

	<b><u>Agenda Item: 12</u></b>
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Birmingham Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> January 2023</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>BCF ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND</b>
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Birmingham City Council/Integrated Care Board</b>
<b>Presenting Officer</b>	<b>Michael Walsh, Head of Service – Commissioning, ASC, BCC</b>

<b>Report Type:</b>	<b>Approval</b>
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### 1. Purpose:

- 1.1. To seek retrospective approval from the Health and Well-being Board for the Addendum Better Care Fund Plan: Adult Social Care Discharge Fund.
- 1.2. To update the board on the use and implementation of the fund.

### 2. Implications (tick all that apply):

Creating a Bolder, Healthier, City (2022-2030) – Strategic Priorities	Closing the Gap (Inequalities)	
	Theme 1: Healthy and Affordable Food	
	Theme 2: Mental Wellness and Balance	
	Theme 3: Active at Every Age and Ability	
	Theme 4: Contributing to a Green and Sustainable Future	
	Theme 5: Protect and Detect	
	Getting the Best Start in Life	
	Living, Working and Learning Well	
	Ageing and Dying Well	X
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		

### 3. Recommendation

- 3.1. H&WBB is recommended to approve the attached ASC Discharge Fund BCF Addendum Plan.

#### **4. Report Body**

##### **Background & Key Issues**

- 4.1. In September 2002 the Government announced a £500m fund to support discharge from acute to social care over the winter period. The details of the fund were published in late November with a requirement for a plan to be submitted on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022. This timetable did not allow for approval to be gained from the Health and Well-being Board.
- 4.2. Funding is being allocated in 2 tranches. The first tranche (40%) has been paid on receipt of a jointly agreed (ICB & BCC) plan. The second tranche (60%) will be paid subject to satisfactory implementation of the plan and system performance; to be determined at a review stage in late January. The funding is split into allocations to the ICB and to BCC – which are then pooled into the Better Care Fund. The total value of funding for Birmingham is £8,890,913.
- 4.3. The fund is being provided in order to directly support or enable the discharge from acute care of people who no longer have a reason to stay. Typically, this will be people who have an ongoing care need who are unable to return home without support or who need another form of on-going care in a community setting. Action in support of discharge from acute mental health care is also explicitly encouraged.
- 4.4. A condition of the fund is that an Addendum Plan for the Better Care Fund is developed and agreed by the ICB and BCC. The submitted plan is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 4.5. The key intervention outlined in the plan is to provide £6,040,193 of funding to support recruitment and retention in the independent care sector. This will be distributed to care providers to make retention and recruitment payments to existing and new staff in order to both maintain and increase capacity within the care sector. This is viewed as the most effective use of the resource as it can be rapidly deployed at scale and addresses the greatest risk to the provision of ongoing care and therefore discharge. The systemic issues of low pay in the care sector is a root cause in respect of difficulties in securing out-of-hospital home, nursing and residential care.
- 4.6. Other interventions in the plan include funding to purchase additional home care – although this is constrained by capacity in the market; to support retention and recruitment of BCC social care staff; to provide a joint budget for bespoke care packages for people with complex care needs and a number of initiatives to improve the experience of people being discharged from acute mental health care. This includes support for a new mental health out-of-hospital homeless pathway alongside enhanced mental health support for pathway 2 step-down beds.
- 4.7. Implementation of the plan has commenced alongside a fortnightly reporting schedule to the national Better Care Fund Team at NHS England. The key activity is to develop a mechanism for distributing funds to the independent care sector via an application process that will enable evaluation of the impact of funding in respect of additional care hours provided over the winter period.

## **5. Compliance Issues**

### **5.1. HWBB Forum Responsibility and Board Update**

- 5.1.1. As an Addendum to the BCF plan the H&WBB has responsibility for approval. The Chair of the H&WBB was consulted on the plan prior to the submission on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

### **5.2. Management Responsibility**

- 5.2.1. Fortnightly reporting to the Better Care Fund national team and full implementation and spend against the Discharge Fund Plan.

## **6. Risk Analysis**

<b>Identified Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Actions to Manage Risk</b>
Failure to fully mobilize all elements of the plan	Medium	Loss of potential capacity to support discharge	Fortnightly ICB/BCC meetings to monitor implementation. Reporting through to ICB Strategic Oversight Group. Ability to flex resources between schemes in response to demand and capacity for implementation.

## **Appendices**

### **Appendix 1: BCF ASC Discharge Fund Plan**