
Report to West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board

27 January 2022

Better Care Fund Monitoring Quarter 1 2021-22

Report by Chris Clark, Joint Strategic Director of Commissioning, West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group and West Sussex County Council

Summary

This paper provides a summary of the final West Sussex Better Care Fund planning submission for 2021/22, along with the regular monitoring of performance against the national metrics for Quarter 2 2021/22.

Recommendation(s) to the Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- (1) Note the final West Sussex Better Care Fund funding sources, and expenditure plan, and performance targets applying to the national BCF metrics for 2021/22.
 - (2) Note the West Sussex performance against the national BCF metrics at Q2 2021/22.
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Relevance to [Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)

The Better Care Fund supports partnership working across the West Sussex Health and Social Care system. The funded schemes include multi-disciplinary teams delivering proactive community-based care, services for carers, social prescribing, and a broad range of adult social care services.

1 Background

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) programme supports local systems to successfully deliver the integration of health and social care in a way that supports person-centred care, sustainability and better outcomes for people and carers.
- 1.2 It requires clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and local government to agree a joint plan, owned by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). These are joint plans for using pooled budgets to support integration, governed by an agreement under section 75 of the NHS Act (2006).

2 Better Care Fund Final Planning Submission 2021/22

- 2.1 The West Sussex Better Care Fund Plan was submitted for regional assurance and national approval ahead of the deadline on 16 November 2021. As agreed at HWB on 7 October 2021, this was subsequently approved on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board by Chairman's Action on 7 December 2021.
- 2.2 The plan passed regional assurance with a recommendation for approval made to the national team. This was confirmed by letters on 11 January 2022 with a requirement that a signed Section 75 Agreement is in place by 31 January 2022. This will be accomplished via a variation to the current two-year agreement.

3 West Sussex Better Care Fund Final Income and Expenditure Plan 2021/22

- 3.1 Details of the final Better Fund funding sources and planned expenditure are given in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The small additional uplift, resulting from an actual increase of 5.34% over the assumed 5.3%, is distributed between Scheme 2 (meeting minimum social care spend requirements), and a small funding reserve.

4 Better Care Fund Performance Q2 2021/22

- 4.1 Details of the Better Fund metrics performance for Q2 are given in Appendix 2. Please note the following in respect of the 2021/22 BCF National Metrics:
 - The metrics for Residential Admissions and Reablement are retained from previous years.
 - The metrics for Non-Elective Admissions and Delayed Transfers of Care are discontinued.
 - New metric: Unplanned Hospitalisation for Chronic Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions. This metric is a measure of emergency admissions with a primary diagnosis of an ambulatory care sensitive condition such as: acute bronchitis, angina, ischaemic heart disease, heart failure, dementia, emphysema, epilepsy, hypertension, diabetes, COPD, pulmonary oedema. Data is released in November for the preceding financial year. The planned figure is set at the pre-pandemic performance level.
 - New metric: Length of Stay 14+ Days and 21+ Days. This measure sets HWB-level ambitions for reducing length of stay with separate targets for both 14+ days and 21+ days applying to Q3 2021/22 and Q4 2021/22. For Wests Sussex targets are based on recent quarterly performance at the acute trusts applied to the HWB area on a pro rata basis and taking into account winter pressures. The data used by the national BCF team to create and report on this metric is not directly compatible with trust-level operational data and the two datasets should not be mixed.
 - New metric: Discharge to Usual Place of Residence. This measure for discharge to usual place of residence has been constructed around the 95% expectation in the discharge policy for Pathways 0 and 1. However it should be noted that the policy is not intended to set a hard target. In West Sussex,

the figure tends to be lower due to a higher older population and the larger Pathway 2 offering.

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Appendices Presentation Papers

Appendix 1: Final Better Care Fund Income and Expenditure Plan 2021-22

Appendix 2: Better Care Fund Metrics Report Quarter 2 2021-22

Appendix 3: Better Care Fund Narrative Plan 2021-22

Background Papers

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/better-care-fund-policy-framework-2021-to-2022>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/B0898-300921-Better-Care-Fund-Planning-Requirements.pdf>