

Oxfordshire Health & Wellbeing Board

25 July 2013

Funding Transfer from NHS England to Social Care – 2013/14

Report by Director for Social & Community Services and Chief Executive Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group

Introduction

1. On 19 December 2012, the Department of Health wrote to the NHS Commissioning Board (DH Gateway reference 18568) setting out the allocations and details of the Funding Transfer from NHS to Social Care 2013-14. The letter suggested Health & Wellbeing boards as a natural place for discussion of the use of the funding. Subsequent guidance from NHS England (Gateway reference 00186) received on 19 June 2013 states that the Health & Wellbeing Board must receive a joint report from the Clinical Commissioning Group and Local Authorities to agree use of the funding, the measured outcomes and the agreed monitoring arrangements.

Summary

2. This report shows how the money is being used, the outcomes expected and the agreed monitoring arrangements. Appendix A is the draft Section 256 agreement covering the transfer of the funds and their use. This will be agreed by Oxfordshire County Council and NHS England.

Background

3. This is the third year of a transfer of funds. Previously the use of the funds has been agreed at the Older People's Joint Management Group and written into an agreement under Section 256 of the 2006 Act between Oxfordshire County Council and the Primary Care Trust. The Older People's Joint Management Group has regularly received reports on the use of the funds.
4. Oxfordshire County Council welcomed the increase in funds from £5.9m in 2012-13 to £8.2m in 2013-14. The additional funding was included in the Council's budget setting process (called Service & Resource Planning) to arrive at an agreed County Council budget for 2013-14. The use of the funding was included in all budget discussions held by officers and representatives from Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group were invited to attend each meeting.

5. Use of Funding & Outcomes expected

See Table 1 overleaf.

Table 1: Application of Funding and Outcomes expected

Allocation Agreed in 13-14	£'000	Expected Outcomes
Alert Service	300	Alert Service - the provision of personal alarms and other forms of telecare to support people to live independently at home. This funding will be used to maintain the number of people receiving an alert 4,067 (as at 31 March 2013).
Care Homes	1,882	Maintaining the number of care home placements made at an average of at least 7 per week
Home Support	2,470	Maintaining the number of additional care home support hours per week to be purchased at 324 hours per week
Equipment	750	Community Equipment Provision - maintain the level of community equipment provision at £2.3m compared with the original budget of £1.6m
Crisis Response	500	<p>Crisis Response provides a rapid response domiciliary care service to help people who are in urgent need of care and support, and who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genuinely in crisis • At risk of admission to hospital or a care home, or in a situation which poses a serious threat to their safety, health or wellbeing, and • And need an <u>immediate</u> social care response within 4 hours <p>The Service has helped those whose crisis has been caused by an incident that happened to the client or the person who usually cares for them, or to support people when another part of the social care system is unable to.</p> <p>In 2012/13, 606 clients received Crisis response, with 80% supported to remain at home following the service thus avoiding 485 potential hospital admissions. The contact for 2013/14 allows for 2,028 clients to be supported by the Crisis Response Service.</p> <p>The service costs £617,000pa and the County Council funds the shortfall.</p>
Protection against Service reductions	2,300	This allocation protects Adult Social Care services from being reduced due to the financial pressures of the Local Authority (see section 3.3c of the National Health Service Commissioning Board (Payments to Local Authorities) Directions 2013
Total	8,202	

6. The funding is integrated into the resources available for delivery of Social Care objectives. In particular the funding is targeted towards Priority 6 of the proposed outcomes for the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (subject to agreement of outcomes elsewhere on this agenda). Progress towards Service objectives will be monitored through the Outcomes reporting to Health & Wellbeing Board, Adult Health and Social Care Partnership Board and through the performance reports presented to the Older People's Joint Management Group on a bi-monthly basis. Those reports will be a public document now that the Joint Management Group is meeting in public.
7. The guidance from NHS England states that "NHS England will make it a condition of the transfer that local authorities and CCGs have joint regard to the JSNA for their local population, and existing commissioning plans for both health and social care in how the funding is used." The funding as summarised in Table 1 is applied to services identified within the Older People's Joint Commissioning Strategy 2013-2016. Both this Strategy and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy reflect the priorities identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

Financial and Staff Implications

8. The use of the funds has already been agreed as part of the County Council budget and has been applied to provision of services. If the Board choose to determine a different allocation, the services provided will need to alter which may result in reduced packages of care depending on the decisions made.

RECOMMENDATION

9. **The Board is RECOMMENDED to agree the use of the Health Transfer to Social Care Funding as set out in the report HWB10 and the draft section 256 agreement which is subject to the inclusion of any necessary changes following legal review by the County Council and NHS England and as agreed by the Director for Social & Community Services following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services.**

John Jackson
Director for Social & Community Services

Stephen Richards
Chief Executive, OCCG

Contact Officers:
Ann Nursey, Lead Commissioner (Adults)
(01865) 323669

Sarah Fogden, Finance Business Partner (Adult Social Care)
07557 082613

Gareth Kenworthy, Chief Finance Officer
Oxfordshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
01865 334626

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