

Decision maker:	Director for adults and wellbeing
Decision date:	Tuesday 19 December 2017
Title of report:	Allocation for additional funding for adult social care
Report by:	Better care fund and integration manager

Classification

Open

Decision type

Key

This is a key decision because it is likely to result in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or function concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.

This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant having regard to: the strategic nature of the decision; and / or whether the outcome will have an impact, for better or worse, on the amenity of the community or quality of service provided by the authority to a significant number of people living or working in the locality (two or more wards) affected.

Notice has been served in accordance with Part 3, Section 10 (General Exception) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) Regulations 2012.

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose and summary

To approve the detailed allocation of the additional funding for adult social care for 2017 - 2019.

Recommendation(s)

That:

- (a) the allocation of the £3.573m additional funding for adult social care for 2017/18 and £4.721m for 2018/19 be approved as set out in paragraph 20**

Alternative options

- 1 Not approving the allocation to the schemes suggested or allocating the budget in a different way is an option; however the schemes detailed at paragraph 20 have been developed in partnership with key stakeholders and fully meet all grant conditions set. A substantial amount of the schemes support the current adult social care budgetary pressures and aim to enable delivery in priority areas. A key grant condition for the additional funding is that the full allocation for each year is spent within that financial year. Formal approval is required to allow the budget to be allocated and spent within the timescales set.

Key considerations

- 2 The spring budget 2017 recognised that adult social care services are under significant pressure nationally; one expression of this being the increased number of patients whose discharge from hospital has been delayed while they wait for a social care placement. As a consequence, the chancellor announced an additional £2bn for councils to spend on adult social care over the next three years (2017/18 to 2019/20). This funding is required to be included in the wider pooling of resources between councils and the NHS through the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF). Of this national funding, the total allocation for Herefordshire is £7.3m.
- 3 On 4 May 2017, Cabinet delegated authority to the director for adults and wellbeing, following consultation with the cabinet member health and wellbeing and the section 151 officer, to determine the detailed allocation of the funding, having regard to the principles agreed and any national conditions associated with the funding. This report details the proposed allocations for 2017/18.
- 4 The following principles and prioritisation of the additional funding have previously been agreed by Cabinet to:
 - a. support market development and sustainability for social care providers in Herefordshire;
 - b. support short term health initiatives that demonstrate future benefit to residents, and across the health and social care system;
 - c. integrate services through joint pathways and not building functions and service silos;
 - d. utilise a pilot approach to new initiatives to enable the evidence of benefits and learn from what works in practice;
 - e. invest in systems to identify and track individuals to demonstrate the evidence of need and outcomes;
 - f. invest in initiatives that prevent or delay the need for formal care and prevent hospital admission; and
 - g. invest in technology enabled care to support the care workforce challenge across the health and social care system.

- 5 The proposed projects and funding allocation have been developed in partnership with the Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Regular partnership meetings have taken place to discuss proposals and agree proposals and engagement with providers has taken place.
- 6 It is a national requirement for all iBCF funding to be allocated within three clear grant conditions:
 - a. meeting adult social care needs;
 - b. reducing pressures on the NHS, including supporting hospital discharge; and
 - c. supporting the local social care provider market.

In addition, a local condition to improve integrated commissioning capacity has been applied, as agreed by both partners.

- 7 A clear set of principles has been agreed between partners in relation to the allocation of an element of the funding that has been assigned to a transformational pool. These include allocating to schemes which build on existing or new arrangements, support transfers of care, reduce an individual's length of time in hospital and also prevent admission through in-reach into the acute hospital. Communication has been circulated to a range of stakeholders and a clear funding application and evaluation process has been introduced. The evaluation panel consists of representation from the council, CCG and Wye Valley NHS Trust.
- 8 The jointly agreed funding allocation proposals meet the grant conditions, apply the agreed principles and align to the national high impact change model. Scheme allocation details are located at paragraph 20.
- 9 For 2017/18, it is proposed that £2.592m is allocated to schemes that directly support adult social care needs and assist in managing current budget pressures. This includes funding existing packages of care, maintaining adult social care staffing levels and stabilising the provider market through funding existing nursing home placements and key contracts for vulnerable groups. This allocation represents 72% of the 2017/18 funding available, which totals £3.572m and is incorporated into the adults and wellbeing baseline budget.
- 10 It is proposed that the remaining funding is allocated to other schemes which also have positive impacts upon adult social care and enable system wide improvements. For example, the expansion and redesign of the council's in-house Home First service will deliver a strength based model to support people to regain skills and enable independence. This will assist in ensuring fewer people require ongoing formal care and hence this will achieve a reduction in delayed transfers of care from hospital.
- 11 A business case for each investment has been developed and agreed by the partners, which sets out the project summary, benefits and outcomes to be achieved, financial breakdown and supporting information. Commissioning officers are currently working with providers to ensure that clear implementation plans are developed and that arrangements are in place to ensure that scheme impacts are measured. The better care partnership group (BCPG), established under the s75 partnership agreement between the council and the CCG, will monitor the delivery of the schemes on a regular basis.
- 12 The director for adults and wellbeing will report to Cabinet, through the quarterly

corporate performance reports, how the funding has been allocated and the outcomes achieved from its use. This will also be monitored by the BCPG on a monthly basis, update reports will be reviewed through internal governance, both within the council and with CCG managers, and quarterly national reporting requirements for NHS England will be completed.

