

<b>Committee:</b> Health and Wellbeing Board	<b>Dated:</b> 22 09 2023
<b>Subject:</b> Better Care Fund 2023-25	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	1,2,3,4
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Judith Finlay, Executive Director, Community and Children's Services	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Ellie Ward, Head of Strategy and Performance, DCCS	

### Summary

The Better Care Fund (BCF) 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 (ICBs) and local authorities. Local systems are required to produce plans for the BCF which have to 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 Care (DHSC). Generally, these frameworks and requirements are published after the start of the financial year. The latest requirements cover the period 2023–2025 and plans were submitted on 28 June 2023. These plans are now submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Approve the City of London Better Care Fund Plan 2023–25.

## **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. Each organisation has designated funds they have to include in the pooled budget and it is at their discretion whether they add additional funding to the pot. Neither the City of London Corporation nor the ICB add additional funds to the pot.
3. 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.
4. The DHSC policy and guidance documents for plans are produced each year but are often published after the start of the financial year. Guidance for plans for 2023-25 was published in April 2023 and the City Corporation plans were submitted on 28 June 2023. All plans have to be approved by the local Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB).
5. Although the plans are submitted after the start of the financial year, local areas are allowed to continue with schemes from the previous year.

### **Current Position**

6. 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.
7. A range of schemes are funded through the BCF, as set out in Appendix 2. 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.
8. The City of London schemes in the 2023-24 plan remain broadly the same as the previous year but with a change in the elements of the hospital discharge scheme to reflect changing requirements.
9. Proposed plans are attached as Appendices 1 and 2 and include a narrative plan, which is a joint local system plan for the City Corporation and the London Borough of Hackney, and a City Corporation template with details of income, expenditure and schemes.
10. The template includes five key indicators that the City of London Corporation and health partners monitor.

11. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve the proposed plans for 2023-25 noting that plans for 2024-25 are subject to change but the Board will be notified if there are any significant changes that need to be approved.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

### *Strategic implications*

The BCF aligns with our corporate priorities of:

1. People are safe and feel safe.
2. People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
3. People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
4. Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.

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**

12. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve BCF plans for 2023-25.

13. Focussing on integration and particularly on hospital discharge and out of hospital services, the BCF plans fund a number of schemes in the City of London.

14. The funding from the pooled budget for City Corporation services is above the minimum required and supports a range of work. The main change from the previous plan is a change to the hospital discharge scheme to reflect changing requirements.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – BCF Narrative Plan for City and Hackney.
- Appendix 2 – BCF plan.

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