

# North Somerset Council

## Report to the Adult Services and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Panel

**Date of Meeting: 23rd February 2023**

**Subject of Report: Adult Social Care Discharge Fund**

**Town or Parish: All**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Gerald Hunt Principal Head of Commissioning, Partnerships and Housing Solutions**

**Key Decision: No**

**Reason:**

### **Recommendations**

To note the receipt and distribution of the Adult Social Care Discharge Grant

#### **1. Summary of Report**

The report summarises the urgent actions taken to distribute and execute measures to support Hospital discharge arrangements this Winter.

#### **2. Policy**

[Click here to enter Policy]

#### **3. Details**

The national challenges facing the performance of the health and social system was addressed by government in its announcement in November of a new Adult Social Care Discharge grant. This fund was aimed at addressing as much as practically policy barriers to hospital discharge directly from Acutes or indirectly by additional delays on exiting the Discharge to Assess pathways operated by Sirona as our local health community provider. In total £3.2 million was allocated to BNSSG local authorities based on the Adult Social Care Relative Needs Formula. North Somerset Council receiving £769k. Additionally BNSSG ICB received £8.3M allocated to ICBs using NHS England's methodology based on a combination of i) a fair-shares distribution based on 2022 to 2023 ICB weighted populations and ii) a discharge metric flexed to reflect the size of the ICB weighted population (75% of ICB funding). For the 75% of ICB funding based on discharge data, the allocation shares are calculated as the ICB weighted population share weighted by the proportion of occupied beds with patients remaining in hospital who no longer meet the

criteria to reside relative to the England proportion. The North Somerset area share of this resource is £2.1m.

This combined fund will be pooled into the Better Care Fund (BCF). The funding will be provided in two 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 weekly activity data and have met the other conditions.

Whilst the Adult Discharge Grant will form part of the ongoing funding discussions for 2023/24 and beyond, the purpose of the grant is to have an immediate impact on discharge performance, as BNSSG has received sizable funding, in part because of its current performance difficulties. The grant is therefore short term in nature and will need to be expedited with a focus on immediate impact, which negates at this stage the opportunity to plan the funding or focus on longer term performance.

As indicated above the funds will be subject to extensive monitoring and government scrutiny. Plans were submitted for vetting rapidly before Christmas – North Somerset/BNSSG plans have been approved and the plans are subject to extensive financial and activity monitoring, with detailed returns required on a weekly basis.

Whilst the proportion of funding is split, in practise a majority of the project activity is led via NSC commissioned resources which has put additional pressure given the already heightened level of system wide activity. Monitoring is focused on shifting the dial on the following outcomes:

- The number of care packages purchased for care homes, domiciliary care and intermediate care (to be collected via a new template);
- The number of people discharged to their usual place of residence (existing BCF metric);
- The absolute number of people ‘not meeting criteria to reside’ (and who have not been discharged);
- The number of ‘Bed days lost’ to delayed discharge by trust (from the weekly acute sitrep); and
- The proportion (%) of the bed base occupied by patients who do not meet the criteria to reside, by trust.
- BNSSG will also submit number of NCTR in the community

Appendix One outlines the projects submitted for approval in December, which were signed off via delegated authority by Cllr Bell, as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, which together with the ICB Board is the

accountable body for this and all BCF delivery. Inevitably given the speed of delivery and short timescale, resources will be subject to regular review to ensure resources are used effectively and is subject to weekly governance meetings with the ICB to ensure progress to revise individual schemes.

#### **4. Consultation**

Despite the short timescales the determination of the grant was subject to extensive consultation with both Local Delivery Partnerships and Care Providers, as well as internal leadership. Wherever possible initiatives were aimed at addressing known causes of blockages for Acutes.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

As indicated earlier the £2.8 m of resources will be incorporated into the BCF with two elements, one received direct to the LA and the second element as part of a Section 75 agreement into the BCF pool.

##### **Costs**

N/A

##### **Funding**

See Appendix One for detailed projects.

#### **6. Legal Powers and Implications**

N/A

#### **7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

Funding of additional TEC will support the reduction in care journeys.

#### **8. Risk Management**

The risk management issues are the short-term nature of the funding, and the impact on long term loss of independence from the unavailability of care packages and the impact on clinical outcomes of deterioration in Acute and Ambulance response times from accumulative hospital delays in discharge.

#### **9. Equality Implications**

[Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? Yes/No

The funding initiatives are designed to have positive equality impacts particularly in relation to older people who are disproportionately impacted by hospital discharge delays and access to care packages. Improved

#### **10. Corporate Implications**

[Click here to enter Corporate Implications]

#### **11. Options Considered**

[Click here to enter Options Considered]

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**Appendices:**

Appendix One ASC Discharge Fund North Somerset

**Background Papers:**

None