

Blackpool CCG Governing Body – Part I

13 January 2015

Better Care Fund Plan

Executive Summary

Introduction

This report is to provide an update on the revised submission of the Better Care Fund and Action Plan developed following the National Consistent Assurance Review.

The report also provides assurance to the Governing Body that the Better Care Fund Plan has been approved following submission of the Action Plan.

Background Information

1. The £3.8bn Better Care Fund (BCF) was announced in the June 2013 spending review. The key ambition of the Fund seeks to transform local services to ensure people are provided with better integrated care and support – which is joined-up, personalised and provided closer to home.
2. In order to access the Better Care Fund, every local area developed a locality plan aligned to the two-year operational and five year strategic plans or their Clinical Commissioning Group. Plans must also meet certain national conditions including a commitment to seven day working, better sharing of information and protection of social care services. Draft and final plans were approved by Health and Wellbeing Boards in February and April 2014 respectively before being taken forward for ministerial sign off.
3. Following a ministerial review in April 2014, it was recognised that whilst many plans reflected the ambition of the Fund, certain aspects required further development as follows:
 - More evidence of financial risk and performance metrics
 - Sufficient provider engagement and agreement on the impact of plans
 - Greater clarity around the alignment of the Better Care Fund plan to wider plans and policies, such as how Better Care Fund schemes will align with and work alongside primary care
 - More evidence of robust finance and analytical modelling underpinning plans.
4. To address these requirements, NHS England published updated guidance, revised plan templates and extended the timetable for revising and submitting locality plans.



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5. Further to the previous updates to the Governing Body, the final submission and supporting Action Plan was submitted to NHSE in November following the National Consistent Assurance Review.
6. Formal confirmation was received on 19 December 2014 by Dame Barbara Hakin confirming that the Blackpool BCF Plan was fully approved.

Recommendation

Members of the Governing Body are asked to note the assurance that the Better Care Fund Plan has been approved following submission of the Action Plan.

Andy Roach
Director of Integration and Transformation

