

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Report to:** Slough Wellbeing Board      **Date:** 31 May 2022

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**Ward(s):** All

### **PART I** **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

#### **BETTER CARE FUND PROGRAMME 2021/22 – ANNUAL REPORT**

##### **1. Purpose of report**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Slough Wellbeing Board with a summary of the key areas of activity and outturn position of the Better Care Fund (BCF) programme for Slough in 2021-22.

##### **2. Recommendation(s)/proposed action**

The Wellbeing Board is requested to note the content of the report outlining the progress and delivery of the BCF Programme for 2021-22

##### **3. The slough joint wellbeing strategy, the JSNA and the Five year plan**

The Better Care Fund programme is developed, agreed and managed between the local authority and the Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) together with other delivery partners it aims to improve, both directly and indirectly, the health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Slough. The annual BCF Plan is written and produced in accordance with the guiding policy criteria and framework published by the national team.

##### **3a. Slough wellbeing strategy priorities**

The Better Care Fund programme is developed and managed between the local authority and CCG together with other delivery partners and aims to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Slough. It directly supports delivery of priority three within the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, that is:

- 3) Integration relating to Health and Social Care.

The BCF programme for this year and next is guided by priorities we have jointly set out and agreed in the Health and Wellbeing Plan for Slough place. The plan includes activities between the partners that contribute towards addressing health inequalities identified in the Slough Joint Needs Assessment.

#### 4. Other implications

##### (a) Financial

The total size of the BCF Pooled Budget in 2021/22 was £15,047,515

This includes a minimum contribution of £10,034,713 from the CCG, the improved Better Care Fund (grant funding to local authority, including Winter Pressures Grant) £3,872,122 and Disabled Facilities Grant of £1,140,680.

Minimum CCG Contribution	£10,034,713
DFG	£1,140,680
iBCF	£3,872,122
Total	<b>£15,047,515</b>

The expenditure across 36 schemes is listed and described in the Annual Report (appendix 1) which are agreed and managed between the partners of the pooled budget agreement under section 75 agreement (NHS Act 2006).

##### (b) Risk management

The Health and Social Care Partnership acts as the Programme Board for the BCF and oversees and monitors risks in relation to the BCF programme. A risk register identifies, and scores risks of delivery of the programme together with actions to mitigate or manage those risks.

##### (c) Human rights act and other legal implications

No Human Rights implications arise.

There are legal implications arising from how funds are used, managed and audited within a Pooled Budget arrangement under section 75 of the NHS Act 2006.

The Care Act 2014 provides the legislative basis for the Better Care Fund by providing a mechanism that allows the sharing of NHS funding with local authorities.

##### (d) Equalities impact assessment

The BCF aims to improve outcomes and wellbeing for the people of Slough through effective protection of social care and integrated activity to reduce emergency and urgent health demand. Impact assessments are undertaken as part of planning of any new scheme or investment to ensure that there is a clear understanding of how various groups identified within the Equalities Act (2010) may potentially be affected.

(e) Workforce

There are future workforce development implications as we move towards closer integration of health and social care services. The pooling of budgets and closer collaborative working to deliver integrated care is creating new ways of working in partnership with others and BCF programme is therefore aligning together with other change programme activities happening across the wider Frimley Integrated Care System (ICS) as well as the local integration of services at place.

**5. Supporting information**

Supporting information is contained within the content of the Annual Report

**6. Comments of other committees**

An interim report on BCF was presented to the Health and Social Care Partnership in March 2022. This report has now been finalised with performance and finance outturn position and presented as the Annual Report to the Wellbeing Board in appendix 1

**7. Conclusion**

The Better Care Fund programme continues to be central to the delivery of integrated care in Slough. This year has largely carried forward existing schemes but some of the CCGs minimum contribution to the pooled budget has supported investment into areas of social care services transitioned from the Council into the Better Care Fund. This has been to maintain capacity and activity in services that contribute to delivery of the ambitions set out within the plan.

**8. Appendices attached**

'A' - Better Care Fund Annual Report 2021/22

**9. Background papers**

'1' BCF Plan 2021/22