

Better Care Fund 2019/20



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

What is the Better Care Fund?

The Better Care Fund (BCF) has been in place since 2015.

The (BCF) is a mechanism for joint health and social care planning, service commissioning and delivery of activity to patients/service users.

In 2019/20 BCF funding includes £22m of existing funding, £8m iBCF funding and £1m winter pressure funding (final figures to be confirmed through planning)

BCF has been created to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our society, placing them at the centre of their care and support, and providing them integrated health and social care services, resulting in an improved experience and better quality of life.



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Better Care Plan 2017-19

The most recent Better Care Plan 2017-19 outlined activity under the following workstreams:

- Increasing System Capacity
- Integrated Discharge Planning
- Protecting Social Care
- Supporting Recovery & Independence
- Person Centred Integrated Care
- Dementia Planning
- Homelessness



What BCF has helped us to achieve?

Key achievements:

- Increasing volumes getting home from hospital through Discharge to Assess (Home First)
- Improvements in overall Delayed Transfers of Care
- Development of Carers Hub –a single point of access for carers services
- Homelessness- GP services (primary and secondary care); engagement workers; care planning and education and training to frontline health staff.



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Management and Reporting

- Section 75 pooled budget agreement agreed at March 2019 HWB (approved 2019/20 BCF Plan will be added to this agreement).
- Cross agency BCF delivery board to review performance
- National reports come to HWB for information and approval
- BCF supports delivery of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy



Changes to BCF for 2019/20

- National guidance for the 2019 / 2020 year arrived very late (July 2019)
- New focus on link to the NHS Long Term Plan
- Allocations have been agreed with an increase (5.3%) in overall funding allocations from NHS England
- Any additional funding allocations will be decided during the planning process and highlighted to the Board as necessary.
- Otherwise we are not making major changes to the plan



BCF 2019-20 4 national conditions

- (i) Plans to be jointly agreed
- (ii) NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to CCG Minimum Contribution
- (iii) Agreement to invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services, which may include 7-day services and adult social care
- (iv) Managing Transfers of Care: A clear plan for improved integrated services at the interface between health and social care that reduces Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC), encompassing the High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfers of Care. As part of this all Health and Wellbeing Boards adopt the centrally-set expectations for reducing or maintaining rates of DToC during 2019-20 into their BCF plans.



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BCF Performance

- Beyond these conditions, flexibility in how Fund is spent but need to evidence how spending will improve performance
- Need for ambitious targets and improvement plans against following four BCF 2019-20 metrics:
 - Delayed Transfers of Care
 - Non-elective admissions (General and Acute)
 - Admissions to residential and care homes
 - Effectiveness of reablement.
- Performance information will be part of the next Board update.



Timeline -not good fit with HWB dates!

BCF planning submission from local Health and Wellbeing Board areas (agreed by CCGs and local government). All submissions will need to be sent to the local BCM, and copied to england.bettercaresupport@nhs.net	By 27 September
Scrutiny of BCF plans by regional assurers, assurance panel meetings, and regional moderation	By 30 October
Regionally moderated assurance outcomes sent to BCST	By 30 October
Cross regional calibration	By 5 November
Assurance recommendations considered by Departments and NHSE	5 – 15 November
Approval letters issued giving formal permission to spend (CCG minimum)	Week commencing 18 November
All Section 75 agreements to be signed and in place	By 15 December

Board Requirements

- Rollover year
- Minimal changes
- Requesting delegated authority for DASS to sign off of final plan



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Further Information

Any queries and concerns contact BCF Lead Ashley Scarff,
ashley.scarff@nhs.net

Links to key documents:

Policy Framework:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/794552/better-care-fund-policy-framework-2019-to-2020.pdf

Planning Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/better-care-fund-planning-requirements-for-2019-to-2020>

Minimum allocations <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/minimum-allocations-for-the-better-care-fund-from-ccgs-for-2019-20/>



