

By: Dr Robert Stewart, Chair Integration Pioneer Steering Group
To: Kent Health and Wellbeing Board, 26 March 2014
Subject: **The Better Care Fund**
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This paper presents the final submission of the Kent Better Care Fund Plan and outlines the steps taken following the assurance process.

Recommendations:

The Kent Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

1. **Agree** the BCF plan and **endorse** submission to NHS England.
2. **Endorse** the clear commitment to closer integration across health and social care to a programme of clear integration and radical transformation evident within the Better Care Fund Plan based upon:
 - A 15% reduction of hospital admissions by 2016
 - Availability of services on an extended hours basis
 - Integrated commissioning of health and social care
 - Continued development of enablement services, telecare/telehealth, self care and prevention
3. **Note** the progress made to meet the areas of development in achieving the final submission.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Better Care Fund was announced in June as part of the 2013 Spending Round. Its aim is to act as the enabler to take the integration agenda forward at scale and pace. The development of a Better Care Fund plan is also an integral part of developing the CCG 5 year strategic plans – although must be able to be seen as a stand-alone plan.

1.2 The draft submission was presented to the HWB on 12 February prior to first submission, an assurance process has taken place and the final plans will be submitted on 4 April 2014.

1.3 The Local Government Association identified at the South East Area Health and Social Care Integration workshop on the Better Care Fund the expectation that by September all areas will be expected to provide clarity on ability deliver and the finance and metrics associated with plans.

2. Outcomes of Assurance

2.1 On 6 March a joint letter was provided to CCGs and Social Care outlining the outcomes of the initial assurance. The scope of the Kent plan and the strategic aspirations were noted as 'encouraging'. Further assurance was sought across a

number of areas, the table below summarises these and identifies the steps taken to ensure these have been addressed in the final plan.

Key Development Areas	Update
Reflects joint responsibility of health and social care in design of metrics and delivery of outcomes of plan.	Agreement and discussion on the metrics via the Integration Pioneer Working Group, plans updated to reflect outcomes.
Confirmation of Section 256 schemes, outcome measures and health and social care deliverables.	Clearer outcomes and deliverables have been identified and linked to individual schemes.
Present an east, west and north economy overview.	Summary provided within Template Part 1 based on care economies.
Confirmation or planned timetable for agreement on metrics and outcome benefits for health and social care.	Majority of metrics identified and included within plans. Missing information to be provided by 4 April submission. Still some further work based on boundary changes required. Agreement this will be in place by Sept 2014.
Confirmation or planned timetable for formal governance arrangements.	Governance arrangements identified within plans, further work may be required up to Sept 2014 on ensuring whole system governance across all care economies.
Confirmation or planned timetable for assurance mechanisms.	Assurance mechanisms identified within plans – some further work may be required up to Sept 2014, utilising revised governance arrangements.
Confirmation or planned timetable for safeguards of non-delivery.	Safeguards identified within plans.

3. Timetable

3.1 Following assurance by the Health and Wellbeing Board the plans will be submitted to NHS England on 4 April alongside CCG Commissioning plans.

3.2 Further work will then take place within each care economy to develop detailed implementation plans.

4. Conclusion

4.1 It was agreed the first draft submission set out the required level of ambition for how Kent will use the Better Care Fund. Work has taken place to address the areas requiring further development and the final plan further identifies how ongoing work be delivered.

5. Recommendation

The Kent Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

5.1 **Agree** the BCF plan and **endorse** submission to NHS England.

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5.3 **Note** the progress made to meet the areas of development in achieving the final submission.

6. Contact details

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