



## HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 23RD JUNE 2015

**SUBJECT: INTERMEDIATE CARE FUND**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide members with information on the Welsh Government decision to continue with the intermediate care fund regionally albeit with a reduction in the level of funding.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The report will provide information on those schemes that the partnership has agreed to continue to fund via the ICF to a level of 3.1M.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The Welsh Government introduced the ICF initially as a grant for 2014/15, funding was allocated regionally with the purpose of integrating services with a significant focus on preventing admission to and facilitating timely discharge from hospitals.
- 3.2 The Welsh Government announced the continuation of the ICF albeit at reduced levels, transferring the funding to Health boards to administer under ring fenced arrangements with effect from April 2015.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 In 2014/15 Welsh Government awarded a total of £8.1m of ICF grant funding to the Greater Gwent Region which included £5.4m revenue funding and £2.7m capital funding. Welsh Government have now confirmed a reduction in revenue funding for 2015/16 of £2.3m and that no further capital funding will be available. In response to this reduction in funding the Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership has reviewed the funding that will be awarded to individual schemes for 2015/16.
- 4.2 The Greater Gwent Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership (the Partnership) consists of the following:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board  
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council  
Caerphilly County Borough Council  
Monmouthshire County Council  
Newport City Council  
Torfaen County Borough Council

4.3 Theme 1 of the fund covers step up/step down services. It has been agreed to continue with this area of service. This is primarily used for assessment beds in a variety of locations across the region, including Local Authority Residential Homes, Independent Sector Nursing Homes, Extra Care Establishments and the Integrated Resource Centre. Feedback from these schemes has been very positive in terms of outcomes for people and prevention of admission to/facilitating timely discharge from hospital.

#### 4.4 Theme 2, Community Support

It has been agreed to retain the Neuro Community services model at a reduced funding level to enable further integration to be considered with the Community Resource Teams (Frailty) to ensure people receive the right service at the right time, this scheme primarily provided input for people who had experienced a stroke.

Community Connector roles have been maintained for both people and their carers and have been linked to the Neighbourhood Care Network (NCN) footprints. These posts are essential in enabling partners to prepare for the implementation of the Act by providing citizens with Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA) to promote independence and enable people to meet their own needs.

Hospital transport provided by the third sector will remain to enable people to be discharged home appropriately, which in turn will increase capacity within the ambulance service. Third sector support for hospital discharge will be retained in Torfaen only this will mean that the commissioned service is equitable across the region.

#### 4.5 Theme 3 Dementia Care

The Rapid Intervention Liaison Scheme initially piloted in the Royal Gwent Hospital will remain and be expanded to other hospital sites to ensure appropriate support for individuals, their carers and staff in terms of addressing the needs of people with dementia whilst they are in hospital. The third sector funding for enhanced dementia care providing support to people and their carers will be funded at a reduced level enabling them to continue with core services. The Raglan Project which is operated within the Monmouthshire locality has also been approved for continuation.

#### 4.6 Theme 4 seven day working

Continued funding for essential posts in the CRT's has been agreed which is essential for planning hospital discharge. For Caerphilly, this means continued funding for a programme arranger and reablement support workers.

#### 4.7 Theme 5 Complex Care Team

Funding for the "Strength Based Assessment" scheme within Monmouthshire has been agreed for 2015/16 at a reduced level.

4.8 The funding for 14/15 was provided on the assurance that the scheme developed would be independently evaluated. Caerphilly procurement team lead the tender process and subsequently the contract has been awarded to Cordis Bright Consulting following a competitive tender. This evaluation was funded from the 2014/15 grant funding so there is no financial implication for 2015/16

4.9 The responsibility of administering the fund will transfer from Caerphilly to ABuHB for 15/16 and onwards.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The cost of evaluation of the projects is 32 K and was funded from ICF grant in 2014/15.

5.2 The funding awarded to individual schemes for 2015/16 is set out in appendix 1.

## **6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Any posts that relate to the ICF funded will be recruited to normal way using appropriate policies and procedures.

## **7. CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 All comments received have been included in this report.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 Members note the content of the report, which identifies areas of continued spend across the region.

## **9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 Report is for information only.

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Appendices:  
Appendix 1 ICF Funding 2015/2016