

To:	Live Well South Tees Health and Wellbeing Board	Date:	December 2021
From:	Kathryn Warnock	Agenda:	Item 7
Purpose of the Item	To seek formal approval from the Board of the 2021/22 Better Care Fund (BCF) Plans for Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland		
Summary of Recommendations	Board members are asked to a) Note the national BCF planning requirements, conditions and metrics b) Review and endorse the BCF Plans submitted to NHS England		

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. To seek formal approval from the Board of the 2021/22 Better Care Fund (BCF) Plans for Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The BCF Planning requirements for 2021/22 were issued nationally on 30th September 2021. Each Health and Wellbeing Board locality must complete:

- a) a planning template which confirms how the BCF will be spent, that national conditions are met and ambitions and plans for performance against BCF metrics
- b) an accompanying narrative template which outlines priorities, engagement and governance arrangements.

The four national conditions that all BCF plans must meet to be approved are:

- A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners and signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to CCG minimum contribution.
- Invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services.
- Plan for improving outcomes for people being discharged from hospital

The BCF Policy Framework sets national metrics that must be included in BCF plans in 2021-22. This includes two existing metrics:

- Effectiveness of reablement (proportion of older people still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement or rehabilitation)
- Older adults whose long-term care needs are met by admission to residential or nursing care per 100,000 population.

The previous metric on non-elective admissions has been replaced with:

- a measure of avoidable admissions (unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions).

There is an increased emphasis on 'home first' with new metrics introduced to reflect the hospital discharge guidance:

- Reducing length of stay in hospital, measured through the percentage of hospital inpatients who have been in hospital for longer than 14 and 21 days
- Improving the proportion of people discharged home using data on discharge to their usual place of residence.

2.2 South Tees BCF Implementation and Monitoring Group worked together to draft the narrative and planning templates. They were submitted to our local Better Care Manager for initial review and feedback on 19th October, as recommended nationally. These draft templates were also reviewed by the Health and Wellbeing Executive on 2nd November.

The feedback was positive with only a few minor points highlighted. We updated the templates in response and the plans were endorsed by the South Tees Executive Governance Board and signed off by delegated officers on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The plans were submitted to NHS England by the deadline of 16th November 2021.

2.3 We are confident that our plans meet the national conditions and will contribute to delivery of the metrics, and we present them for formal approval by the Board.

Plans cannot be formally approved until Health and Wellbeing Board endorsement has been confirmed. Once that is in place, we hope to receive approval letters giving formal permission to spend from 11th January 2022. It is noted that three quarters of the financial year will have passed by that date.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Live Well South Tees Health and Wellbeing Board approve the Better Care Fund plans for Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland

4 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Attached as Appendices are the BCF Planning and Narrative templates for Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland.

Contact Officer

Kathryn Warnock

Chair of the South Tees BCF Implementation and Monitoring Group