

	Health & Wellbeing Board 29th September 2022
Title	Barnet BCF Plan 2022/23
Report of	Executive Director – Communities, Adults and Health
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	Yes. Formal permission for the BCF spend will not be given until the plan has been approved by the Health & Wellbeing Board.
Key	Yes
Enclosures	Appendix A – BCF narrative plan 2022/23 Appendix B – BCF Finance Planning Template 2022/23 Appendix C – Intermediate Care Capacity and Demand
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Summary

The Better Care Fund (BCF), launched in 2015, is the current national policy approach for integrating health and adult social care. Spanning the NHS and local government the BCF seeks to join-up funding streams for health and social care services, so that people are supported to both manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently in their own home for as long as possible. The policy stipulates that local plans are overseen and approved by each Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) across England.

Our local BCF plan has a total pooled budget of £41,850,245 for the financial year 2022-23, covering schemes that support the core work programmes for delivering person centred care, adaptations to the home environment, safely managing transfers of care between hospital and home, and prevention of health deterioration.

The Better Care Fund policy guidance and associated financial uplift was only released to local authorities on 19th July 2022. Barnet's BCF plan therefore, reflects arrangements that

are to a significant extent already committed and in existence, since we are now six months into the financial year.

The BCF Plan 2022-23 was approved by the HWB Chair on 23 September 2022 and was submitted to NHSE in accordance with the BCF requirements on 26 September 2022.

This report presents the 2021-22 BCF Plan for endorsement by the Board.

Officers Recommendations

- 1. That the Health and Wellbeing Board endorses the Chair's decision to approve the BCF Plan for submission to NHSE.**
- 2. That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the contents of the Barnet BCF Plan 2022/23**
- 3. That the Health and Wellbeing Board delegates approval for any required changes from NHSE to the Barnet Better Care Fund plan for 2022-23, to the Executive Director-Communities, Adults and Health in consultation with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1. One of the National Conditions for the BCF Submission is that it should be approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board. This report presents the BCF narrative plan 2022-23 and associated finance and capacity documents, for endorsement by the Barnet Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.2. The BCF Plan 2022-23 submission was delivered to NHS England on 26 September following Chair's action to approve, subject to endorsement by the full Health and Wellbeing Board. The Board is asked to confirm their endorsement of the submission.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. The Better Care Fund was established in 2015 by the Government to provide funds to local areas to support the integration of health and social care, and to seek to achieve delivery of the National Conditions and Local Objectives of the BCF requirements.
- 2.2. The Government's aims around integrating health, social care, and housing through the BCF, have played a key role in the journey towards person-centred integrated care through pooled budget arrangements. The aims have provided a context in which the NHS and local authorities work together as equal partners, with shared objectives in the provision of support in the right place, that enables the person to continue living in their own home from a holistic approach. The plans produced are required to be presented and agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and represent a single, local, spending plan for the delivery of integrated health and social care.

- 2.3. In accordance with the Government's legislation for health and social care, Barnet is now part of the North Central London Integrated Care System (ICS) across 5 local authority areas. The Integrated Borough Based Partnership and Integrated Care Board (ICB) have been established in July 2022.
- 2.4. The BCF Plan 2022-23 was approved by the HWB Chair on 23 September 2022 and was submitted to NHSE in accordance with the BCF requirements on 26 September 2022.
- 2.5. The Council and NCL ICB will deliver and monitor their BCF schemes for 2022-23 as part of the s75 partnership agreements, through the HWB Joint Executive Group (JEG) and in accordance with Government requirements.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1. Not Applicable

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1. The timeframe for assurance of the BCF plan from this point is as set out below:

BCF planning requirements published	19/07/2022
Optional draft BCF planning submission (including capacity and demand plan) submitted to BCM and copied to the BCF team	18/08/2022
BCF planning submission from local HWB areas (agreed by ICBs and local government).	26/09/2022
Scrutiny of BCF plans by regional assurers, assurance panel meetings and regional moderation	26/09/2022 - 24/10/2022
Regionally moderated assurance outcomes sent to BCF team	24/10/2022
Cross-regional calibration	01/11/2022
Approval letters issued giving formal permission to spend (NHS minimum)	30/11/2022
All section 75 agreements to be signed and in place	31/12/2022

- 4.2. The JEG will provide an update to HWB in January 2023 to confirm that the approval process for 2022-23 is complete.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1. Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1. The BCF plan aligns with the overarching aims of the Barnet Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 to 2025 and the Council's Corporate Plan for 2021 to 2025

5.2. Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1. In accordance with BCF conditions, all funding elements have been jointly agreed by local authority and NHS ICB partners with the relevant amounts included in the respective organisational budgets for 2022-23.

