



Improving lives **together**

Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System

Better Care Fund

- 2022/23 Better Care Fund End of Year Return
- Better Care Fund planning approach for 2023-25

Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board

21 June 2023

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The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a nationally mandated programme, launched in 2013 with the aim of joining up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently.

The BCF is made up of a number of elements:

- The 'Core BCF' brings Local Authorities and NHS partners together to agree integrated priorities, pool funding and jointly agree spending plans. A nationally-determined minimum contribution is made each year. This contribution is not 'new' money, being drawn from core funds, which includes requirements to deliver:
 - reablement services
 - support of unpaid carers as defined in the Care Act 2014, including carers' breaks
 - out of hospital services.
- Local Authorities also receive a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), to help towards the costs of making changes to a person's home so they continue to live there, led by District, Borough and City Councils in Norfolk; and an integrated BCF (i-BCF) Grant for meeting adult social care needs, ensuring that the social care provider market is supported, and reducing pressures on the NHS.
- In November 2022, ICB's and Local Authorities also received a new Adult Social Care Discharge Fund (ASDF) which is also considered to be part of the BCF.
- We work together to agree:
 - the allocations between the ICB and the LA of the minimum NHS contribution, and
 - an annual, joint BCF plan.
- The BCF joint plan and the funding allocations are signed off and governed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The allocations are governed in a Section 75 Agreement.

2022/23 BCF

- The BCF is a priority for our Health and Wellbeing Board and a key element of joint working, focusing on some of the most important integration priorities in our ICS. Partners utilise the BCF to fund and develop critical services that support the health and wellbeing of our population, including care from the provider market, key health and care operational teams, and community-based support .

BCF 2022-23	Mandated NHS minimum contribution to the BCF by NWICB (£m)	Agreed Adult Social Care allocation (£m)	Agreed NWICB allocation (£m)
'Core' BCF	73.032	36.048 (NCC)	36.984

Pooled funding for integrated priorities and joining up health and care services.

iBCF	£ 39.619 m
Disabled Facilities Grant	£ 9.324 m
ASC Discharge Fund - NCC	£ 3.482 m
ASC Discharge Fund – ICB (to fund Norfolk and Waveney)	£ 6.189 m

Meeting adult social care needs, ensuring that the social care provider market is supported, and reducing pressures on the NHS.

Help towards the costs of making changes to a person's home.

Develop services which support discharge.

Elements of the BCF in our system:

Norfolk
B. BCF schemes funded via NWICB's allocation of the Norfolk BCF minimum contribution

Norfolk
C. BCF schemes co-funded by NWICB and NCC sharing their allocation of the Norfolk BCF NHS minimum contribution

Norfolk
D. BCF schemes funded via NCC's allocation of the Norfolk BCF minimum contribution

Waveney
A. BCF schemes funded via NWICB's allocation of the Suffolk BCF minimum contribution

Norfolk
E. Adult Social Care Discharge schemes funded via NWICB's allocation of the ASDF

Norfolk
F. Adult Social Care Discharge Fund schemes funded via NCC's allocation of the ASDF

Norfolk
G. DFG schemes funded via nationally determined DFG fund

Norfolk
H. i-BCF schemes funded via NCC's nationally determined iBCF fund

Waveney
(for reference)

Norfolk

Priorities

- A key priority of the Health and Wellbeing Board was to lead a review of Norfolk's BCF to shape the future BCF to further deliver local priorities, strengthen joint commissioning and service design, and focus strategy and funding on some of the most important emerging priorities for integration.
- As a result of this work, a set of priorities for the BCF was developed and agreed, which guide our local development of the BCF. These are:

Inequalities and
support for wider
factors of wellbeing

Prevention

Sustainable system
(including admissions
avoidance)

Person centred care
and discharge

Housing and Disabled
Facilities Grant

BCF Principles

A set of principles were also established to help direct the impact of the BCF towards system priorities and integration. They included:

