

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**ADULT CARE AND HEALTH CABINET PANEL
MONDAY 3 JULY 2017 at 2.00pm**

Agenda Item No.

6

JOINED UP CARE: ALIGNING ADULT SOCIAL CARE WITH HEALTH

Report of the Director of Adult Care Services

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Executive Member/s:- Colette Wyatt-Lowe,

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To outline to Panel the Council's medium term priorities for joined up care for adults with the NHS, in order to guide partnerships with local health organisations and inform the next Hertfordshire Better Care Fund (BCF), which will cover the period 2017-19

2. Summary

- 2.1 Given both the changing local and national context, it is an appropriate time to review the priorities and benefits for joint working between the Council's and NHS services.

- 2.2 The top-level vision for integration, as outlined in the 2016-17 [Better Care Fund Plan](#), remains relevant:

"A system that delivers the right care and support at the right time and in the right place for individuals, their families and their carers"

- 2.3 Appendix 1 sets out a recommended set of priorities against a set of 'Integration Standards' developed by health and social care regulators. For each of these standards, the progress and achievements to date have been outlined, as well as the ambitions and targets for 2020. This provides a clear sense as to the practical changes expected across the system in the next three years.

- 2.4 The Council is working to build a culture of prevention. This culture underpins the work being undertaken to integrate health and social care. The intention is to improve the health of the population within available resources and work with the wider system, including partners in the NHS, to help Hertfordshire residents avoid preventable health and social problems. Prevention has also been prioritised as a key theme in the Hertfordshire and West Essex Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

3. Recommendation/s

- 3.1 Panel is asked to note and comment on the Report and recommend to Cabinet that it approves the Council's medium term priorities for joined up care with the NHS as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

4. Background

- 4.1 Closer joint working with health services has been a strategic priority for the Council for a number of years, predating recent national policy initiatives including the Better Care Fund and Sustainability and Transformation Plans. Over this time, the Council has fostered good relationships with health partners, and it has developed a national reputation as a leader on health and social care integration. This includes winning a Local Government Chronicle award for HomeFirst services, being recognised as a 'vanguard' area for work to support care homes, and winning the 2017 Health Service Journal award, which recognises excellence in care, for Workforce Efficiency for the Vanguard's Complex Care Premium scheme. It also includes the utilisation of 'pooled budgets' to jointly plan and commission services such as arrangements for the joint commissioning of mental health services.
- 4.2 The Health and Social Care environment has evolved since better integration was made a key theme of the Health & Social Care Act 2012 and the Better Care Fund (BCF) was first launched in 2013. The BCF, a single pooled budget of largely existing funding, has driven closer joint working between the Council and the NHS. In 2016-17, as in the previous year, the Council and the NHS pooled a wider range of service budgets than nationally required to maximise opportunities for joint working, commissioning and financial planning. This resulted in a BCF of £304m, one of the largest in the country, jointly pooled between the Council, Herts Valleys CCG (HVCCG), East & North Herts CCG (ENHCCG) and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CCG (CPCCG).
- 4.3 The Hertfordshire and West Essex Sustainability and Transformation Plan outlines the high-level ambitions for the local area. Integration and specifically closer and more collaborative working across health and social care is recognised within the plan as a key means of achieving improved outcomes and doing so within a more constrained financial environment.
- 4.4 The vision for joined up care supports the Council's ambition to support and maximise independence for older people and adults in Hertfordshire, as well as empowering individuals and working together with partners. Improved joint working between health and social care is also consistently fed back as a priority from service users and carers at engagement events and feedback on services. For service users and staff, integration should offer:
- A greater ability to target collective resources and understand the needs of service users so that appropriate support is provided to the right people

and to the best effect. This is enabled through better sharing information to improve operational and strategic decision making.

- Alignment of similar or complementary services. This reduces gaps in provision for the service user, minimises duplication and should allow an improved experience for staff and service users. This is enabled by bringing local teams and services together to enable better joint working.
- A clearer and more efficient allocation of financial resources, enhancing the ability to reduce expenditure and enhancing the value for money of spend. This is enabled through the further development of joint or integrated commissioning arrangements.
- The opportunity to lead on and enhance the system leadership role, ensuring that the views of service users, carers and residents and communities more widely shape the development of health and social care services in Hertfordshire.

4.5 As a mark of historically strong and mature relationships, since 2015, the Clinical Commissioning Groups and the County Council have reached an agreement to transfer funds additional to the BCF from NHS budgets to maintain investment in social care services in the face of reductions in Council budgets. This is in recognition of the level of interdependence between the adequate provision of social support to frail or vulnerable adults, and the pressures on health services. In March, the CCGs made a decision to end this financial support from April 2018 and make a reduced sum available from April 2017. It is important to note that, despite the reduced contributions to social care in 2017-18, any level of support of social care by local health commissioners beyond the Better Care Fund is very uncommon.

