
Report to West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board

27 April 2023

Better Care Fund Monitoring Quarter 3 2022-23

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

Summary

This paper presents an update on the West Sussex 2022/23 Better Care Fund Plan, highlights Better Care Fund planning requirements for 2023-25, and summarises performance against the Better Care Fund national metrics for Quarter 3 2022/23.

Recommendation(s) to the Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

1. Note the update on the West Sussex Better Care Fund Plan for 2022/23.
2. Note the Better Care Fund planning requirements for 2023-25.
3. Note the West Sussex performance against the national BCF metrics at Q3 2022/23.

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.

Background

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is one of the government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration. It requires integrated care boards (ICBs) 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).

The 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.

West Sussex Better Care Fund Plan 2022/23

Due to the late publication of planning guidance, reporting on the BCF programme for 2022-23 is limited to an End of Year (EOY) return which will ask for:

- Confirmation that the BCF national conditions continued to be met throughout the year.
- Confirmation of actual income and expenditure in BCF section 75 agreements for 2022-23 (covering the whole of the BCF plan including the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund monies).
- Details of significant successes and challenges during the year.
- Details on actual numbers of packages and actual spend in relation to the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund along with brief narratives for each scheme any changes to planned spending, impact of scheme, and any relevant learning.

The full submission, signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board in line with normal BCF requirements, is due on Tuesday 23 May 2023, with an advance submission covering the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund only required by Tuesday 2 May 2023.

Better Care Fund Planning 2023-25

West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is required to submit a 2-year Better Care Fund (BCF) plan covering 2023/24 and 2024/25, jointly agreed by West Sussex County Council and NHS Sussex, following engagement with local stakeholders, by 28 June 2023.

The plan must meet the following national conditions:

- A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the HWB.
- Implementing BCF Policy Objective 1: Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer.
- Implementing BCF Policy Objective 2: Provide the right care, at the right place, at the right time.
- Maintaining the NHS's contribution to adult social care (in line with the uplift to the NHS minimum contribution to the BCF), and investment in NHS commissioned out of hospital services.

For 2023-25, in addition to the NHS Minimum Contribution, Improved Better Care Fund grant, and Disabled Facilities Grant, the Discharge Fund will be distributed through the BCF, supporting safe and timely discharge from hospital. For the first year, the focus is on growing social care capacity to have the greatest impact on:

- Reducing delayed hospital discharges.
- Planning services sufficiently far in advance to enable providers to make appropriate workforce capacity plans.
- Learning from evaluation of the impact of previous discharge funding.
- Improving collaboration and information sharing across health and social care services.

A Capacity and Demand Plan for Intermediate Care services is also required, initially, for 2023-24 only, with a winter update due in October 2023, covering:

- Expected demand for intermediate care services (and other short-term care) to help people remain independent at home (including support aimed at avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions and support following discharge from hospital.)
- Services to support this recovery (including rehabilitation and reablement.)
- Expected capacity in the HWB area to meet this demand.

Better Care Fund Performance Q3 2022/23

Appendix 1 shows metrics performance at Q3 2022/23 for the following metrics:

- Metric 1: Long term support needs of older people (aged 65 and over) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population.
- Metric 2: Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/ rehabilitation services.
- Metric 3: Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions.
- Metric 4: Discharge to usual place of residence.

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Appendices Presentation Papers

Appendix 1: Better Care Fund Metrics Report Q3 2022/23

Background Papers

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/better-care-fund-policy-framework-2023-to-2025>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/better-care-fund-planning-requirements-2023-25/>