

NHS DORSET CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP
GOVERNING BODY MEETING
DORSET BETTER CARE FUND (BCF) UPDATE

Date of the meeting	15/07/2020
Author	K Calvert Deputy Director Primary & Community Care
Sponsoring Board member	T Goodson, Chief Officer
Purpose of Report	The purpose of this report is to provide the Governing Body with an update on the Dorset Better Care Fund (BCF).
Recommendation	The Governing Body is asked to note the report.
Stakeholder Engagement	Dorset BCF plans have been developed jointly with both Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Councils.
Previous GB / Committee/s, Dates	N/A

Monitoring and Assurance Summary

This report links to the following Strategic Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Community and Primary Care Services • One Acute Network • Leading and Working Differently 		
	Yes	Any action required?	
		Yes Detail in report	No
All three Domains of Quality (Safety, Quality, Patient Experience)	✓		✓
Board Assurance Framework Risk Register	✓		✓
Budgetary Impact	✓		✓
Legal/Regulatory	✓		✓
People/Staff	✓		✓
Financial/Value for Money/Sustainability	✓		✓
Information Management & Technology	✓		✓
Equality Impact Assessment	✓		✓
Freedom of Information	✓		✓
I confirm that I have considered the implications of this report on each of the matters above, as indicated	✓		

Initials :KC

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the BCF performance for 2019/20 and the impact of Covid-19 moving into 2020/21.

2. BCF Report

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme that spans both the NHS and local Government that 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. Health and Well-being Boards have oversight of the BCF and are accountable for its delivery.
- 2.1.2 The majority of the pooled resources for the BCF comes from existing activity within the health and social care system, with additional contributions from Local Authority or CCG budgets. There is a CCG minimum contribution required, which is uplifted each year and additional funding from central government has been paid directly to Local Authorities, including the Winter Pressures Grant and Improved Better Care Fund, which are used for meeting adult social care needs, reducing pressures (including seasonal) on the NHS and ensuring that the social care provider market is supported.

2.2 2019/20 Plans

- 2.2.1 National BCF planning guidance for 2019/20 was released in July 2019, with final plans being approved by the national BCF planning team in November 2019.
- 2.2.2 Prior to the final guidance being received, all parties had agreed to plan for minimal change in 2019/20, on the basis that any significant changes, as a result of a national review of the BCF, would come in from 2020/21.
- 2.2.3 Both plans continued to deliver services aligned to existing priorities, which were:
- support for carers;
 - maintaining independence;
 - high impact changes/supported hospital discharge/ home first;
 - integrated health & social care locality teams; and
 - strong & sustainable care markets.

2.3 Year End Performance

- 2.3.1 BCF Q4 reporting for 2019/20 was deferred to June (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and then paused until the end of July, at which time this will be reviewed, and further guidance sent. The following reporting data is therefore not fully complete, however, provides an indication of full-year performance.

2.3.2 The key performance metrics for 2019/20 remained unchanged and were as follows:

- **Total number of specific acute non-elective spells per 100,000 population.** The target for the year was set through the NHS operating plans: BCP target = 51,246; Dorset target = 46,504.
- **Delayed Transfers of Care per day (daily delays) from hospital (aged 18+).** The local target for 2019/20 was nationally set for Dorset as 43.1 and 25.0 for BCP (it is recognised nationally that this target does not take into account the new BCP geographical area).
- **Long-term support needs of older people (age 65 and over) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population.** The local targets were 550 for Dorset and 592 for BCP.
- **Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services.** Due to the 2018/19 target of 79.7% for BCP not being met, this target was retained for 2019/20. Dorset had a target in line with their current performance at 84.0%.

2.3.3 **Non-Elective Admissions:** Dorset Council achieved 42,905 non-elective spells per 100,000 against a target of 46,504 and BCP Council: 59,224 against a target of 51,426.

2.3.4 **Delayed Transfers of Care:** Note that due to COVID-19, the collection of this data was suspended nationally and therefore submissions for March were not made by service providers. The average for the period from April 2019 to February 2020 for Dorset was 43.9 daily delays per month against an annual target of 43.1. February proved to be a challenging month and as a result it is unclear as to whether the target would have been met. BCP's average was 33 daily delays per month (April to February) against a target of 25. Performance had improved month on month until February, however, that target would not have been projected to have been met.

2.3.5 **Admissions to Residential and Nursing Homes:** Neither Local Authority was on target to deliver at the end of Quarter 3. BCP reported 720 admissions per 100,000 for the period to February against an annual target of 592/100,000. Dorset Council, whilst not reporting their number of admissions due to data recording issues, did report that they were however ranked as 66 out of 151 Councils nationally against this target.

It should be noted that there were high numbers of admissions to residential care during the Autumn and Winter periods, reflecting the support provided to hospitals in order to manage the increased pressure when on OPEL 4.

2.3.6 **Percentage at Home 91 Days after Discharge:** BCP reported from April to February an out-turn of 76.8% against a target of 79.7%. Dorset did not report due to data issues, as mentioned above.

2.4 Financial Summary

2.4.1 All areas, except for the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES), were on budget for Dorset CCG. A recovery plan for ICES was initiated in September 2019, to help mitigate the risk of a significant forecasted overspend. At year-end, the total ICES overspend was £799k with £56k being attributable to COVID and so reclaimable via NHSE. The CCG risk share of the remaining overspend after final stock adjustments was £354k.

2.5 Impact of COVID-19

2.5.1 The impact of COVID-19 on the BCF began at the end of the 2019/20 financial year, when the Government allocated funding nationally, some of which was to be used to enhance the discharge process and fund the cost of new or extended out of hospital health and social care packages, as part of the COVID-19 response.

2.5.2 The national hospital discharge guidance issued by NHS England came into force on 19 March 2020. The mandated requirements have subsequently brought significant changes to hospital discharge arrangements and generated local and national interest in learning from the Discharge to Assess (D2A) model that has been implemented and how this could influence future models of care post pandemic.

2.5.3 This change also meant that there was an increased need for community equipment as a result of the guidance.

2.5.4 In relation to support for Carers, a number of initiatives and changes have been made since March 2020. Video conferencing is now being used for hosting social events such as the Carers Choir. Carer identification cards were also provided to support priority hours supermarket shopping and a COVID-19 specific emergency plan template made available, in case Carers develop symptoms and need to share information about the person they usually care for. For Carers who were identified as though needing shielding, Carer Services have been proactively providing support.

2.5.5 Additional funding has also been made available to support Care Home market resilience during COVID-19 with a 10% payment uplift provided.

2.5.6 No further guidance for 2020/21 is expected until the end of July and so services are continuing to be provided accordingly in line with the current priorities.

3. Conclusion

3.1.1 2019/20 was once again a challenging year in relation to performance for the BCF. Whilst planning had occurred early on, guidance was delayed, and the financial uplift required was more than budgeted. Whilst it was subsequently agreed that the funding 'gap' would be met by NHS E/I, there was still pressure on Dorset's ICES, which resulted in a final year-end overspend.

- 3.1.2 The year was difficult for providers with an 'early and extended winter' pressure that saw health partners experience increased pressure and high levels of occupancy.
- 3.1.3 The impact of Covid-19 was initiated in March with guidance that focussed on a Discharge to Assess model that was required to be implemented at pace. The impact of which was partially reflected in 2019/20 but will be reflected more in this financial year.
- 3.1.4 whilst planning guidance for the BCF in 2020/21 will be once again delayed, Dorset is currently reviewing its D2A model and has established a Home First Programme Board, which will form part of our shared plans with Local Authorities.

4. Recommendation

The Governing Body is asked to **note** the report.

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