

**Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board**  
Meeting to be held on 5 September 2023

**Corporate Priorities:**  
Delivering Better Services

## **Lancashire Better Care Fund Plan 2023 to 2025**

Contact for further information:

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### **Brief Summary**

This report provides a progress update of the Better Care Fund reset work and actions taken since the last report.

The Lancashire Better Care Fund Board is now in place and operating well, bringing improved oversight and coordination of both the business as usual and the reset work, and is working to progress the three key priority areas agreed.

Since the last update, an initial scoping session has taken place regarding the focus on the Disabled Facilities Grant and associated opportunities, with several actions commenced following the discussions.

Discussions are continuing with the national Better Care Fund Support team, regarding the level of focus of the support offer to Lancashire.

### **Recommendations**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- i) Receive the report and comment on the progress to date.
- ii) Identify any queries prompted by the report.

## **Detail**

### **The Lancashire Better Care Fund 2023/24 Plan**

The Lancashire Better Care Fund Plan that the Board received at the last meeting on 18 July 2023 has now gained regional approval through the assurance process and has been submitted to the National Team. A letter of confirmation that the Plan has been formally accepted is awaited, and this letter will be shared with the Board once received.



## **Key Priorities for 2023/24**

Work continues with the priorities agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Lancashire Better Care Fund Board.

### **1. Overall Review and Reset of the Lancashire Better Care Fund**

Work is continuing, to pull together the detail of the spend areas within the Better Care Fund. This is complete for the spend areas under Lancashire County Council and is nearing completion for the Integrated Care Board, with the information from the two outstanding areas now being worked through.

The various schemes are now being collated under broader headings to enable us as a partnership to better view the breadth of spend and service capacity under each heading. In displaying the information in this way, it will enable us to focus in a managed way on the review activity. This information will be shared separately with the Board closer to the meeting date to allow the work to progress as far as possible, and to enable the Board to have an initial view and prompt any questions of clarity back to the team.

The national Better Care Fund Support team are identifying the resource that can be offered to Lancashire to support both a review of hospital discharge arrangements and gaps and opportunities, and also to the wider Better Care Fund review. We have discussed with the support team the potential to link with a hospital discharge review that is taking place in a neighbouring Local Authority, and also with a proposed review by the Integrated Care Board of their Better Care Fund spend across all four Better Care Funds. Avoiding duplication across the pieces of work and support and identifying and maximising areas of interface will be of mutual benefit to all parties.

The first session to kick off the development of how it will better involve people with lived experience takes place on the 6 September 2023.

### **2. Intermediate Care including Discharge to Assess**

Informed by feedback from Intermediate Care transformation work is underway within Lancashire, with several key elements:

- The re-procurement of homebased intermediate care, which will be called 'Short Term Care at Home'. This is scheduled to mobilise soon, with an implementation date of April 2024. The new Short-Term Care at Home service brings together the existing 'crisis support', 'Home First' and 'Reablement' services and merges them into one. The benefit to people who use this service is that they will get the volume and type of care at the right time, with no handoffs between services.
- The transformation of the existing bed based intermediate care services, operated by Lancashire County Council's Older Peoples Care Services. Single Handed Care equipment has been installed in the intermediate care units, including ceiling track hoists, and the service will widen its scope to offer recovery, recuperation/rehabilitation, and reablement support. The service will also



take more people who would previously have moved into a 'discharge to assess' bed in a Care Home and will now have better opportunities to maximise their independence.

- An improved assessment and case management offer including a single point of access to all intermediate care services. Through the alignment of several teams into the five multiagency (known as (Integrated Clinical Academic Training) ICAT/CATCH (Clinical Academic Training and Careers Hub) hubs, the service will respond to hospital discharge, admissions avoidance (where there is a need for intermediate care type services) and people who need an intermediate care type service to remain in their own home. For people using the service, they will experience improved communication, better availability of support at the time they need it and in the best place to meet their needs, and no handovers between teams during their intermediate care journey.
- The NHS and social care partners are looking at the additional wrap around therapy support needed to enhance the Lancashire intermediate care offer.

### **3. Disabled Facilities Grant and opportunities**

An initial scoping session took place with representatives across the 12 Lancashire Districts on the 31 July 2023 with some wide ranging and positive discussions and suggestions.

Colleagues discussed several opportunities for improvement, development and innovation and looked at areas of challenge and ways in which reporting and sharing of best practice can be collated and communicated.

Several actions and next steps were agreed, and work is underway to take these forwards:

#### **Reporting**

- Pull together a standardised reporting template so that we have a good overarching view at a Lancashire level and can pull into a regular performance report for the Lancashire Better Care Fund and Health and Wellbeing Boards.
- Review the previous reporting template and look to build on this and re-launch.
- Explore including space to share good practice and case studies as well as activity and spend.
- Use both qualitative and quantitative info from the reports to inform the Lancashire Better Care Fund Plan.

#### **Baseline**

- Undertake a survey and benchmarking of the arrangements currently in place relating to health impact assessments (HIAs) and handyperson's services.
- Undertake a survey regarding what innovation and use of Regulatory Reform Orders is already in place and benchmark.
- Map and understand variations and commonalities across the county geography.



## **Children's Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)**

- Look at a small task and finish group to look at children's disabled facilities grants (DFGs) as there were some specific issues relating to those which needed space to unpick and explore in more depth.

## **Diagnostic**

- Agreed a diagnostic would be commissioned to support the work, including opportunities for innovation and actions and enablers required.

## **Communication**

- Set up a quarterly group to cover:
  - Keeping in touch
  - New opportunities
  - Innovation proposals
  - Understand activity and spend data.
  - Share good practice and information.
  - Resolve barriers and challenges

## **Future**

- Collate suggestions, proposals and opportunities for further innovation as we move through the steps and actions above.
- Consider overarching strategy.
- Explore further partnership options.

## **Health and Wellbeing Board Actions From 18 July 2023**

- A confirmed commencement date for the spend line review work – this can be formally confirmed once the detail of the data is secured, and the detail of the support offer is known.
- Progress exploration of joint buying power and partnership commitment to this – several conversations are underway across the Integrated Care Board and Lancashire County Council to actively explore this. This action and progress also link to the continued development of the Lancashire Place.
- Consideration of pooling additional monies and elements of spend into the Better Care Fund – this is a key part of the reset work, and is also linked to the continued development of, and delegation to, the Lancashire Place. This will continue to be revisited throughout the reset process and beyond.
- Consider how headroom can be created to fund resource to deliver key pieces of partnership work including the Better Care Fund review – all partners are committed to enabling this and is a constant thread throughout Better Care Fund spend discussions and through the review process.
- Consider how greater investment and focus can take place within the Better Care Fund on prevention and reducing inequalities – this has been noted and will remain a key consideration throughout the review process.