Table 1 - Additional CCG Contributions for the protection of social care

	2015-16 (£'000)	2016-17 (£'000)	2017-18 (£'000)
ENHCCG	5,000	8,500	4,500
HVCCG	5,000	8,500	4,500

4.6 The Council is required to submit a joint Better Care Fund Plan with the CCGs on approval of the Health & Wellbeing Board covering a two-year period from April 2017. This must include:

- Setting out Hertfordshire's vision for further integration of health and social care by 2020, which will use a similar version of the document at Appendix 1.
- Demonstrating compliance with four National Conditions (see Appendix 2).
- An outline of how the BCF will meet its performance metrics, including admissions to hospitals, care homes and delayed transfers of care from hospital.

- Clear accountability and governance arrangements between Local Authority and NHS partners.
- Involvement with partners including housing authorities representatives in developing the Plan reflecting growing recognition of the contribution of housing to integration
- Detail regarding how the County Council will improve support for carers
- Details as to how the BCF will be aligned with Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs), which are also encouraging greater coordination of local services to meet future financial pressures in the NHS.

4.7 The 2017-19 [Better Care Fund Policy Framework](#) was released on 31st March. Although an update on the Plan was taken to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) on 14th June, final drafting is awaiting the release of additional delayed guidance although no dates have yet been confirmed.

5. Equality Impact Assessment

5.1 When considering proposals placed before Members it is important that they are fully aware of, and have themselves rigorously considered the Equality implications of the decision that they are making.

5.2 Rigorous consideration will ensure that proper appreciation of any potential impact of that decision on the County Council's statutory obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty. As a minimum this requires decision makers to read and carefully consider the content of any Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) produced by officers.

5.3 The Equality Act 2010 requires the County Council when exercising its functions to have due regard to the need to (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act; (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. The protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation.

5.4 An EQIA is attached to the Report as Appendix 3.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 None

Background Documents

Appendix 1- Joined Up Care Priorities

Appendix 2- BCF National Conditions

Are included within this report

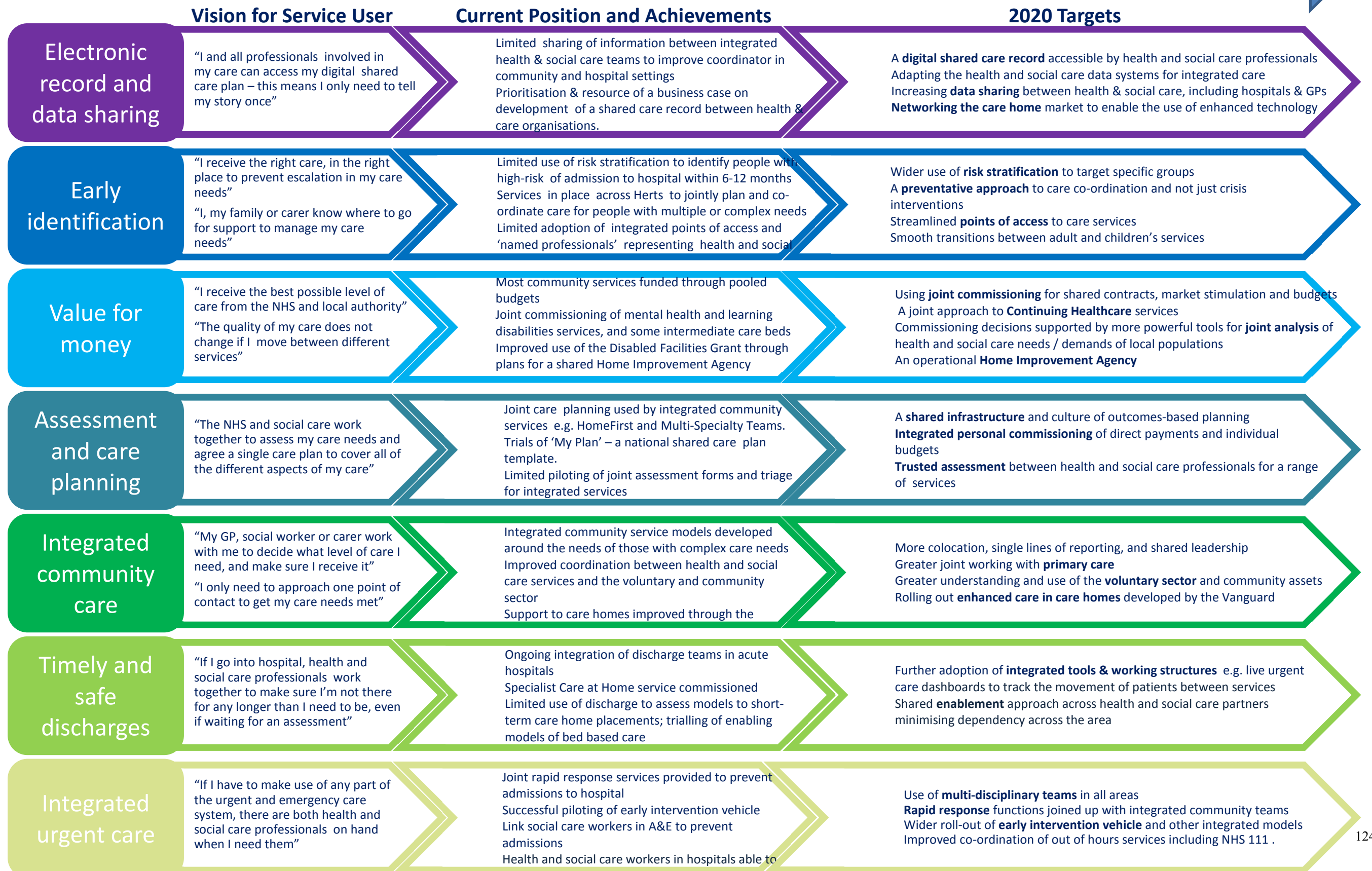
Appendix 3- Equalities Impact Assessment

