

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

28 APRIL 2014

**REPORT OF: CORPORATE
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN,
EDUCATION & SOCIAL CARE
AND
CHIEF OFFICER, NHS
HARTLEPOOL & STOCKTON
ON TEES CCG**

BETTER CARE FUND

SUMMARY

This paper provides Health and Wellbeing Board with an overview of the proposed governance, project management and risk sharing/contingency arrangements for the Stockton Better Care Fund.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Health and Wellbeing Board:

- Reviews and agrees the proposed governance and project management arrangements for the Stockton Better Care Fund
- Notes the risk sharing/contingency arrangements for the Stockton Better Care Fund, which were signed off by Health and Wellbeing Board as part of the Better Care Fund plans.

BACKGROUND

The Stockton Better Care Fund plan, which was signed off at the March Health and Wellbeing Board, was submitted to NHS England on 4 April 2014. At the March Health and Wellbeing Board, it was agreed that a paper detailing the governance, project management and risk sharing arrangements for the Stockton Better Care Fund would be presented at the April Health and Wellbeing Board.

Governance Arrangements

The governance arrangements for the Stockton Better Care Fund have now been developed and are attached as Appendix 1. These governance arrangements reflect the partnership approach that will be required to effectively deliver the Better Care Fund but also acknowledge the needs of individual partner organisations to ensure that decisions are taken through their own internal governance arrangements.

Appendix 1 also includes the proposed approach for the management of risks and issues associated with the Stockton Better Care Fund.

Project Management Arrangements

Work has taken place to identify the initial project management requirements to implement the Stockton Better Care Fund. Lead individuals/teams to support implementation have been identified within Stockton Borough Council, Hartlepool

and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and Tees Esk & Wear Valley Mental Health Foundation Trust. Some funding has been identified by the CCG to help partner organisations ensure that there is formal project management capacity to implement the BCF. However, it should be noted that the successful implementation of the Better Care Fund requires not only strong project management support but also a significant amount of input from a wide range of existing teams at a time when they are already under significant pressure to deliver on a number of transformational change projects. For example, running in parallel to the BCF implementation will be delivery on the Care Bill, which is expected to be published in October with implementation from April 2015. With this in mind, further work will be needed, as the work streams and detailed project plans are developed, to more accurately define the resources required to successfully implement the Better Care Fund plans.

Risk Sharing and Contingency Arrangements

A risk sharing approach has been agreed between Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group to manage risks associated with the BCF plan failing to deliver the expected outcomes and savings. The following paragraph outlines this approach and was signed off as part of the BCF plan at the March Health and Wellbeing Board:

'Stockton Borough Council and NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group have agreed to operate the main schemes on a pilot basis thereby minimising risk of non-delivery and adding flexibility. Each individual scheme will need to be evaluated and reviewed throughout the year to identify if they are adding value, this is also the case of existing services with possible disinvestment if necessary. Both CCG's and Local Authorities already have set contingencies within their financial plans which may be required should schemes not achieve agreed outcomes. Both have also agreed a 5% topslice of BCF funds (excluding current social care funding, Public Health top up and Care Bill funding) of £450,000 as contingency. The contingency is to be used to tweak or enhance schemes as required, approval will be via the Health and Wellbeing Board. If, however, schemes are found to be fundamentally failing to deliver the £3m BCF outcomes outlined below reports will be presented to Health and Wellbeing Board to cease the schemes and target the funding to alternative service provision. The contingency will be available to fund interim arrangements/shortfalls in outcomes.'

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial and legal implications associated with the Better Care Fund have been discussed in previous papers to Health and Wellbeing Board.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The BCF governance arrangements in Appendix 1 describe how risks will be managed throughout the Better Care Fund implementation. In addition, contingency plans have been agreed in case the planned improvements and outcomes are not achieved.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

The BCF plans support delivery on the Stockton-on-Tees Community Strategy and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Making a significant contribution to a number of the key themes including; healthier communities and adults; helping people to remain independent; improved access to integrated health and social care services and

promoting healthy living. The BCF plan also focuses on older adults, one of the key supporting themes in the community strategy.

CONSULTATION

There has not yet been any formal consultation relating specifically to the BCF plans, however it is recognised that further engagement and consultation activities will be required throughout the implementation of the BCF plan and a detailed communication and engagement plan will be developed to support implementation.

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