Reports not on the Forward Plan / Late Report / Confidential or Exempt Information not Notified

Birmingham City Council

17 January 2023 – Cabinet

16 January 2023 – Notice Published



Subject:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE DISCHARGE FUND
Report of:	Professor Graeme Betts, CBE Strategic Director for Adult Social Care
Report author:	Alison Malik,

Head of Commissioning, Adult Social Care <u>Alison.Malik@birmingham.gov.uk</u>

1) Key Decisions not on the Forward Plan / Urgent Decisions

To be completed for Key Decisions not on the Forward Plan 28 days before the Cabinet meeting at which the decision is to be taken.

Reasons for Urgency / why not included on the notification	•	The Council only received confirmation of funding on 21 December 2022 and further grant condition/reporting updates on 23 December and 5 January 2023. This decision is therefore being made at the earliest opportunity to ensure funds reach care providers in line with the Grant Conditions and expectations of Government and the provider market.
	•	The conditions of the grant expect local authorities to transfer funds promptly to support current hospital pressures and there was therefore not sufficient time to progress the report under the usual Cabinet process.
	•	To mitigate the financial risks and to ensure funding only reaches those providers that are eligible but also will be able to support the conditions of the grant, funds will only be distributed to those that actively apply for it (albeit this will be widely publicised to the sector) and there needs to be sufficient time for providers to apply, for funds to be transferred and for care providers to consider and pass on to their workforce in line with Grant conditions.
	•	The reporting requirements of the Grant mean that we will need to make returns to NHS England regularly throughout Jan – March

	2023. Unless this element of the Grant has been distributed during this period, we will be unable to make the necessary returns to confirm the amounts spent and the benefits of that spend. As this element of funding is over 60% of the total allocation, unless we can demonstrate the funding is being used before the end of January 2023, there is a risk it may be withdrawn.
	• A decision has already been made by the BCF Commissioning Executive and confirmed by NHS England about how the Grant will be used overall. This report will then allow the element allocated to care provider support, to be distributed in a fair and transparent manner.
	• Whilst there are discretionary elements of the Fund, these remain restricted to the purpose set out in the Grant Conditions, including that funds must be spent by 31 March 2023. There are therefore limited alternative options that can be supported at such short notice.
	• As the ongoing impact of the pandemic and winter pressures for the NHS, care providers and their staff continues, these funds will provide essential financial support to care providers in supporting recruitment and retention measures. This is also £6m that will largely end up back in the local economy.
	• The Grant has been widely publicised by Government and a number of providers have already requested funding. Any delays in distribution may have a negative reputational impact on Birmingham City Council and our NHS partners.
Reasons for Immediate Implementation	As set out above.
(if applicable)	
Date Chief Executive Agreement obtained:	13 th January 2023
Name, Date and any comments of O&S Chair agreement obtained:	Cllr Akhlaq Ahmed – 13 th January 2023 Cllr Mick Brown – 16 th January 2023

2) Key Decisions not notified on the Notification of Intention to Consider Matters in Private

To be completed for Key Decisions not on the Forward Plan 28 days before the Cabinet meeting at which the decision is to be taken.

Reasons for Urgency / why not included on the notification	N/A
Name, Date and any comments of O&S Chair agreement obtained:	N/A

3) Late Reports

To be completed for all late reports, i.e. which cannot be despatched with the agenda papers i.e. 5 clear working days' notice before meeting.

Reasons for Urgency / why late	As set out above.
Date agreement obtained (Executive e.g. Leader and CEX):	CEX – 13 th January 2023 Leader – 13 th January 2023