

Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting to be held on 19 March 2019

Lancashire Better Care Fund Quarterly Report and Update

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refers)

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Executive Summary

Better Care Fund Metrics

1. Reablement - Performance is better than target at 86.3% of people being at home 91 days after discharge from hospital. Use of the service saw a slight decrease for the first time.
2. Permanent admissions to residential and Nursing Care - There has been a further improvement in Quarter 3 over Quarter 2 with the number of admissions in the year to date reducing to 709.3 per 100,000 population 65+. However, this remains considerably worse than the national average rate of 585.6.
3. Non-elective admissions - There was a sharp increase in Quarter 3, 11% above plan with 2018/19 levels staying higher than 2017/18.
4. Delayed Transfers of Care - While Quarter 3 performance was worse than target and worse than Quarter 2 there was some improvement seen in December 2018 although still above target.

The future of the Better Care Fund/Integration

The outputs and conclusions reached from a Better Care Fund hosted workshop to be held on 22 March 2019 will be brought back to the board for further discussion, guidance and to agree actions. These will be set in context of the national review of the Better Care Fund and the Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Guidance for 2019/20 once published.

Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- (i) Note the performance against the Better Care Fund metrics.
- (ii) Note the ongoing work to review and confirm the role of the Better Care Fund locally and nationally in the context of driving integration forward.

Background

This report covers Quarter 3 of 2018/19 for the 2017/19 Lancashire BCF plan.

Quarterly Performance

Progress of delivery of the Better Care Fund is based on four measures:

Reablement

2018/19 Quarter 3 figures show a consistently maintained high standard for reablement volumes and reablement outcomes, despite the slight decrease from Quarter 2. A total of 1269 people were offered these services for the period Oct-18 to Dec-18. This is higher than the 2017/18 Better Care Fund target of 1000 for the Quarter 4 period.

Lancashire outcome figures for Quarter 3 monitor the whereabouts of these individuals in Oct-18 to Dec-18 and indicate 1095 (86.3%) were still at home after 91 days. This compares favourably with the 2017/18 national average of 82.9% and with the Lancashire 2017/18 Better Care Fund target of 84.0% (840 still at home out of 1000) for the Quarter 4 period.

Permanent Admissions of Older People to Residential and Nursing Home Care

The 2018/19 Quarter 3 figure of 1737 admissions shows a substantial improvement over the Quarter 2 total of 1787 for the rolling year. The rate per 100,000 65+ population has improved to 709.3. Benchmark performance is still a long way from the recently published 2017/18 national average of 585.6, though fares much better against the North West average of 737.8.

The Lancashire population aged 65+ continues to increase, but the rate of increase has slowed to 1.3% with the release of the mid-2017 population estimates in July 2018. The rate of increase is forecast to rise again slightly within the next few years.

Reducing Emergency Admissions

The level of Non-Elective Admissions rose sharply in Quarter 3 resulting in an overall 11% variation from plan. At a Clinical Commissioning Group level this variation from plan was from between 1.5% for Morecambe Bay to 23.66% for Fylde and Wyre.

The overall monthly level has been consistently higher in 2018/19 than in 2017/18 and follows closely the monthly pattern.

Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC)

Delayed transfers of care in Quarter 3 exceeded target by 820 a variation of 8.8%.

In Quarter 3 there was an increase over Quarter 2 from 9,037 to 10,186 delayed days, an increase of 1,149 days, 13%. December 2018 did, though, see a slight monthly reduction from November of 94 delayed days.

December also saw a reversal in trend of attributable delays with NHS attributable decreasing and social care attributable increasing.

The annual month by month performance has continued to be better than in 2016/17 and 2017/18. There was a significant improvement in DToC recorded in February and March 2018 which it will be of interest to compare once 2019 data is known.

Greater detail of the above is given on the paper “Better Care Fund Quarter 3 all metric summary” at Appendix 'A'.

The Future of the Better Care Fund, Finance and Advancing Integration

The outcome of the national review of the Better Care Fund along with the Integration and Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Better Care Fund Planning Requirements 2019/20 are still awaited. Also awaited is the definite detail of the expected minimum contributions from the Clinical Commissioning Groups to the Better Care Fund pooled fund for 2019/20. Joint work of the Clinical Commissioning Groups and Lancashire County Council finance leads is underway to clarify the level of funding from the improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) that will be available in 2019/20 from the three year allocations 2017-20. This will help identify if there is any risk to existing services and what mitigation may be required.

As previously reported to the board the Better Care Fund Steering Group is to host a workshop, confirmed for 22 March 2019, that will reflect on the impact of the Better Care Fund, progress made in Lancashire and identify what needs to happen next to advance integration of health and social care at pace and appropriate scale. This will include the role that the Better Care Fund will play. The outputs from the workshop will be reported to the board.

List of background papers

- Appendix A BCF Q3 all metric summary
- Appendix B Lancashire Better Care Fund Plan 2017/19