

Westminster Health & Wellbeing Board

RBKC Health & Wellbeing Board

Date:	16 May 2024
Classification:	General Release
Title:	24/25 Better Care Fund
Report of:	Adult Social Care and Health NWL ICB
Policy Context:	Health and Wellbeing
Contribution to Health and Well Being Strategy ambitions	Ambition 2,3,7
Wards Involved:	All
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The aim of this report is to update the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) on the 24/25 Better Care Fund (BCF) plan as per the NHS National Conditions. The report will include an update on the changes to national conditions and identification of risks.
- 1.2 The plan marks the second year of a two year BCF plan submitted in September 2023 and signed off by the national BCF team in October 2023. The submitted plan included a NWL wide review of all NWL BCF plans to be conducted in 2024/5. The review is currently being developed between LA and health partners, for implementation in 2025/26.
- 1.3 The Plan submission date is 10th June, and we do not anticipate any issues in meeting the deadline.

2. Key Matters for the Board

- 2.1 The BCF remains a key tool for promoting integration across local government (including housing) and health partners to meet local and national priorities. A national review has shown that local areas have consistently agreed that delivery of the BCF has improved joint working between health and social care and improving outcomes for people, especially when being discharged from hospitals. This has also been reflected across both boroughs with the BCF being an enabler for integration and to ensure the protection of adult social care whilst investing in locally delivered health services.
- 2.2 The broad BCF Objectives remains the same as the previous year.
- enable those who need it to get the right care in the right place at the right time.
 - enable people to stay well, safe, and independent at home for longer.

Performance Metrics

- 2.4 The four NHSE performance metrics listed below will be used to monitor the impact of the BCF plan. The Reablement metric has been removed as the data is no longer collected, but a replacement metric will be introduced later in the year.
- 2.5 The BCF policy mandates that each HWB defines ambitions and performance plans for each of the BCF metrics. Systems should review and establish realistic yet ambitious goals for 2024-25.
- 2.6 The metrics for 2024-25 are listed below, and work is in progress to agree the targets with NWL ICB teams.

TABLE 1: Metrics

2024/25 Metrics			
Metrics	Description	Westminster Targets	Kensington Targets
Avoidable admission	Standard rate of admission per 100,000 per population	Tbc	tbc
Falls	Emergency hospital admissions to falls in people aged 65 and over directly and over age standardised rate per 100,000	Tbc	tbc
Discharge to usual place of residence	The percentage of patients who are discharged from a healthcare facility and return to their regular place of residence	TBC	TBC
Residential admission	Long-term support needs of older people (age 65 and over) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population	TBC	TBC

3.0 Finance

- 3.1 Below is a summary of the 2024/25 BCF allocations, including the uplift for the year. There have been no changes to the iBCF. The table also compares last year's grant with the allocation for 2024/25. At the time of publication, there remains no agreement on the NWL ICB discharge funding allocation.

Table 3: Funding Summary

Budget allocation	Westminster		Kensington and Chelsea	
	2023/24 Agreed Plan	2024/25 draft Plan (including uplift)	2023/24 Agreed Plan	2024/25 draft Plan (including uplift)
LA Minimum NHS Contribution	10,397,043	10,985,516	6,626,684	7,001,754
ICB Minimum NHS Contribution	14,230,380	15,035,819	9,057,562	9,570,220
Total NHS Minimum Contribution	24,627,423	26,021,335	15,684,245	16,571,974
Additional NHS Contribution	2,941,559	2,941,559	1,835,679	1,835,679
Total BCF Budget	27,568,982	28,962,894	17,519,924	18,407,653
Improved Better Care Funding	17,649,014	17,649,014	7,661,937	7,661,937
Disabled Facility Grant	1,729,201	1,886,126	959,824	1,046,928
Local Authority Discharge Funding	2,474,364	4,123,941	1,074,192	1,790,319
ICB Discharge Funding* subject to agreement	573,454	£848,000	981,008	£932,000
ICB Discharge Funding – S75 Non-BCF Agreement	526,546	0	118,992	0
Additional ICB Funding* subject to agreement	0	438,000	0	545,000
Total BCF Pooled Budget	50,521,561	53,907,975	28,315,877	30,383,837

4. Risk

4.1 The main risk to the delivery of the 24/25 plan is the finalisation of funding through NWL ICB. Additionally, across all service areas there is increasing demand for services that is placing operational and financial pressure on organisations. Through the year there will need to be close monitoring of activity levels and spend to ensure any financial risks are managed in accordance with the BCF programme governance processes and budgets.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 Health and Wellbeing Boards are required to agree the Better Care Fund when it is finalised.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 The 24/25 BCF is in line with national guidance. However, pressures on funding in 25/26 from increased demand and risks to annual budgets could have an impact. Work with service teams will be ongoing and aligned to organisational budget setting processes.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the background papers, please contact:

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