



Date of meeting:	24 th January 2019
Item Title:	Better Care Fund Monitoring
Executive Summary:	Summary report of the Better Care Fund 2018/19 position, quarterly reporting, and planning for 2019/20.
Recommendations for the Board:	To note the contents of the report.
Relevance to <u>Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</u>:	Maintaining Wellbeing and Resilience
Financial implications (if any):	N/A
Consultation (undertaken or planned):	N/A
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1. Background

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme spanning both the NHS and local government which seeks to join-up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing, and live independently in their communities for as long as possible.

It has been created to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our society, placing them at the centre of their care and support, and providing them integrated health and social care services, resulting in an improved experience and better quality of life.

This report summarises Better Care Fund performance at Month 7 (October) 2018/19. It also provides brief updates on the refresh on BCF quarterly reporting and planning for 2019/20.

2. BCF Performance 2018/19 at Month 7

3.1 Metrics Overview

The national BCF policy framework establishes the national metrics for measuring progress of integration through the BCF. In summary these are:

- a. Non-elective admissions;
- b. Admissions to residential and care homes;
- c. Effectiveness of reablement; and
- d. Delayed transfers of care.

Information on all four metrics is collected nationally; however, the BCF Coordination Team monitors performance across these 4 areas to provide indicative in-year updates on performance.

Indicator	2018/19 YTD Target	2018/19 YTD Actual	M7 Target	M7 Actual	Required Trend
1. Non-Elective Admissions (Specific Acute)	53,517	55,372	7,892	8,143	Lower
2. Long-term support needs of older people (aged 65 and over) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population.	347.1	352	49.5	30.5	Lower
3. Proportion of older people 65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services.	86.0%	73.8%	N/A	N/A	Higher
4. Delayed transfers of care from hospital per 100,000 population (Delayed Days.)	17,848.0	18,352	2,241.0	2,652	Lower

Key:	Meets Target	Within -5% of Target	Greater than -5% from Target
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3.2 Non-Elective Admissions (Specific Acute)

This metric measures the outcome, a reduction in the number of unplanned acute admissions to hospital.

Effective prevention and risk management of vulnerable people through effective, integrated Out-of-Hospital services will improve outcomes for people with care needs and reduce costs by avoiding preventable acute interventions and keeping people in non-acute settings.

For M7 2018/19, the number of Non-elective Admissions across West Sussex is above plan by 251 (3.2%). The YTD (year to date) figure is above plan by 1,885 (3.5%).

Compared to M7 last year, Non-elective Admissions are higher by 5.2%.

3.3 Residential and Nursing Care Admissions

This metric measures the outcome, reducing inappropriate admissions of older people (65+) in to residential care.

Avoiding permanent placements in residential and nursing care homes is a good measure of delaying dependency, and the inclusion of this measure in the framework supports local health and social care services to work together to reduce avoidable admissions. Research suggests that, where possible, people prefer to stay in their own home rather than move into residential care. However, it is acknowledged that for some client groups that admission to residential or nursing care homes can represent an improvement in their situation.

For M7 2018/19, the number of admissions is below plan by 19.0 (38.8%). However, the YTD figure is above plan by 5.0 (1.4%).

The number of admissions for M7 and YTD may increase further due to delays inherent in the processing of data.

Compared to last year, performance is improved although, in-year, this is difficult to quantify precisely.

3.4 Reablement/Rehabilitation

This metric measures the outcome, increase in effectiveness of these services whilst ensuring that those offered service does not decrease.

Improving the effectiveness of these services is a good measure of delaying dependency, and the inclusion of this measure in the scheme supports local health and social care services to work together to reduce avoidable admissions. Ensuring that the rate at which these services are offered is also maintained or increased also supports this goal.

This metric is reported quarterly. For YTD 2018/19, performance across West Sussex is at 73.8% against a planned figure of 86.0%. This is substantially lower than last year and the causes are being investigated following discussion at November's Joint Commissioning Strategy Group.

3.5 Delayed Transfers of Care

This metric measures the outcome, effective joint working of hospital services (acute, mental health and non-acute) and community-based care in facilitating timely and appropriate transfer from all hospitals for all adults.

This is an important marker of the effective joint working of local partners, and is a measure of the effectiveness of the interface between health and social care services. Minimising Delayed Transfers of Care (DToCs) and enabling people to live independently at home is one of the desired outcomes of social care. The DToC metric reflects the system wide rate of delayed transfers and activity to address it will involve efforts within and outside of the BCF.

For M7 2018/19, the number of delayed days across West Sussex is above plan by 411 (18.5%). The YTD figure is above plan by 504 (2.8%).

The new centrally set DToC expectations in force from September 2018 reduced the M7 target by 481 Delayed Days.

Compared to M7 last year, Delayed Transfers of Care are lower by 25.3%.

3. BCF Quarterly Return Q3 2018/19

4.1 Overview

The Better Care Support Team published the template for the Q2 2018/19 BCF return on Thursday 6th September. The requirement to report on the Improved Better Care Fund does not apply for this quarter. There are no other significant changes.

Work on completing the return is in progress. The submission date is 25th January 2019 following sign-off from the HWB Chair.

4. BCF Planning for 2019/20

No official guidance is yet published for the Better Care Fund in 2019/20; however, some things are already known:

- The future of the Better Care Fund is under review with the longer term approach identified in the forthcoming Social Care Green Paper, which is expected to include a section on integration and the BCF, and in Local Transformation Plans. It remains the only mandatory national programme for integration health and social care.
- The NHS Long Term Plan published in January 2019 states that The Department of Health and Social Care and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government with NHS England are therefore reviewing the BCF to ensure it meets its goals. The review will conclude in early 2019, and 2019/20 will continue to include clear requirements to continue to reduce DTOCs and improve the availability of care packages for patients ready to leave hospital.

Initial BCF guidance for 2019/20 is expected around the end of January and the BCF Coordination Team are in the process of refreshing the details of current BCF schemes to support and facilitate planning discussions between the West Sussex partner organisations.