London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD



21 MARCH 2016

BETTER CARE FUND UPDATE: QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Open Report

Classification - For Information

Key Decision: No

Wards Affected: All

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. As the Board will be aware, NHS England require regular updates against original BCF submission on benefits and performance. The quarter 3 BCF submission is included for information at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. It is recommended the Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note and comment on progress to date and comment on the Quarter 3 Better Care Fund submission.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

3.1. The Better Care Fund (BCF) creates a local single pooled budget to incentivise the NHS and local government to work more closely together around people, placing their wellbeing as the focus of health and care services, and shifting resources into social care and community services for the benefit of the people, communities and health and care systems

3.2. The Better Care Fund reporting template for Q3 2015-16 which covers the period 1 October to 31 December 2015 was submitted to the national Better Care Support Team on midday on 26 February 2016. As the body with responsibility for endorsing Better Care Fund plans, the Health and Wellbeing Board were required to sign off the Q3 report. As timings did not align with HWB meeting dates, this was done via Chairs. The full Q3 report submitted is now provided here for information and so the Board can note progress.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 4.1. The BCF is a single pooled budget for health and social care services to work more closely in local areas, based on a plan agreed between the NHS and local authorities. It is a national initiative to improve health and social care outcomes and cost-effectiveness, with an emphasis on more care at and near home.
- 4.2. In October 2015 Government Ministers announced that the Better Care Fund would be extended until at least 2017. Further detail was provided in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) on 25 November 2015. The key points regarding integration and the Better Care Fund (BCF) were:
 - That the BCF will continue into 2016-17, maintaining the NHS's mandated contribution in real terms over the Parliament.
 - That from 2017 the government will make funding available to local government, worth £1.5 billion in 2019-20, to be included in the BCF.
 - Areas will be able to graduate from the existing BCF programme management arrangements once they can demonstrate that they have moved beyond its requirements.
 - That there will be a commitment of over £500 million by 2019-20 for the Disabled Facilities Grant.
- 4.3. The Quarter 3 Reporting template was released in January. The timetable for completion was follows:
 - 1st Draft completed 10th February
 - Consolidated return available for Senior Officer sign off 17th February
 - Final Submission (to be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board) -26th February
- 4.4. As deadlines did not align with scheduled HWB meeting dates, Q3 returns went to Chairs and Vice-Chairs meetings for sign-off as detailed above with an agreement submitted reports would be received at the next HWB meetings.
- 4.5. The scope of the Q3 return was extended with further detail required on the use of NHS number across care settings, revised questions on plans for Personal Health Budgets and additional questions on Multi-Disciplinary/Integrated Care Teams in both non-acute and the acute settings.
- 4.6. The outstanding conditions in the three boroughs are as follows:
 - Are the 7 day services to support patients being discharged and prevent unnecessary admission at weekends in place and delivering?

- Is the NHS Number being used as the primary identifier for health and care services?
- Is a joint approach to assessments and care planning taking place and where funding is being used for integrated packages of care is there an accountable professional?

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 the Health and Wellbeing Board has a duty to make it easier for health and social care services to work together. Section 3 of the Care Act places the Local Authority under a duty to carry out its care and support functions in a way that promotes integrating services with those of the NHS or other health-related service. The Better Care Programme as outline in this report discharges those duties.

6. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The 2015/16 Better Care Fund has been created from pre-existing NHS and Local Authority funding streams which were already being used to fund health and social care services. The Better Care Programme is focused on achieving improved outcomes through integration. The continuation of the pooled fund into 2016/17 will support continuity of services for customers as well as provide an opportunity for further improvements.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Better Care Fund Q3 report template