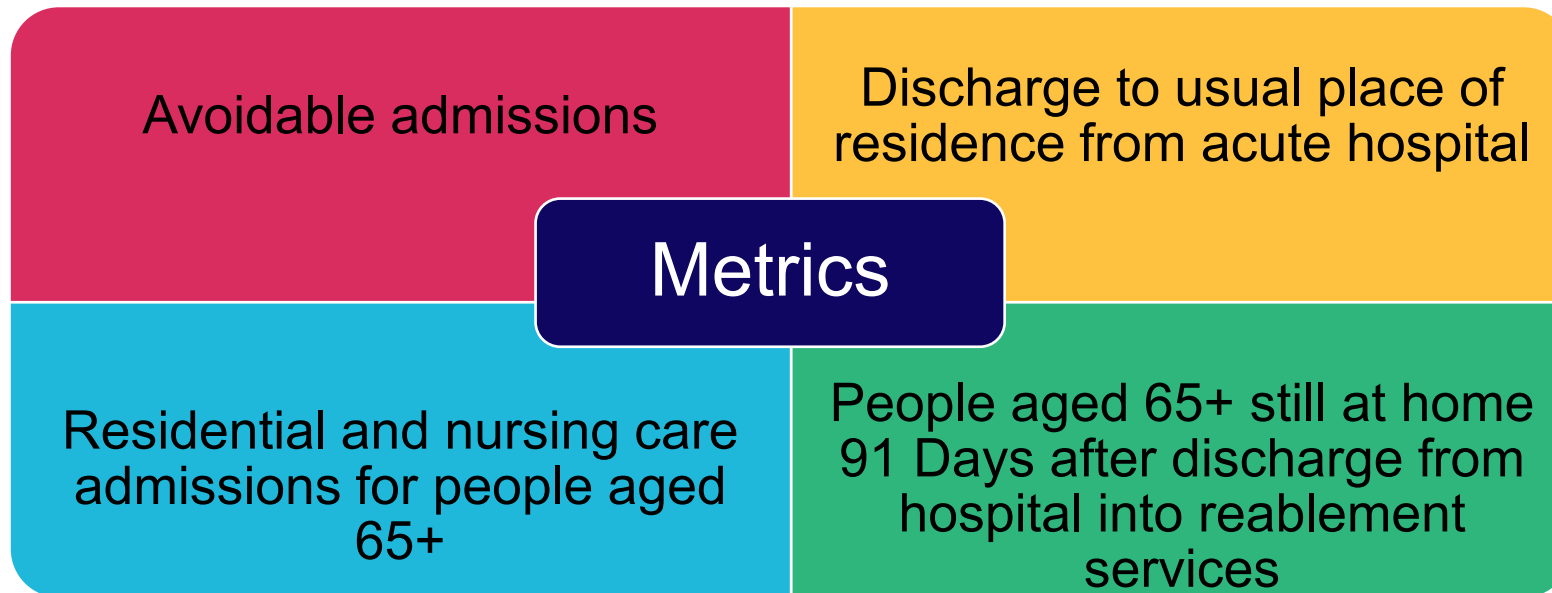
- Integrated governance, made up of senior staff, to
 - support the BCF review.
 - provide strategic leadership of the BCF under the HWB.
 - develop processes to strengthen joint commissioning at System and Place within the opportunities provided by the BCF.
- Using the BCF to fund programmes which would benefit from joint funding and would have joint impact across health and social, or benefit from joint oversight.
- Funding 'whole services', to more closely monitor their impact on the system.

The ambition was to develop a more cohesive BCF programme which:

- Reflected Norfolk's integration priorities.
- Improved our understanding of the impact that the BCF has in Norfolk.
- Acts as a key delivery arm of System and Place priorities for integrated health and care working.
- Supports the aims of the local health and social care system.

