

**HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD
26 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Better Care Fund: Our Plans for Delivery

Report by the Director for Adult Services & Chief Executive of Oxfordshire Clinical
Commissioning Group

SUMMARY

1. The Better Care Fund is a programme spanning the NHS and local government which seeks to join up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health & wellbeing and live independently in their communities for as long as possible. This includes the Improved Better Care Fund which is paid to local government for funding of local care services and reducing pressures on the NHS
2. The Better Care Fund invested £50,361,088 in the Oxfordshire System in 2018-19 to improve health and social care outcomes for local people.
3. In 2017 local systems were asked to produce two year plans outlining our intentions for delivering outcomes from the Better Care Fund; the Oxfordshire plan was approved by the Health & Wellbeing Board on 11th September 2017.
4. On July 27th 2019, the planning template for Better Care Fund plans was issued to local areas. This paper brings an update regarding our planning process and future opportunities for the Better Care Fund going forward.

BACKGROUND

5. Currently under the Section 75 NHS Act, the Joint Management Group between the Council and Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning group manages the Better Care Fund and reports to the Health & Wellbeing Board.
6. The Pooled Budget Section 75 structure continues to demonstrate positive intent for the health & social care partners to work together local and provides an opportunity to improve flow through the whole health & social care system. The Joint Management Group oversees the implementation and outcomes from Oxfordshire's Improved Better Care Fund allocation.
7. The Joint Management Group oversees the deliverables under the Ageing Well section of Oxfordshire's Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (2018-2023) and is working to develop and deliver the implementation of Oxfordshire's Older People's Strategy.

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8. In addition to the measures agreed locally, the Joint Management Group and the Health & Wellbeing Board oversee the deliver of the 4 national Better Care Fund measures:
 - a. Non – elective admissions (general and acute)
 - b. Admissions to residential and care homes
 - c. Effectiveness of reablement
 - d. Delayed transfers of care

2019-20 AND BEYOND

9. As is noted in the September 2019 Performance Report, there are challenges regarding these measures and, as a system we must use the Better Care Fund plan as an opportunity to ensure that we are addressing these measures in the most effective way and delivering transformation that brings fundamental change to our system and improvement in outcomes for Oxfordshire's older population.
10. This includes building on the work currently being led by Oxford University Hospitals to deliver an improvement plan within the HART service, as well as wider system working to support and develop the reablement and out of hospital pathways.
11. As a system, we are delivering a revised approach to commissioning short stay beds in care homes. This approach is designed to ensure consistency in the services provided for people, and to strengthen our strategic partnerships with care homes. Implementation is underway to deliver this model in advance of Winter 2019-20.
12. We also recognise the challenges experienced in supporting people to live at home. As such, we are leading the redesign of commissioning arrangements for home care services. This longer term work involves co design with people and provider partners and will result in new contracting arrangements in 2020. However, in recognition of the challenges for Winter 2019-20 we are working with providers to develop short term initiatives that can provide a response for the coming winter period.
13. These initiatives, and the wider system working regarding social prescribing and delivery of the NHS long term plan form essential elements of the Better Care Fund Plan and delivery of the Better Care Fund National metrics. This plan is currently being prepared in line with the national timescales for submission and for future discussion with the Health & Wellbeing Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Health & Wellbeing Board is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) **delegate approval regarding the national submission of the Better Care Fund Planning template to the Director for Adult Services, Oxfordshire County Council and the Chief Executive, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group;**

- (b) ask officers to bring a report outlining this plan, and trajectory against the performance measures to the next meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Board.**