

Bristol City Council - Finance Exception Report – 3 March 2022

1. High Level Summary Financial Position

1.1 This report is to make Cabinet aware of any material finance changes that have happened since the detailed Period 9 Finance report was presented and provides a mechanism for any finance approvals that are required. This report includes an update on the Section 256 funding from NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (BNSSG CCG) and the receipt of additional funding for incorporation into the Council's 2021/22 budget.

2 Amendment to Integrated Care Activities Section 256 Agreement

2.1 In March 2021 the Council entered into an agreement with Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) CCG for transfer of £10.199m funding to the Council to support the implementation of the BNSSG Healthier Together Single System Plan. Further details were set out in the report to Cabinet 13th April 2021.

2.2 BNSSG and Bristol City Council now wish to amend the terms of the agreement. The amendments are intended to:

- Better reflect the purpose of the grant following extensive partnership working and development of specific programmes and projects under the conditions of the grant
- Reflect the latest auditor's opinion on the accounting treatment of the grant by removal of the financial repayment clause and other associated clauses such that the grant can be judged unconditional under accounting standards, thus allowing the CCG to account for expenditure in the financial year of the agreement, and for the local authority to recognise revenue in the year of the agreement which in turn will allow the local authority to create earmarked reserves for Integrated Care activities in the future where funding is carried forward from one year to the next.
- Increase the value of the grant by £2.244m to reflect increased operational pressures arising related to hospital discharge delays, of which £1.479m is intended to support transition to new Discharge to Assess capacity and £0.765m to support the creation of additional core Adult Social Care capacity to reduce hospital delays. This could be spent on increasing productivity of existing services through better use of technology and improving the recruitment and retention of workforce. Table 1 below sets out the funding allocation for Bristol City Council and that of its neighbouring authorities.

Table 1 Additional S256 Funding

£3.9m Adult Social Care Discharge funding

	Bristol	North Somerset	South Glos	Grand Total
Population over 70	48,341	39,950	39,117	127,408
% of Pop over 70	8.8%	17.7%	14.1%	12.1%
Allocation of £3.9m	1,479,734	1,222,882	1,197,384	3,900,000
	38%	31%	31%	100%

£1.5m Additional CCG Discharge to Assess Funding

	Bristol	North Somerset	South Glos	Grand Total
BCF Needs Index as per initial S256	51.0%	24.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	765,000	360,000	375,000	1,500,000
TOTAL uplift	2,244,734	1,582,882	1,572,384	5,400,000

3 New Non-Recurrent S256 Funding Bids

3.1 During January 2022 Bristol City Council was invited to bid for additional funding from BNSSG CCG on potential joint opportunities to deliver positive health benefits for the People of Bristol. Bids were made for c£6m and are currently going through a scrutiny and approval process at the CCG, for which a decision is awaited from the Healthier Together Executive. The bids submitted are as follows:

- Health and Wellbeing Innovation and Transformation Fund
- Student and Young People Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
- Bristol Early Language Recovery Programme (BEL)
- Investing in IT Systems to improve patient outcomes, information sharing, and referral pathways for people accessing substance use (including tobacco) treatment services
- Embedding Trauma Informed Practice
- Bristol Voluntary and Community Sector
- Bristol Health and Social Care Career Pathway Programme
- Learning Difficulties and Autism

4 New Models of Care (Learning Disabilities / Autism Bespoke Placements)

4.1 Bristol City Council is currently in discussions with BNSSG CCG regarding support for people with a learning disability and/or autism to help them move out of inpatient placements and back into their communities, ensuring that they have access to a range of options and life choices. To enable this a new model of support is being developed to provide people with bespoke, personalised placements (as opposed to placing individuals in pre-existing provision). This approach has been demonstrated to be effective in other parts of the country.

4.2 The availability of funding is currently being discussed with BNSSG CCG (amount still to be confirmed) with a likelihood that it will be used to undertake the following:

- Pump prime and commission specialist accommodation and packages of care to enable BNSSG to support people with a learning disability and/or autism (within the 'Assuring Transformation' cohort) to move out of inpatient placements and back into their communities.
- Commission accommodation and support which enables people with highly complex needs to remain safe in their local communities and closer to their networks of support.
- Enable these individuals to live as independently as possible, with the right support wrapped around them.
- Reduce the reliance on Out of Area (OOA) placements to support individuals in the Assuring Transformation population.
- Support the provision of an appropriate caring environment to include accommodation, adaptation costs and sourcing the appropriate care environment.
- Fund the start-up and transitional costs of moving individuals into the appropriate caring environment and allowing in-reach visits.
- Pump prime the placement to reduce the need for a high staffing ratio in the medium to long term.