

Title: Better Care Fund

Wards Affected: All

To: Health and Wellbeing Board

On: 16th September 2014

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 On 3rd December 2013 the Health and Wellbeing Board reviewed the outline Integration Transformation Fund plan. This was subsequently renamed nationally as the Better Care Fund with an update provided at the 12 February 2014 Health and Wellbeing Board. The Board has supported development of the Plan and endorsed a 'single pooled' arrangement for revenue and capital aspects of the Better care Fund, in line with the creation of an Integrated Care Organisation and our pioneer plans for improving the outcomes of the health and wellbeing of our community. A further iteration of the original plan has been updated following publication of an amended template nationally ensuring a greater focus on evidence to support proposed schemes and more detail in achieving the set metrics.
- 1.2 The current plan is being presented to the HWB in line with national expectations. Whilst this plan is still draft at this stage it allows for any final outstanding pieces of supporting information to be added before the final submission date of September 19th. There are no changes to finance, risk or strategy expected.
- 1.3 The Plan sets out how the South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group and Torbay Council will pool funding and work together with provider organisations including, Torbay & Southern Devon Health and Care Trust, South Devon Health Care Foundation Trust, Devon Partnership Trust and the Community Voluntary Sector to achieve a 3.5 % reduction in hospital admissions in 2015/16. Four key schemes, part of a range of initiatives progressing integrated health, social care and support, are identified in the Plan as supporting delivery of this target:
1. Single Point of Contact
 2. Frailty Services
 3. Multiple long term conditions
 4. Community Care: locality teams and community hospital beds

3. Governance

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a key role in integration and provides the strategic oversight with responsibility for signing off relevant plans and scrutiny of implementation. The governance arrangements for the BCF will fit in to the strategic and operational monitoring framework established for Pioneer and ICO to ensure escalation is timely and ability to respond is assured across the relevant organisation or area of work. Each of the key work streams report on progress against a shared agreed performance metric reporting system through to the Pioneer Board.

4. Finance

The value identified for the BCF is £12.014m. In terms of the broader Integrated Care Organisation there is a risk share agreement approved by all partners; CCG; Torbay Council; South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust and Torbay & Southern Devon Health and Care NHS Trust. The purpose is To facilitate the development of integrated health and social care and the improvement of services, by better aligning financial incentives with:

- A shift away from incentivising activity volume growth (in acute services)
- A shift towards incentivising improved overall system capacity and the use of alternatives to acute admission (including development of community based care)
- To simplify and ease contractual processes and negotiations, to make time for more productive and developmental activities
- To maximise the use of health and social care funds for care, rather than organisational and administrative processes.

4. Risk

The risks to the delivery of the Better Care Fund have been identified and scored from discussion with each of the interested stakeholders. (See section 5 of the attached plan).

The current most significant risk to BCF is in relation to public sector financing and the pressures and demands from influencing demographic and economic factors. This being recognised there may well be a level of acceptance of 'slowing down' the system to accept slower performance in order to re adjust the delivery plan and meet expectations whilst maintaining an acceptable performance level and longer term goal. Of the other risks identified the most prominent potential risks are a delay in the implementation of the ICO and the impact of the Care Bill, due to become law in April 2015. Strong robust partnership and existing joint working arrangements help to mitigate any risk to the ICO and project planning.

There is also a financial risk and that the quantity of the pooled fund that is potentially at risk in the Better Care Fund is £979,965 in not achieving the 3.5% reduction in admissions.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That the Better Care Fund Plan is endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board.