

Committee(s): Health and Wellbeing Board	Dated: 03/05/2024
Subject: Better Care Fund Q3 Return	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	Providing Excellent Services
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Judith Finlay, Executive Director, Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Ellie Ward, Head of Strategy and Performance, Community and Children's Services	

Summary

The Better Care Fund programme supports local systems to deliver the integration of health and social care in a way that supports person centred care, sustainability and better outcomes for people and carers.

The Fund is based on a pooled budget of funding from Integrated Care Boards and local authorities. Local systems are required to produce plans for the BCF which must be signed off by local Health and Wellbeing Boards.

The plans are governed by a policy framework and requirements set out by the Department of Health and Social These were submitted in June 2023 and received approval from the Department in September 2023.

Quarterly reports on progress of the plans and metrics are required and these must be signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board. This report seeks approval for the Q3 Better Care Fund return.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Approve the Better Care Fund Quarter 3 return

Main Report

Background

1. The Better Care Fund (BCF) was established in 2013 and encourages integration by requiring Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and local authorities to enter into pooled budget arrangements and agree an integrated spending plan.
2. Every year, local systems agree how the money will be spent within criteria set out by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and produce plans in accordance with BCF policy and requirements. A key component of the requirements focus on supporting hospital discharge and out of hospital care.
3. City of London Corporation BCF plans were submitted in June 2023 and approved by the DHSC in September 2023.
4. The City Corporation is required to report quarterly on progress with the plans and these progress reports must be approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB).

Current Position

5. For 2023/24, the pooled budget is £1,303,408, consisting of an NHS contribution of £897,282 and a City of London Corporation (City Corporation) contribution of £406,126. This increases in 2024/25 to £1,387,981 consisting of £952,531 and £435,450 respectively. The City Corporation does not put in any additional funds.
6. A range of schemes are funded through the BCF and of the pooled budget for 2023/24, £347,597 is being spent on City Corporation Adult Social Care Services (not including the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) and Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)), above the £163,508 required.
7. The BCF Quarter 3 report can be found at Appendix one and sets out progress against certain mandatory conditions and metrics. All the mandatory conditions are met. With regard to the metrics, all are on track although it was not possible to assess progress on admissions due to falls (a health metric) due to data not being available.
8. There is a section on expenditure but the pre populated template does not contain all the schemes that are funded. However, it is confirmed that for all City of London schemes, the funding is being utilised and will not be overspent.
9. Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to approve the return.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications

The BCF aligns with our corporate priorities of:

- Providing Excellent Services

It also sits within a wider strategic context of health and social care integration and policies driving hospital discharge work.

Financial implications

The City Corporation only contributes required funding to the pooled budget and does not contribute any additional funding.

In terms of expenditure on schemes within the plan, City Corporation schemes are funded above the minimum required from the pooled budget.

Resource implications

None

Legal implications

None

Risk implications

None

Equalities implications

All schemes which are funded through the BCF and commissioned or delivered by the City Corporation are subject to Equality Impact Assessments.

Climate implications

None

Security implications

None

Conclusion

10. The City of London HWBB is asked to approve the BCF Q3 report.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – BCF Q3 report

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