community Respiratory and Rehabilitation Services
- Disabled Facility Grant
- Winter Pressures Funding

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**

Those people who are in receipt of long term care whether that is funding from Health or Social Care are those people in our communities with some of the most clinically complex and severe on going needs, so it is essential we have effective mechanisms in place to ensure that people we provide services to receive appropriate outcomes.

The integrated system, pooled budget arrangements and continued alignment of our CHC and Community Care budgets will continue to ensure that the resources available

to both Health and Social Care are effectively used in the delivery of personalised, responsive and holistic care to those who are most in need.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The JWA complies with the financial standing orders of HBC and NHS Halton CCG and the regulatory and monitoring arrangements contained within.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None associated with this report.

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

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Joint Working Agreement between HBC and NHS Halton CCG 1.4.16 – 31.3.19	Copy available via Email	Sue Wallace Bonner Susan.Wallace-Bonner@halton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 511 8825
Memorandum of Understanding HBC and NHS Halton CCG 1.4.19 – 30.9.19	Copy available via Email	Sue Wallace Bonner Susan.Wallace-Bonner@halton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 511 8825
Memorandum of Understanding HBC and NHS Halton CCG 1.10.19 – 31.3.20	Copy available via Email	Sue Wallace Bonner Susan.Wallace-Bonner@halton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 511 8825