

## Equality Impact Assessment: Conversation Screening Tool

<b>What is being reviewed?</b>	Better Care Fund 2021/22 allocation plan
<b>What changes are being made?</b>	<p>Little has changed from previous years' BCF allocation, but the plan has to be refreshed on an annual basis. With the Covid pandemic there has been a slightly different focus this year and whilst none of the previously established schemes have been decommissioned extra investment has actually been possible in a number of the established schemes. As such, the 2021-22 allocation of the Better Care Fund (BCF) is in-line with previous years; our ambitions for health and social care delivery have not changed this was agreed at JCB in September 2021 in advance of the national guidance and subject to any guidance changes. Working collaboratively BCP Council and Dorset CCG alongside input from the local NHS providers, the provider market and voluntary community sector have continued to invest BCF into the following schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining Independence</li> <li>• Early Supported Hospital Discharge</li> <li>• Integrated Health and Social Care Locality Teams</li> <li>• Strong &amp; Sustainable Care Markets</li> <li>• Carers</li> <li>• Moving on from Hospital Living</li> </ul>
<b>Service Unit:</b>	Adult Social Care Commissioning
<b>Participants in the conversation:</b>	Representatives from across BCP ASC, the CCG and the Dorset Joint Commissioning Board (JCB) were involved in creating the plan along with consultation with Trusts, providers and voluntary organisations on specific and relevant elements of the plan. Elizabeth Saunders (Interim Director of Commissioning) and Pete Courage (Head of Transformation and Integration) have put together the EIA.
<b>Conversation date/s:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021
<b>Do you know your current or potential client base? Who are the key stakeholders?</b>	<p>Yes</p> <p>3694 clients received long term support in 2019/20, the majority (2194) were women and 3349 were white British. 1276 individuals completed a period of short-term support to maximise independence and 1227 of those were over 65. At year end there were 1149 individuals registered as blind or severely sight impaired. In the same year support was provided to 3113 carers across BCP. Of the 763 new carers in this year 363 of them were between the ages of 65 and 84.</p> <p>We continue to see an expansion in membership of the carer's information service, which currently stands at 5731 carers, and an increasing number of contacts to the carers centre. Local measures identified that over 2400 carers had</p>

	<p>accessed services, information, and advice up to September 2021, which is an increase of over 100 carers since August 2021</p> <p>2020-2021 saw fewer people (847) receiving more complex equipment packages. This points to service users with complex needs being discharged into the community with equipment levels emulating what is available in a hospital environment</p> <p>As well as our clients, key stakeholders include all system partners from both Health and Social Care</p>
<b>Do different groups have different needs or experiences?</b>	<p>Yes. The Adult Social Care Care Act assessment is the mechanism by which these needs are understood and care planned as a result in order to allow individuals to achieve their desired outcomes. Generally, maintaining independence for as long as possible and staying in one's own home are usually priorities.</p> <p>The services which will benefit from the BCF are generally those which support timely hospital discharge, maintaining independence and carers. Generally, therefore, the elderly and those with disabilities are most likely to use these services and have the most acute needs. All these services are accessible to all the protected characteristic groups.</p>
<b>Will this change affect any service users?</b>	Yes, by ensuring the allocation of several national Government grants; Infection Prevention Control, Workforce, Rapid Testing and Contained Outbreak Management Fund, as well as BCF funds toward key programmes designed to support the market, improve the resilience of services and ensure the smooth flow of individuals out of hospital this should have a positive benefit to all clients who come through the Health and Care system.
<b>What are the benefits or positive impacts of the change on current or potential users?</b>	Improved outcomes for those discharged from hospital, improved choice or care provision, swifter allocation of care and getting people home from hospital as quickly as possible when they are able where their independence will be maintained.
<b>What are the negative impacts of the change on current or potential users?</b>	There are no negative impacts as this money and the associated programmes it will fund are intended to have a positive impact on current services introducing improvements or increased capacity for the system
<b>Will the change affect employees?</b>	BCP employees have been involved in the allocation, monitoring and maintenance of the fund but this will have no continued impact on them.
<b>Will the change affect the wider community?</b>	It is hoped the BCF monies will improve the experience of individual patients and clients and therefore they may have a positive impact on their families and communities. As additional services are not being introduced and fundamental changes are not being made to how Hospital Discharge or the wider system operates there should be little chance of any negative impact.
<b>What mitigating actions are planned or already in place for those negatively affected by this change?</b>	Whilst the short term work will be monitored by the various teams involved (BCP locality teams for example) there is longer term work being undertaken by the system with strategic partners Impower who will be working to develop a long term strategy and model of care which considers areas where development may be

	needed, including data and intelligence, intermediate care and the various pathways through the system
<b>Summary of Equality Implications:</b>	As the services which the BCF fund will support are in the Adult Social Care arena, they do positively impact those with a disability. As discussed above, within this group the majority are elderly women. These services are designed to help support individuals to maintain independence once discharged from hospital. There are no negative impacts as these monies will either support or enhance current services.