2022/23: Metrics

For 2022/23, we were required to report to NHS England against four national metrics for the Better Care Fund. These were:



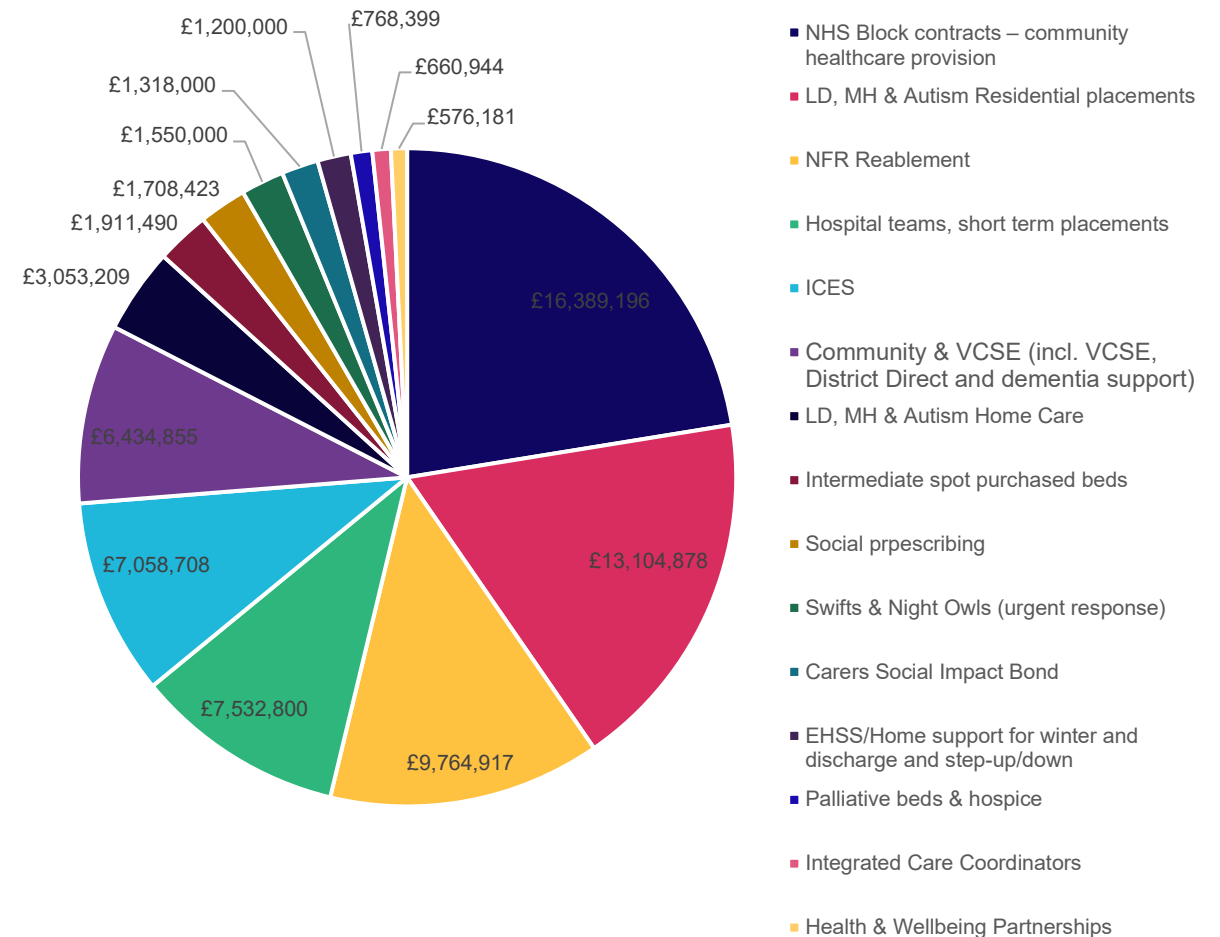
Norfolk delivered against target on all four metrics - including 86.5% of older people still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation, and supporting that a 90% reduction in packages of home care that cannot be fully sourced since January 2022 – bringing it to one of its lowest levels in four years. This performance is an example of delivery supported by the BCF, which funds a range of core services delivering intermediate care and flow in to long term support, including reablement, rehabilitation, district direct, and VCSE support in the community.

2022/23: Core BCF

In 2022/23, the 'Core BCF' funded a range of service provision delivering some of the most important integration priorities in our ICS, including services that deliver community healthcare provision, reablement support, integrated equipment services and community-based support from District Direct and VCSE.

The BCF does not always deliver the entire cost of these schemes – for example, the majority of community healthcare block contracts within the Norfolk and Waveney system does not come from the BCF.

