

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Lucia Plant, Lead for Better Care Fund, Blackpool Council
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Jo Farrell, Cabinet Member for Adult Service and, Community Health and Wellbeing
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	14 December 2022

## BETTER CARE FUND UPDATE

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide the Board with an update on the financial monitoring of the Blackpool Better Care Fund.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the report and any verbal update.

2.2 To support the continuation of the Better Care Fund Monitoring Group which would be responsible for day to day monitoring and management of the Better Care Fund and report to the Health and Wellbeing Board on at least a 6 monthly basis.

2.3 To confirm the Board's approval of the Better Care Fund planning template for 2022/23 attached at Appendix 4a.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The report is for information to ensure that the Board is kept aware of the status of the Blackpool Better Care Fund and future actions.

3.2 The Better Care Fund pooled budget is a statutory requirement under the amended NHS Act 2006.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

**4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:**

4.1 None.

**5.0 Council priority:**

5.1 The relevant Council priority is: “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”.

**6.0 Background information**

6.1 The governance requirements contained within the ‘Framework Partnership Agreement relating to the Commissioning of Health and Social Care Services and Other Arrangements’ require Blackpool Council to provide regular monitoring of the Better Care Fund (BCF) to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

6.2 Whilst the individual organisations (Blackpool Council and Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board) are still monitoring their respective schemes as part of their own financial reporting requirements officers have been unable to submit a consolidated report for this financial year, this is due to the continued delayed publication of the Better Care Fund Policy Statement.

6.3 Blackpool Council and Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board were required to complete a planning template (Appendix 4a) to show the expenditure plan for 2022-23, and to outline the expected impact.

6.4 As it was not possible to present the plan to the Health and Wellbeing Board prior to the submission deadline, it was signed off by Councillor Farrell on their behalf on 22 September 2022.

6.5 The Better Care Fund plan 2022-23 is yet to receive assurance and approval from NHS England. This is pending.

6.6 There is an addendum to the Better Care Fund and additional planning templates are due for submission on 16 December 2022 as the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is being distributed via the Better Care Fund. The funding will be provided in 2 tranches – the first (40%) in December 2022, and the second (60%) by the end of January 2023 for areas that have provided a planned spending report and fortnightly activity data and have met the other conditions.

6.7 The Section 75 agreement, which underpins the Better Care Fund Plan has required extensive revision due to the enactment of the Health and Care Act 2022 and the transfer of Clinical Commissioning Groups to Integrated Care Boards. A decision on this has been made by the

Council's Executive at its meeting on 5 December 2022, reference EX49/2022.

6.8 Does the information submitted include any exempt information No

**7.0 List of Appendices:**

7.1 Appendix 4a: Submitted Blackpool 2022-23 Better Care Fund Planning Template

**8.0 Financial considerations:**

8.1 As explained in the body of the report.

**9.0 Legal considerations:**

9.1 None.

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None.

**11.0 Equalities considerations:**

11.1 None.

**12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:**

12.1 None.

**13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:**

13.1 None.

**14.0 Background papers:**

14.1 Better Care Fund 2022-23 Planning Requirements- [link](#)

Addendum to the 2022-2023 Better Care Fund policy framework and planning requirements- [link](#)