5.2.2. The value of the schemes pooled within the BCF in 2022-23 totaled £41,850,245. The funding sources are as presented in the table below:

Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	£2,884,527
Minimum NHS Contribution	£29,344,000
iBCF	£9,621,518
Additional LA Contribution	£0
Additional ICB Contribution	£0
Total	£41,850,245

5.2.3. Oversight of expenditure throughout the financial year will be monitored on behalf of the HWB, by delegation to the HWB Joint Executive group.

5.2.4. There are no procurement, staffing, IT, or property implications from this decision.

5.3. Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1. The Better Care Fund (BCF) governance requirement requires the NHS and local government to create a local single pooled budget to incentivise closer working around residents, placing their increased wellbeing as the focus of health and care services, and building resources in social care and community services for the benefit of the people, communities and health and care systems.

5.3.2. Under the Council's constitution Responsibility for Functions (Article 7), the Health and Wellbeing Board has the following responsibility within its Terms of Reference:

- *Item 3:* 'To work together to ensure the best fit between available resources to meet the health and social care needs of the population of Barnet (including children), by both improving services for health and social care and helping people to move as close as possible to a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being. Specific resources to be overseen include money for social care being allocated through the NHS; dedicated public health budgets; the Better Care Fund; and Section 75 partnership agreements between the NHS and the Council.'

- *Item 9:* Specific responsibility for:
 - Overseeing public health
 - Developing further health and social care integration

5.3.3. The National Conditions for the operation of BCF in 2022 / 2023 include that a jointly agreed BCF plan between local health and social care commissioners is prepared and approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

5.4. **Insight**

5.4.1. Our Better Care Fund Plan for 2022-23 is informed by the:

- Barnet Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
- ICB and Council performance management data
- The NHS Long Term Plan
- Health and social care integration: joining up care for people, places and populations

5.5. **Social Value**

5.5.1. The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic, and environmental benefits.

5.5.2. Our plans clearly recognise the importance of addressing wider factors such as education, employment, housing, environment, and welfare. These wider factors can both impact on and be impacted by the health and wellbeing of an individual or population and will be considered as part of sustainable improvements to health and wellbeing.

5.5.3. Social Value will be considered by commissioners during any service procurement and review of activity detailed in the BCF plan for 2022-23.

5.6. **Risk Management**

5.6.1. In agreeing the BCF spending plan, the strategic partners have considered the overall system pressures and the appropriate level of investment needed in 2022/23 to meet the BCF metrics and national conditions.

5.6.2. The HWB Joint Executive Group (HWBJEG) is the executive body with delegated oversight for the BCF pooled budget and delivery of the BCF Plan. The HWBJEG therefore receives and scrutinises performance updates, finance expenditure and risk reports from each of the BCF scheme lead officers, as part of the monitoring function for the delivery of all Section 75 arrangements on a quarterly basis.

5.6.3. The HWBJEG monitoring reports are submitted to the HWB records, with updates provided to the HWB on a bi-annual basis or as requested.

5.7. **Equalities and Diversity**

5.7.1. Decision makers should have due regard to the public sector equality duty in making

their decisions. The statutory grounds of the public sector equality duty are found at section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and are as follows.

5.7.2. 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.

5.7.3. The BCF plan 2022/23 contains a particular focus on tackling health inequalities in Barnet and outlines a range of schemes to address where an inequity of access to health and social care support in a timely manner, may have a detrimental effect on the health & wellbeing of certain groups.

5.8. Corporate Parenting

5.8.1. There are no implications for Corporate Parenting in relation to this report.

5.9. Consultation and Engagement

5.9.1. The content of our BCF plan has been discussed with acute and community commissioners and service providers as an integral part of our strategic planning processes.

5.10. Environmental Impact

5.10.1. There are no direct environmental implications from noting the recommendations.

6. Background papers

6.1. 2022-23 Better Care Fund: Policy Framework

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/better-care-fund-policy-framework-2022-to-2023>

6.2. Better Care Fund Planning Requirements for 2022-23

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/B1296-Better-Care-Fund-planning-requirements-2022-23.pdf>