Priority	£ (22/23)	%
NHS community healthcare provision	£16,389,196	22.44
LD, MH & Autism Residential placements	£13,104,878	17.94
Reablement (Norfolk First Response)	£9,764,917	13.37
Hospital and follow-up teams, short term placements	£7,532,800	10.31
Integrated Equipment Service (ICES)	£7,058,708	9.66
Community & VCSE (incl. VCSE, District Direct and community dementia support)	£6,434,855	8.81
LD&A, MH Home Support	£3,053,209	4.18
Intermediate care beds	£1,911,490	2.68
Social prprescribing	£1,708,423	2.33
Swifts & Night Owls (urgent response)	£1,550,000	2.12
Carers Social Impact Bond	£1,318,000	1.80
Home support for winter and discharge	£1,200,000	1.64
Palliative care beds & hospice	£768,399	1.05
Integrated Care Coordinators	£660,944	0.90
Health & Wellbeing Partnerships	£576,181	0.78
Total:	£73,032,000	



- As part of our ICS structure we have introduced seven Health and Wellbeing Partnerships in Norfolk which are established as multi-agency groups well positioned to understand and improve the health and wellbeing needs of their local areas. Alongside this, we also have introduced five new Place Boards, with bring together partners integrate services with a focus on effective operational delivery and improving people's care.
- An annual inflationary uplift for the Core BCF is issued by the national BCF team (currently set at 5.66 %). This uplift must be ring-fenced and spent on BCF-related initiatives, and primarily funds annual uplifts to services funded by the BCF.
- In August 2022, we chose to use the allocation of the BCF inflationary uplift available (after individual service uplifts) to the Health and Wellbeing Partnerships within Norfolk to self-determine new BCF schemes that would suit the needs of the local population. Alongside the new Adult Social Care Discharge Fund, this was the key area of discretionary spending in 2022/23, and resulted in a wide range of local programmes emerging, including:
 - A pilot offering social prescribing in secondary care outpatient services.
 - An expansion of handy person and adaptation services focussed orthopaedic waiting lists to include those with rheumatology to prevent falls.
 - A fund for agencies to innovate hardship support services.
 - An expansion of an Age UK Community Support service to enable more people to benefit.
 - A new falls prevention initiative.
- In Q3 of 2023/24, Health and Wellbeing partnerships in partnership with BCF team will be evaluating the success, impact and outcomes of these schemes

Adult Social Care Discharge Fund

In November 2022, an additional Discharge Fund (ASC Discharge Fund) was announced as part of the Better Care Fund. Norfolk has a fund of £9.67m, split between NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Norfolk County Council, for ratification by the Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board.

The ASC Discharge Fund is recurrent funding, over 2023/24 and 2024/25. The recurrency of this funding has helped us build a programme where the services being funded support a model of intermediate care and HomeFirst approach that supports our local ambitions, and has been instrumental in delivering additional capacity to support people home following crisis, including:

- Housing with Care Flats – Deployment of 21 flats since November 2022, within Housing with Care, as step down to support acute and community hospital discharge and flow out of intermediate care (Norfolk County Council; Broadland Housing & Saffron; Norse Care; County Kitchen Foods, Norfolk & Waveney ICB).
- Home Support Enhanced Discharge Incentive – 10 additional discharges per week via additional financial support to homecare providers to pick up new packages within 24 hours, covering increased complexity and discharge requirements (Norfolk County Council, Home Support providers).
- Home Support Rate Increase – Increase of £1.08 to the hourly rate to increase workforce and enable providers to take on additional work that supports flow in to, and through, community care, supporting increased discharge activity (Norfolk County Council).
- Carers Hardship Support – Additional Information and advice support for unpaid and family carers at point of discharge (acute and community) – focused on winter hardship support (Citizens Advice Bureau and Carers Matters Norfolk).
- Bed based intermediate care capacity – 158 intermediate care beds commissioned across Norfolk and Waveney to support patients leaving hospital with associated ‘wrap around’ workforce support from primary care, therapy and social work.

