

<h1>BRIEFING</h1>	<b>TO:</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board
	<b>DATE:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Steph Watt Joint Head of Adult Commissioning (Rotherham Place) E-mail: <a href="mailto:steph.watt@nhs.net">steph.watt@nhs.net</a>
	<b>TITLE:</b>	BCF Finance and Risk Monitoring 2023/24

**Background**

1.1	The purpose of this report is to confirm to the Health and Wellbeing Board that the financial framework is agreed as part of the BCF governance processes which includes the in-year assessment of expenditure against the schemes and highlights risks emerging in year as set out in the risk share section of the Section 75 agreement.
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**Key Issues**

2.1	<b>Position to Date and Forecast Outturn</b>
2.2	<b>Table 1 below</b> sets out a summary of the source of funding for the 2023/24 Better Care Fund, the Annual Plan for each Pool, the year-to-date position as at the end of June 2023 and the forecast Outturn. The latest forecast Outturn position based on quarter 1 is an overall underspend of £1.179m mainly in respect of the forecast underspend on the Disabled Facilities Grant, due to the carry forward of unspent funding due to the delays in implementing the approved schemes as a result of the Covid pandemic.
2.3	<p><b>The total Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2023/24 is £50.681m an increase of £1.425m from 2022/23, this relates to additional LA Discharge funding, an increase in minimum contribution from health and a further underspend in 2022/23 on the iBCF and Carers support funding carried forward into this years' Better Care fund.</b></p> <p>(i) <b>Red</b> figures in brackets indicate <b>overspends</b> and positive figures indicate an underspend to potentially be used to fund areas of risk.</p> <p>(ii) The risk share agreement requires each party to fund its own pressures in the first instance. Where this is not possible it is possible to utilise other underspends or the risk pool. The suggested approach is to utilise the risk pool to support discharges from hospital.</p>

2.4

**Table 1**

Financial Monitoring		2023/24 INVESTMENT		2023/24 SPLIT BY POOL		YEAR TO DATE EXPENDITURE AS AT 30th June 2023		Quarter 1 OUTFURN VARIANCE (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND	
2023/24 : April - June 2023									
BCF Investment	RICB SHARE	RMBC SHARE	Pool 1 RMBC Hosted	Pool 2 RICB Hosted	Pool 1 RMBC Hosted	Pool 2 RICB Hosted	Pool 1 RMBC Hosted	Pool 2 RICB Hosted	TOTAL
THEME 1 - Mental Health Services	1,464			1,464		366		0	0
THEME 2 - Rehabilitation & Reablement	12,188	6,759	18,947		4,350		1,045		1,045
THEME 3 - Supporting Social Care	4,144			4,144		1,024		47	47
THEME 4 - Care Mgt & Integrated Care Planning	5,090			5,090		1,265		30	30
THEME 5 - Supporting Carers	791			791		183		57	57
THEME 6 - Infrastructure	242			242		60		0	0
Risk Pool	500			500		125		0	0
Improved Better Care Fund		15,948	15,948		3,552		0		0
LA Discharge Funding		2,030	2,030		0		0		0
ICB Discharge Funding	1,525			1,525		465		0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,944</b>	<b>24,737</b>	<b>36,925</b>	<b>13,756</b>	<b>7,902</b>	<b>3,489</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>1,179</b>
<b>TOTAL (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND BEFORE RE-INVESTING IN BCF SERVICES</b>									<b>1,179</b>
<b>RE-INVESTMENT OF UNDERSPENDS IN BCF ACTIVITIES</b>									<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND AFTER RE-INVESTING IN BCF SERVICES (will be the figure in the Annual Accounts of both organisations)</b>									<b>1,179</b>
<b>RE-INVESTMENT OF UNDERSPENDS IN NON BCF ACTIVITIES</b>									

2.5

**Notes**

- (i) **Note 1** – there is significant forecast underspend within Theme 2 mainly in respect of the Disabled Facilities Grant due to accumulated underspends from previous years due to the impact of Covid and vacancies in Occupational Therapists resulting in delays in the assessment and completion of aids and adaptations. Further investment was made in 2022/23 to procure additional support from the independent sector to carry out assessments to help reduce the waiting list.
- (ii) **Note 2** – there is an overall forecast underspend within Theme 3. An overspend in residential care is offset by an underspend in direct payments.
- (iii) **Note 3** - the forecast underspend within Theme 4 relates to staff vacancies within social work teams.
- (iv) **Note 4** – Theme 5 forecast underspend relates to the cost of providing direct payments. This theme also includes a non-recurrent underspend on the Carers Strategy carried forward from 2022/23 which is forecast to fully spend.
- (v) **Note 5** - it is proposed in line with the previous years the BCF Risk Pool is utilised to contribute to the increase in demand and to support discharges from hospital.
- (vi) **Note 6** - the improved Better Care grant funding has been allocated towards meeting Adult Social Care pressures and service transformation, reducing delayed transfers of care from hospital including meeting pressures during the winter period and maintaining market sustainability within social care. The current forecast is to fully spend by the year end. The budget also includes a non-recurrent £1.468m underspend carried forward from 2022/23.
- (vii) **Note 7** - The extension of the Discharge Funding into 2023/24 has provided £3.6m (RMBC £2.030m and the ICB £1.525m) to support hospital discharges over the full financial year. Both elements of the funding are forecast to fully spend and in accordance with the grant conditions are subject to separate fortnightly

	reporting requirements. Any underspends on these grants must be repaid back to DHSC and cannot be carried forward.
<b>Key Actions and Relevant Timelines</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<p>The BCF Executive Group on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Noted the areas of risks, underspends and explanations; and</li> <li>(ii) Accepted the report as the Quarter 1 position.</li> <li>(iii) Agreed in principle to carry over any underspend to 2024/25 in respect of capital expenditure against the Disabled Facilities Grant.</li> </ul>
<b>Implications for Health Inequalities</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	<p>Addressing health inequalities is integral to the allocation of BCF resource and funded schemes. This includes contributing to achieving the strategic aims of developing healthy lifestyles and prevention pathways, supporting prevention and early diagnosis of chronic conditions and targeting variation.</p> <p>BCF funded schemes which reduce health inequalities include social prescribing, Breathing Space and project support for the implementation of Population Health Management (PHM) priorities.</p>
<b>Recommendations</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<p><b>That the Health and Wellbeing Board:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) Note the areas of risks, underspends and explanations; and</b></li> <li><b>(ii) Accept the report as the Quarter 1 position.</b></li> <li><b>(iii) Agree in principle to carry over any underspend to 2024/25 in respect of capital expenditure against the Disabled Facilities Grant.</b></li> </ul>