

Title of meeting:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Date of meeting:	28 June 2023
Subject:	Better Care Fund Returns
Report by:	Jo York, Managing Director, Health and Care Portsmouth
Wards affected:	N/A
Key decision:	Yes
Full Council decision:	Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the Better Care Fund Returns for 2022/23 and 2023-25

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to ratify the submitted Better Care Fund End of Year Return 2022/23 v1.3.
- 2.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to approve the draft Better Care Fund Narrative before submission to national NHS England Better Care Fund Team on 28 June 2023.
- 2.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to approve the draft Better Care Fund Planning Template 2023/25 before submission to national NHS England Better Care Fund Team on 28 June 2023.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) requirements are set out in the BCF Planning Requirements document for 2022-23, which supports the aims of the BCF Policy Framework and the BCF Programme.
- 3.2 The BCF End of Year Return 2022/23 for Portsmouth was approved by Dr Linda Collie 22 May 2023 and Cllr. Matthew Winnington 23 May 2023 on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board and was submitted to the national BCF team 23 May 2023.
- 3.3 The national BCF team then requested an amended version that adjusts both the income and expenditure, due to an overspend, a revised version (v1.3) was submitted 16 June 2023 and attached for ratification.

3.4 In addition to the BCF End of Year Return 2022/23 there is also a requirement for all areas to provide a Narrative and Planning return covering 2023/25. These returns reflect local arrangements for integrated working.

3.5 The 2023/25 submission is based on 22/23 agreed activity uplifted where appropriate should information be available. The final formal budget for 2023/24 is still being agreed and has not yet been presented to BCF Partnership Management Group (PMG), as a result, this submission is on a best-efforts basis with the information available at the time. For income allocation to task, this have been achieved on a best-efforts basis, with elements allocated to the largest areas of spend. For clarity, income is not tracked at a scheme level operationally.

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 Assurance of final plans will be led by Better Care Managers (BCMs) for each region with input from NHS England and local government representatives. It will be a single stage exercise based on a set of key lines of enquiry (KLoEs).

4.2 The regionally let assurance processes will confirm that the content of local areas plans enable significant progress towards delivering against the BCF objectives and priorities outlined in the BCF policy framework and planning requirements.

4.3 A cross-regional calibration meeting will be held after regions have submitted their recommendations, bringing together representatives from each region, following this recommendation for approval will be made by NHS England regional directors – this will include confirmation that local government representatives were involved in assurance and agree the recommendations. NHS England will approve BCF plans in consultation with DHSC and DLUHC. NHS England, as the accountable body for the NHS minimum contribution to the fund, will write to areas to confirm that the NHS minimum funding can be released subject to ongoing compliance with the conditions.

5. Integrated impact assessment

An Integrated Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

6. Legal implications

6.1 The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has published a direction to NHS England under section 223B of the NHS Act 2006 to ringfence £5,059 million to form the NHS contribution to the BCF in 2023-24. This figure includes additional funding for discharge via ICBs (£300m) in 2023-24.

6.2 The BCF planning requirements 2023-25 represents NHS England exercising its powers under section 223GA of the 2006 Act. It sets out the detail in relation to the conditions and requirements agreed with the government in relation to the receipt and use of NHS and local government contributions to the BCF, including details of how conditions and requirements will be monitored to ensure they are met. This guidance is also an annex to the NHS operational and contracting guidance for

2023/24. ICBs should ensure that plans for use of the NHS minimum contribution, discharge funding in ICB allocations and assumptions related to capacity and demand for intermediate care align to their wider activity and financial plans.

7. Director of Finance's comments

7.1 It is acknowledged that the BCF returns were completed in conjunction with Portsmouth City Council and ICB finance representatives.

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Signed by: Jo York Managing Director, Health and Care Portsmouth

Appendices:

- 1. BCF End of Year 2022/23 Final v1.3
- 2. BCF Narrative 2023-25 Draft
- 3. BCF Planning 2023-25 Draft

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: