

Report title: Norfolk's Better Care Fund: 2022/23 Submission

Date of meeting: 09 November 2022

Sponsor

(HWB member): James Bullion, Director of Adult Social Services

Reason for the Report

Each year Norfolk County Council, Norfolk and Waveney NHS and partners are required to jointly agree an integrated Better Care Fund plan, which must be agreed and signed off by the Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board. We are bringing the Better Care Fund submission for 2022/23, to update on any changes and for sign off from the Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board.

Report summary

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a nationally mandated programme, launched in 2013 with the aim of joining up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently. Delivered locally under a statutory requirement of HWBs, it is jointly prepared and delivered by LA and NHS partners.

For 2022/23 we are asked to submit three documents to National Health Service England and Improvement (NHSE&I) split across a narrative plan, an excel template and a Capacity and Demand Plan. These three documents are included as appendices to this report. Our BCF plans, and these documents, have been created using the five priorities for the BCF and the principles agreed by the Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board.

The reports cover the BCF income and spend, our expected performance against the four BCF metrics, our approaches to keeping people well at home and supporting discharge, how we're supporting carers and addressing inequalities. For the first time we have also been asked to submit a Capacity and Demand Plan, which looks at our system capacity for supported discharge and intermediate care and expected demand for these services.

Recommendations

The HWB is asked to sign off the BCF submission for 2022/23 which includes:

- a) A narrative plan, describing our approach to integration, discharge, housing, and health inequalities.
- b) An excel template, describing the BCF income and expenditure, our planned performance against the four key metrics and affirmation that we are meeting the national conditions as set out in the current BCF Planning Guidance.
- c) A Capacity and Demand plan for supported discharge and intermediate care services.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a nationally mandated programme, launched in 2013 with the aim of joining up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently. Delivered locally under a statutory requirement of HWBs, it is executed through three key funding streams under the BCF 'banner':
 - Core BCF - bringing LAs and NHS partners together to agree integrated priorities, pool funding and jointly agree spending plans.
 - Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) - Help towards the costs of making changes to a person's home so they continue to live there, led by District Councils in Norfolk.

- iBCF - Available social care funds for meeting adult social care needs, ensuring that the social care provider market is supported, and reducing pressures on the NHS.
- 1.2 Partners in Norfolk have long utilised the BCF to fund and develop critical services that support the health and wellbeing of our population, including care from the provider market, key health and care operational teams, and community-based support from the VCSE sector.
- 1.3 In 2020/21 NHS and LA partners completed a review of the Core BCF, engaging with partners across the system. This review set out our five priorities for the BCF which are:
- Prevention
 - Sustainable Systems inc. Admission Avoidance
 - Person Centred Care and Discharge
 - Inequalities and Support for Wider Factors of Wellbeing
 - Housing, DFGs, and overarching pieces of work
- 1.4 The review also set a number of principles for developing the BCF in place including:
- The BCF is rebaselined, to create a series of 'buckets' that contain the funding pots for services/projects based around the recommended Norfolk BCF priorities, improving joint financial working and drivers for integration and focus on system & place priorities.
 - The BCF is developed to encompass both system and place priorities and processes.
 - The BCF fully funds projects to improve our understanding of the impact of the funding.
- 1.5 This year's BCF has been developed with these principles and priorities at the fore.

2. BCF Delivery Priorities in 2022/23

- 2.1 For 2022/23 we are asked to submit three documents to NHSE&I split across a narrative plan, an excel template and a Capacity and Demand Plan. The contents are summarised below.
- 2.2 **Narrative Plan (Appendix A):** The BCF Narrative Plan follows the template given to us by NHSE&I and details:
- How we engaged stakeholders in developing and preparing the plan.
 - Our priorities for 2022/23 and key changes made to the previous BCF Plans.
 - The governance routes for the BCF.
 - Our overall approach to integration in Norfolk, including joint priorities; joint commissioning; and how BCF funded services are support this.
 - Our overall approach to discharge in Norfolk, including plans for supporting people to remain at home; the approach in our area to improving outcomes for people being discharged from hospital; and how BCF funded services are support safe, timely and effective discharge.
 - How we are supporting carers using the BCF funding.
 - Our approach to the Disabled Facilities Grant and wider housing services.
 - Our priorities for addressing health inequalities and equality for people with protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010).
- 2.3 **Excel Template (Appendix B):** The Excel Template takes a more detailed look at the income and expenditure associated with the Better Care Fund, and our expected performance against the metrics. A summary of the information included within each tab is:
- **Tab 1 Guidance:** Guidance to completing the document.

- **Tab 2 Cover:** A cover page for the document, including who is submitting the return and contact details of key stakeholders.
- **Tab 3 Summary:** A brief summary of the information within the template document
- **Tab 4 Income:** Details of the BCF income for 2022/23, including the core Better Care Fund, improved Better Care Fund, and Disabled Facilities Grant.
- **Tab 5a Expenditure:** A very detailed summary of the services and projects funded by the income on Tab 4, including where the money has come from, a description of the schemes being funded, which sector the commissioner and provider come from, and the category of the scheme being delivered.
- **Tab 5b Scheme Type:** Details the scheme types that can be picked, and how to allocate them on Tab 5a.
- **Tab 6 Metrics:** Looks at the four key metrics, our past performance against these, and our expected performance moving forward. It is worth noting that the Length of Stay metric has been removed for this year.
- **Tab 7 Planning Requirements:** Asks us to confirm that we have met the National Conditions set out in the BCF Planning Requirements document.

2.4 **Capacity and Demand Template (Appendix C):** The Capacity and Demand Template looks at expected capacity in our system to support people being discharged from acute hospital. It also looks at expected demand for these services. Below provides a summary of the information in each tab:

- **Tab 1:** Guidance for completing the document.
- **Tab 2:** A cover page for the document, including who is submitting the return and contact details of key stakeholders.
- **Tab 3.1:** Summarises expected demand for supported discharge by discharge pathway from our acute hospitals.
- **Tab 3.2:** Summarises expected demand into intermediate care services from community sources.
- **Tab 4.1:** Looks at expected capacity for supported discharge by discharge pathway.
- **Tab 4.2:** Looks at expected capacity for referrals from community sources.
- **Tab 5:** Considers spend on these services – primarily via the BCF.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper, please get in touch with:

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