The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund is constituted of four specific National. Requirements for its use:

- Discharge of patients from hospital to the most appropriate location for their ongoing care;
- Discharge to Assess (D2A) and provision of homecare;
- Boost general adult social care workforce capacity through staff recruitment and retention;
- Complex care needs – a concerted focus on supporting discharge of these patients may be important to free up hospital capacity.

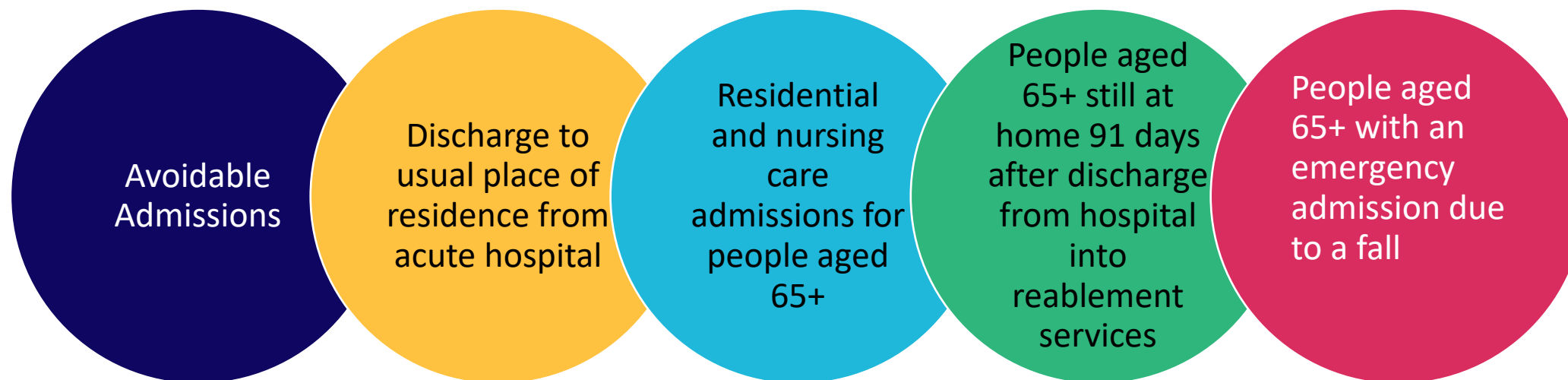
Next Steps: BCF in in 2023/24 – 2024/25

For 2023-25 we are asked to submit Norfolk's BCF Plan, with guidance released in April 2023. Split across narrative, financial and metrics plans, a submission is being developed sign off at the September Health and Wellbeing Board.

The national vision for the BCF in 2023-25 is supported by two core objectives:

- Enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
- Provide the right care in the right place at the right time

There is now an additional metric that has been introduced focussing on falls. The metric looks at emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65+ directly age standardised per 100,000. This means the five metrics we will need focus on within the BCF are:



Next Steps: BCF in in 2023/24 – 2024/25

Whilst developing the plan we need to ensure that we both meet national planning requirements, and also drive forward Norfolk's ambitions for the BCF. It is recommend that this includes:

- A single BCF plan that combines system and Place ambitions and brings together teams and leaders who are delivering services and change that drive the BCF priorities.
- Development of Norfolk's BCF approach, including: metrics of success/outcomes for all BCF funded services, not just the five overarching national metrics; and a county-wide 'demand and capacity plan' for discharge and community support
- Increasingly align the BCF with new ICS Places, supporting local joint health and care working. This includes collaborative proposals from Health and Wellbeing Partnerships with funding through the annual BCF uplift to support localised delivery of the BCF.
- The Health and Wellbeing Board previously agreed a set of priorities locally for the BCF that align strongly with the new national guidance and are guiding our local development of the BCF:

Inequalities and
support for
wider factors of
wellbeing

Prevention

Sustainable
system
(including
admissions
avoidance)

Person centred
care and
discharge

Housing and
Disabled
Facilities Grant

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- 1. Receive and agree the 2022/23 Better Care Fund End of Year Return**
- 2. Support the progress of the Better Care Fund (BCF) planning approach, including the local priorities and alignment with Place.**
- 3. Sign off the Norfolk BCF 2023-25 Plan at the September Health and Wellbeing Board, for full and final submission.**