

Report Title	Accelerated Reform Fund
Date of Meeting	25 March 2024
Agenda Item	

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Executive Summary

Links to ICP Priorities

Life Course	Theme	Action
Living Well	Supporting people who are already mentally or physically unwell - taking action on earlier diagnosis, providing better support to people living with their conditions and stopping them from getting worse, especially those people who have the greatest inequalities in access, experience and outcomes	Make it easier to know who our unpaid carers are, better understand their roles, and give better support for carers of all ages
Working Well	Wellbeing at work - creating workplaces and cultures that encourage good health and wellbeing, identifying the signs of ill health and wellbeing early and offering support where needed	Working carers are supported to balance work with their caring responsibilities.
Ageing Well	Integrated support for older people - providing joined-up support for our most vulnerable and frail residents, their families and their carers.	Make sure people know about all of our services that can support residents, their families and their carers
Ageing Well	Choice and control - making sure support is in place when circumstances change for an individual or their carers, supporting individuals to be as independent as possible	Provide accessible information about what care is available, when and how to access this, including details about costs and funding options that are easy to understand and follow Help older people to use technology to support their health and wellbeing
Ageing Well	Healthy ageing - keeping our maturing population mentally and physically active	Connect residents, their families and their carers to lead active, healthy

	as well as involved in and contributing to their communities	and positive lives, to plan ahead for old age and think about things that can be arranged in case their needs change or their health gets worse
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Background

The Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) launched a £42.6 million Accelerating Reform Fund (ARF) to boost the quality and accessibility of adult social care by supporting innovation and scaling, and kickstarting a change in services to support unpaid carers.

The ARF will focus on embedding and scaling approaches to transform care and support including for unpaid carers, who play such a vital, selfless role in our society. This will accelerate progress towards the government's social care vision where people have choice, control and support to live independent lives, and where care and support is of outstanding quality and is provided in a fair, accessible way. The ARF provides 12 month project funding from April 2024.

Expression of Interest

We have agreed an approach as a collaboration between Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council, Blackpool Council and Westmorland and Furness Council to work on the following priorities and projects across the Councils with Westmorland and Furness Council acting as the lead:

- Priority 3: investment in local area networks or communities to support prevention and promote wellbeing, enabling people to age well in their communities
 - Information and Advice Offer (Including Digital offer)
 - Co-Production and Engagement with Communities
 - Identifying and Strengthening Community Support
 - Connecting People to Community Support
 - Impact, Evaluation Sharing and Scaling

These workstreams will be looking to target areas of demand for non-regulated care tasks, such as social interaction and household tasks. This will be achieved through the development of the VCFSE across the ICB footprint

- Priority 12 (focusses on unpaid carers): ways to encourage people to recognise themselves as carers and promote access to carer services
 - Identifying Unpaid Carers (At home and during hospital stays)
 - Shared Lives (Westmorland and Furness)

- Carer's Support and Respite
- Digital Support for Carers
- Mutual Support for Unpaid Carers

These worksteams will build on the areas identified as shared priorities for the Local Authority partners for further investment and dedicated resource. The ARF funding enables joint working across the Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB footprint to accelerate the workplan which is being developed as part of the Carers Strategy and work with the VCFSE alliance around Early Intervention and Prevention. These include improving the information and advice for carers and supporting carers to better health and wellbeing in order to live a fulfilling life.

Funding

Initial £300k start up funding to be provided to all accepted bids and shared across partner organisations as set up costs and infrastructure support

Local Authority	2023 to 2024 indicative LA level top-ups to consortium funding - assuming all LAs participate and all ICS have a consortium (excluding consortium floor funding) (£)	2024 to 2025 indicative LA level top-ups to consortium funding - assuming all LAs participate and all ICS have a consortium (excluding consortium floor funding) (£)	Combined 2023 to 2024 and 2024 to 2025 indicative LA level top-ups to consortium funding - assuming all LAs participate and all ICS have a consortium (excluding consortium floor funding) (£)
Blackburn with Darwen	23570	71983	95553
Blackpool	27864	85097	112961
Lancashire	170143	519626	689769
Westmorland and Furness	35271	107721	142992

Proposed governance:

Role	Name of Group	Description
Assurance	Department of Health and Social Care Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE)	Funding Source and National Reporting required around the fund to provide assurance.
Decision Making (Strategic) Group	Social Care and Health Partnership Board	Combined Local Authority Group with Director of Adult Social Services from each local authority across Lancashire and South Cumbria in attendance to provide oversight and decision making.
Decision Making (Tactical) Group	Accelerated Reform Fund Project Group	Project Group with leads from each local Authority which will be responsible for delivery at place
Delivery	Workstream Groups	Individual Project Delivery Groups
Recommendations		
<p>ICP members are asked to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the update. 2. Support the approach to collaborative working in the ARF priority areas 		