Community impact

- 13 In scoping the details of the funding, insights from Understanding Herefordshire, the joint strategic needs assessment for the county, have been used in order to further understand the current and future population trends as well as the real and predicted changes in use of unplanned care and those being supported through primary care and social care services.
- 14 The principles for the funding ensure that individuals' outcomes are improved through supporting the sustainability of services and investing in initiatives that will enhance people's lives. This is fully aligned to the health and wellbeing strategy, which underlines how Herefordshire aims to be a vibrant county where good health and wellbeing is matched with a strong and growing economy and the vision set out in the adults wellbeing plan 2017-2020 - *'All adults in Herefordshire live healthy, happy and independent lives within their local communities, for as long as possible with support when they need it.'*

Equality duty

- 15 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –

 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 16 The council is committed to equality and diversity using the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010) to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.
- 17 It is not envisaged that the recommendations in this report will negatively disadvantage the following nine groups with protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 18 The BCF programme aims to deliver better outcomes for older and disabled people and supports the council in proactively delivering its equality duty under the act. This is through improving the health and wellbeing of people in Herefordshire by enabling them to take greater control over their own health and the health of their families, and helping them to remain independent within their own homes and communities. There are no

negative impacts for looked after children or with respect to the council's corporate parenting role.

Resource implications

- 19 This funding is made available to councils on a reducing basis over the next three years, and is in addition to improved BCF funding announced in the 2015 comprehensive spending review (CSR).
- 20 The proposed allocation to the following schemes for 2017 – 2019 is as detailed below. All lines detailed below will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis and any adjustment of the figures for individual schemes will be managed to ensure there is no impact upon overall expenditure, which will be contained within the total iBCF envelope:

Improved Better Care Fund- Funding Detail 2017/18 & 2018/19			
Contribution to IBCF Grant Condition	Scheme title	2017/18	2018/19
		£,000	£,000
Improving Integrated Commissioning Capacity	BCF Performance / Contract Management	28	48
	Digital Delivery Programme Manager	18	72
	BCF Project Management Support	19	42
	BCF Joint Strategic Finance Lead	37	85
	BCPG Minor Investments	7	15
	Interim Strategic System Evaluation	0	15
Meeting Adult Social Care Needs	Care Packages	819	819
	LD Placements	350	350
	Operational Staffing	200	400
	Care Home Placements	624	624
	Contracts & Services for Vulnerable Groups	522	480
	AWB Professional Standards Leads	37	112
	Housing Support Role	16	24
	Night Care Team	144	72
Reducing Pressures on the NHS Including Supporting Hospital Discharge	Community Based Anticipatory Care Planning	16	63
	Expansion of Rapid Response Service	161	284
	Enhancing Adults Wellbeing Pathway Roles	90	158
	Admiral Dementia Nurses	0	111
	Care Navigator Frequent Fallers	11	45
	Balanced Lives Hereford	18	50
	Hospital Discharge Facilitation (self funder)	38	150

Supporting Local Social Care Provider Market	Clinical Professional Standards Lead	17	52
	Use of Technology in Care Homes	0	23
	Care Workforce Development Programme	64	17
Total Funding Committed		3,235	4,112
Total Grant Funding		3,573	4,721
Total Funding Remaining to Commit		338	609

Legal implications

- 21 The Care Act 2014 amended the NHS Act 2006 to provide the legislative basis for the Better Care Fund, which brings together health and social care funding. The spring budget 2017 provided that the improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) funding for adult social care in 2017-2019 will be pooled into the local Better Care Fund. The new iBCF is paid directly to the council via a Section 31 grant from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The government has attached a set of conditions to the Section 31 grant to ensure it is included in the BCF at a local level and will be spent on adult social care. The council is legally obliged to comply with these grant conditions.
- 22 In summary, the grant conditions state that the funding should be spent on adult social care and used for the purposes of meeting adult social care needs, reducing pressures on the NHS - including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready - and stabilising the social care provider market.
- 23 The schemes within the 2017 - 2019 iBCF allocation will be managed through the existing section 75 agreement between the council and the CCG, which is in place until 31 March 2018. An extension to 31 March 2019 has been approved by Cabinet. The spring budget 2017 provided that the improved better care fund (iBCF) funding for adult social care in 2017-2019 must be pooled into the local better care fund.
- 24 Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 contains powers enabling NHS bodies (as defined in section 275 and 276 of the NHS Act 2006) to exercise certain local authority functions and for local authorities / council to exercise various NHS functions. The parties entered into a section 75 agreement in exercise of those powers under and pursuant of the NHS Regulations 2000.

Risk management

- 25 If the recommendations described in the report are not approved this will delay the commencement of the expenditure, which would put the full in year expenditure at risk and reduce the improved outcomes for vulnerable older residents.
- 26 There is a risk that if the funding has not been spent in year, then DCLG may clawback any underspend at year end, which would reduce the impact and outcomes achieved. Actual spend will be monitored by the BCPG on a monthly basis. Any slippage in spend will be identified as soon as possible and will be reallocated to other schemes, following the agreement from both the council and CCG.
- 27 There is a risk that the schemes invested in do not achieve the desired outcomes and impact planned. In order to mitigate this implementation milestones and clear outcomes

have been agreed for each scheme, the delivery of which will be monitored on a regular basis by a dedicated project manager and reported to the better care partnership group.

Consultees

- 28 As required by the Cabinet decision taken on 4 May 2017, consultation has taken place with the Cabinet member for health and wellbeing and the section 151 officer. Both are in support of the allocation proposals.
- 29 Herefordshire CCG, Wye Valley NHS Trust, 2gether NHS Foundation Trust, Taurus Healthcare and the Care Home Association have been consulted on the principles and have taken part in the development of the plans.
- 30 A range of providers, including residential and nursing care home and home care market providers have received communication in relation to iBCF and provided with the opportunity to apply for funding from the transformational pool.

Appendices

- 30 None

Background papers

- 31 None