



Title of Paper:	Adult Social Care Discharge Grant
Author (including organisation):	Stephen Beet, Bristol City Council
Date of Board meeting:	Thursday, 12 January 2023
Purpose:	Information

## 1. Executive Summary

Nationally there are challenges in ensuring timely discharge from Acute and Community Health settings. To address this, an additional funding allocation has been made available to all health and social care systems in England.

## 2. Purpose of the Paper

To note the urgent key decision taken to approve the spending plan emergency decision taken on the spending plan for the £1.69m allocated to Bristol City Council by the Department of Health and Social Care ('DHSC') for the financial year 22/23 to alleviate delays to discharging people from hospital when they are fit to leave.

## 3. Background, evidence base, and what needs to happen

- The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund was released to Local Authorities and Integrated Care Boards ('ICBs') on the 18th November 2022. The funding allocations must be an extension to the Better Care Fund for 2022/23 and be pooled in the existing section 75 agreement with health.
- The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred, or to be incurred by them, up to 31 March 2023. The Department of Health and Social Care is providing this funding to support local authorities to:
  - enable more people to be discharged to an appropriate setting, including from mental health inpatient settings, with adequate and timely social care support as required
  - prioritise those approaches that are most effective in freeing up the maximum number of hospital beds and reducing bed days lost within the funding available. D2A and provision of homecare is recognised as an effective option for discharging more people in a safe and timely manner. Residential care to meet complex health and care needs may be more appropriate for people who have been waiting to be discharged for a long time
  - boost general adult social care workforce capacity through recruitment and retention, where that will help to reduce delayed discharges. This could include, but is not limited to, measures which: increase hours worked by existing workforce; improve retention of existing workforce; provide additional or redeployed capacity from current care workers; or support local recruitment initiatives
- The funds have to be committed and used by March 2023 and are to target improvements in 'Discharge to Assess' over the winter period.
- The funding released to Bristol City Council makes up just part of the £11m grant allocated across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire to the ICB (circa £8m) and the other two local authorities (circa £1.6m between North Somerset and South Gloucestershire).
- Cabinet authorised the Council's S.151 Officer to accept the Adult Social Care Discharge Fund of £1.69m on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 via the Finance Exception

Report for P7. The report stated 'Approval of an emergency decision regarding the spending plan which is due by 16 December 2022 will come to Cabinet in January 2023.

6. The detail of the spending plan is attached to this report at Appendix A.

#### **4. Community/stakeholder engagement**

Due to time constraints, it was not possible to fully engage the wider community.

However:

- Report to the BNSSG ICB Chief Executive Meeting on 15th December 2022
- The fortnightly monitoring of the activity plans will also be undertaken at the BNSSG ICB Chief Executive meetings
- The Spending plans will also be considered via the three Health and Wellbeing Boards
- The spending plans will be developed following engagement with the Care Sector, Commissioning Leads and signed off by the Directors of Adult Social Care and the Chief Operating Officers across BNSSG

#### **5. Recommendations**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board note the contents of this report.

#### **6. City Benefits**

The additional funding will support patients being discharged earlier and back to their own homes, wherever possible. This will not directly reduce health inequalities.

This funding will also support delivery of the Health and Wellbeing theme, through investing in services that will ensure people receive the most appropriate support to leave Hospital. It will support the ambition to offer the right level of support to people in a way that maximises their health, independence and wellbeing. There will be a focus on preventative measures and short-term, early interventions that have been co-created with people and the VCSE sector providing holistic, person-centred support as part of an integrated health and social care system. Should longer term care be required, we will explore innovative approaches to ensure that people regain and retain independence as much as possible.

#### **7. Financial and Legal Implications**

The Adult Social Care Discharge Funding is time limited funding which must be spent by 31 March 2023, to facilitate timely hospital discharges. Expenditure proposals are outlined at Appendix A and are in accordance with funding conditions. The funding will be pooled as part of the Better Care Fund with BNSSG ICB and these plans were approved by the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

#### **8. Appendices**

- [Link](#) to key decision Officer Executive Decision (OED)
- [Adult Social Care Discharge Fund - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- [Letter to the health and social care sector from the Minister for Care - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- [Addendum to the 2022 to 2023 Better Care Fund policy framework and planning requirements - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)