

KIRKLEES HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

MEETING DATE: 26th September 2024

TITLE OF PAPER: Kirklees Better Care Fund 2024/25

1. Purpose of paper

The paper is to provide an update on the Better Care Fund Plan for 2024/25 for information. The purpose of the paper is to assure the Board that robust planning and monitoring processes are in place.

2.0 2024/25 Planning Requirements

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is an accounting and contracting mechanism for jointly spending money between the ICB and the Council. The Fund is not new money and is money from both ICB and Council existing budgets. Spend which is already committed to services which meet the national objectives is badged against BCF to make up the minimum pooled funding amount, as per the national guidance.

The exception to this is the adult social care discharge funding (ASC), this is a non-recurrent 3 year national allocation to support people to be discharged from hospital. The allocation is split between the ICB and Council. The final year of this funding is 2024/25.

The Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Planning Requirements were published in April 2023. It is a two year planning process covering 2023-2025. An addendum to the framework was published in April 2024 to re-confirm the planning requirements for 2024/25.

The national conditions focus on delivering against the two objectives which were introduced in the 2022/23 planning process. They are:

- Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer, and;
- Provide the right care in the right place at the right time

As in previous years, each Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) area was required to complete a planning template. As 2023-25 narrative plans apply for the 2 year period there was no requirement for a separate narrative plan for 2024/25, however some additional narrative questions relating to capacity and demand were included within the planning template.

The ASC Discharge Funding for 2024/25 continues to be within the overall BCF allocation.

A summary of the BCF minimum pooled funding for Kirklees is provided in table 1:

Table 1: Summary of the BCF Minimum Pooled Funding for Kirklees (2024/25)

Source	£ ICB	£ Kirklees Council
NHS Contribution	£37,652,094	NA
Discharge Funding	£3,617,048	£4,164,306
Improved BCF	NA	£17,821,765
Disabled Facilities Grant	NA	£3,952,873

As per the BCF planning requirements, there was a requirement to apply a 5.66% growth to overall BCF spend for 2024/25. This growth is included in the numbers provided above.

3. 2024/25 BCF Planning Process

A Working Group was established with representation from the ICB and Kirklees Council to oversee the planning process. For the 2024/25 plan, each scheme has been subject to a review to determine:

- Delivery against the BCF national objectives
- Any risks to future delivery of the service
- Value for money
- Opportunities for efficiency through transformation

In addition, all ICB spend with Kirklees Council has been reviewed to determine its appropriateness for inclusion in BCF. To simplify the reporting requirements for BCF, the schemes have been streamlined to ensure where possible the whole budget is aligned to BCF and there are clearly defined metrics to measure the benefit of the scheme.

Updates were provided to the Joint Kirklees Senior Leadership Team Meeting on the 15th May 2024 and delegated authority was granted from this meeting to Vicky Dutchburn and Cath Simms to submit the BCF Plans by the set deadline of the 10th June 2024.

A further update was given at the Joint Kirklees Senior Leadership Team Meeting on the 19th June 2024 on the submitted plans.

The Kirklees BCF Plans for 2024/25 were granted approval by the National BCF Team on the 22nd August 2024. The Section 75 agreement is in the process of being updated following approval.

4. Financial Implications

The full plan is provided as appendix 1 to this paper. Key points to note are highlighted below.

- Plan meets the minimum financial contribution nationally mandated for BCF
- Plan is aligned to organisational financial planning assumptions
- Plan compliant with national conditions
- Plan to maintain or improve on the 2324 outturn for each of the national BCF metrics

A summary breakdown of the BCF spend by scheme is provided in table 2.

Table 2: Summary of the BCF Spend by Scheme for 2024/25

Scheme	Descriptor	Funding Allocated £
1: Aids to Daily Living	Supporting KICES, the provision of assistive technology and equipment and disabled facilities grant (DFG) related schemes.	9,234,620
2: Transforming Intermediate Care and Reablement	Home based intermediate care and reablement services and bed based intermediate care.	22,419,165
3: Carers Support	Services which provide support to carers such as Carers Trust and Carers Count.	2,441,551
4: Supporting Social Care	Provision of direct payments and home care.	30,627,519
5: Supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector	Supporting social prescribing	314,565
6: Care Home Support	Residential and nursing homes provided by the independent sector in Kirklees.	368,312
7: Discharge	Home first model for discharge and other services which facilitate discharge.	7,781,355
Total		73,187,087

Note: In some cases the proportion of the funding badged as BCF does not represent the total spend for these services.

5. 2025/26 BCF Planning Process

The planning for 2025/26 commenced on the 17th June 2024 to ensure alignment with the Kirklees Council budget setting processes.

Between June and September 2024, each scheme lead attended a session to present on their scheme to inform the planning process. The scheme lead presented on a number of key areas:

- What is the scheme and what does it include? Review against scheme specification. Indicate if anything has changed.
- How does the scheme contribute to delivering the BCF objectives (provide the right care in the right place at the right time and/or enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer)?
- Are there any challenges/pressures to be aware of?
- How can these challenges be addressed through transformation rather than investment? Is there any opportunity to deliver the service more efficiency?
- Are there opportunities for service development in the future? What would the benefits of this be?

Indicative plans will be completed by the mid-October 2024. Plans will be reviewed and altered as per any new/additional guidance requirements, as they are published.

5. Sign off



Name: Richard Parry

Job Title: Executive Director for Adults and Health Date: 16/09/2024

Carol McKenna, Accountable Officer (Kirklees), West Yorkshire ICB. carol.mckenna6@nhs.net

6. Next Steps

- Section 75 to be updated and signed off
- Reporting and monitoring against the plan for 2024/25 as per the national quarterly reporting timeline
- Further development of plans for 2025/26

7. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Board;

1. Receive the update for information
2. Are assured by the planning and monitoring processes in place

8. Contact Officer

Vicky Dutchburn, Director Of Operational Delivery & Performance (Kirklees), West Yorkshire ICB.
v.dutchburn@nhs.net

Cath Simms, Service Director - Adult Social Care Operations, Kirklees Council.
cath.simms@kirklees.gov.uk