

## REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015

### Better Care Fund Partnership Framework Agreement Update

**Report Sponsors:** Rotherham Clinical  
Commissioning Group (CCG) and  
Rotherham MBC

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Board Members with an update on the performance of the Section 75 agreement and Better Care Fund Plan for Rotherham

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**It is recommended that:**

- 2.1 **Members note the progress that has been made in projects, plans and the section 75 agreement for the Rotherham BCF, including closer and more integrated joint working between health and social care, and revised and strengthened governance for the BCF.**
- 2.2 **Members note the quarterly report submitted to NHS England relating to the performance of the Better Care Fund plan for Rotherham during the last quarter of 2014/15, as set out in Appendix 1. This return was authorised by the BCF executive, as agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 22nd April 2015.**
- 2.3 **Members note and agree the reporting timeline for future submissions of returns to NHS England, as set out in Appendix 2.**

#### **3. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 On 22nd April 2015 Rotherham's section 75 agreement, setting out the plans for integration and operation of the BCF plan, was approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board, subject to minor amendments. These minor amendments were promptly completed, and both the CCG and Rotherham Council each have a signed copy of the final agreement.
- 3.2 The section 75 agreement contained revised governance arrangements for the BCF plan, constituting a new operational group and a new strategic executive group. A reporting and monitoring timetable has been developed, which includes reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure the BCF national conditions for BCF accountability are fully met, and ensures the authority meets the NHS England requirements and timescales for submitting quarterly returns.

- 3.3 The Section 75 agreement set out two pooled funds, comprising a total of 72 separate schemes. Some but not all of the schemes are fully operational, with the BCF Operational Group ensuring progress is being made to implement the few remaining schemes still in the planning stage.
- 3.4 A joint review is underway on BCF scheme 13. This is the largest of the 16 schemes, and contains some projects which may need to be refocused to more closely relate to BCF strategic priorities. Currently some major projects receive just a small portion of BCF funding; yet such projects have a major impact on the delivery of the BCF targets. It may be that reprioritising existing projects could see a simplified, streamlined and more effective way of reporting and monitoring how Rotherham is focusing on BCF metrics, and especially on reducing non-elective admissions, and increasing patient and customer satisfaction.
- 3.5 The review of services focuses on: the appropriateness for BCF funding, patient and customer satisfaction, monitoring and metrics, accountability and reporting, value for money, and on service delivery.
- 3.6 The service review should be completed by early autumn, and a report will be prepared for the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 3.7 Quarter 4 ( 2014/15) monitoring report for the BCF was submitted to NHS England, according to the timetable discussed and agreed in April 2015 by the Health and Wellbeing Board. This report is attached at Appendix 1. It shows performance was in line with expectations. Although the target for reducing non-elective admissions was not reached, this was anticipated as the BCF plan was not fully implemented in this quarter.

#### **4. CONCLUSION / NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the format, and the timetable, for submitting the quarterly returns to both the board and then to NHS England.

Further reports will be brought to the board on the detail of the schemes funded within the BCF plan, according to the timetable in Appendix 2,

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Schemes within the BCF were delivered within allocated BCF budgets. Some small underspends as a result of late starts to new projects allowed some additional spending on disabled facilities grants. A small underspend on Care Act implementation monies has been carried forward to 2015/16.

The Section 75 agreement set out a risk sharing agreement which withheld BCF funding due to non-achievement of the target for non-elective admissions reductions. This withheld funding was taken from a jointly established risk fund - a pool of unallocated funding which was reserved for this purpose.

There were therefore no issues of any BCF schemes having to take reduced or curtailed funding for 2014/5 as a result of the non-elective admissions target having been missed.

## **6. CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

The BCF operations group and BCF Executive Group are aware of Appendix 1 and 2 and have discussed and agreed these documents.

## **7. Appendices**

7.1 Appendix 1- Rotherham Better Care Fund Quarter 4 report 2014/5

7.2 Appendix 2 – Better Care Fund Governance and Reporting Timeline

## **8. Background Papers**

Section 75 Agreement Rotherham Better Care Fund

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