Is attached as a separate document

Joined Up Care 2020 – vision and priorities

A system that delivers the right care and support at the right time and in the right place for individuals, their families and their carers

Developing a culture of prevention - to improve the health of the population and help our residents to avoid preventable health and social problems



Appendix 2 – BCF National Conditions

Condition 1: Plans to be jointly agreed, signed off by the HWB

Condition 2: NHS contribution to adult social care is maintained in line with inflation

Condition 3: Agreement to invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services, which may include 7 day services and adult social care – this includes agreeing how Hertfordshire will use its share of the £1,018bn in 2017-18 and £1,037bn in 2018-19 previously used for the payment for performance fund in 2015-16, with appropriate risk shares

Condition 4: Managing transfers of care – this includes implementation of the below 'High Impact Change Model'

Working with local systems, we have identified a number of high impact changes that can support local health and care systems reduce delayed transfers of care...

Change 1 : Early Discharge Planning. In elective care, planning should begin before admission. In emergency/unscheduled care, robust systems need to be in place to develop plans for management and discharge, and to allow an expected dates of discharge to be set within 48 hours.

Change 2 : Systems to Monitor Patient Flow. Robust Patient flow models for health and social care, including electronic patient flow systems, enable teams to identify and manage problems (for example, if capacity is not available to meet demand), and to plan services around the individual.

Change 3 : Multi-Disciplinary/Multi-Agency Discharge Teams, including the voluntary and community sector. Co-ordinated discharge planning based on joint assessment processes and protocols, and on shared and agreed responsibilities, promotes effective discharge and good outcomes for patients

Change 4 : Home First/Discharge to Access. Providing short-term care and reablement in people's homes or using 'step-down' beds to bridge the gap between hospital and home means that people no longer need wait unnecessarily for assessments in hospital. In turn, this reduces delayed discharges and improves patient flow.

Change 5 : Seven-Day Service. Successful, joint 24/7 working improves the flow of people through the system and across the interface between health and social care, and means that services are more responsive to people's needs.

Change 6 : Trusted Assessors. Using trusted assessors to carry out a holistic assessment of need avoids duplication and speeds up response times so that people can be discharged in a safe and timely way.

Change 7 : Focus on Choice. Early engagement with patients, families and carers is vital. A robust protocol, underpinned by a fair and transparent escalation process, is essential so that people can consider their options, the voluntary sector can be a real help to patients in considering their choices and reaching decisions about their future care.

Change 8 : Enhancing Health in Care Homes. Offering people joined-up, co-ordinated health and care services, for example by aligning community nurse teams and GP practices with care homes, can help reduce unnecessary admissions to hospital as well as improve hospital discharge.

BCF Metrics

1. A reduction in non-elective admissions
2. A reduction in delayed transfers of care
3. A reduction in permanent admissions to residential or nursing homes
4. An increase in the effectiveness of reablement (an increase in the number of 65+ discharged from hospital into an reablement or rehabilitation service)
5. *An increase in satisfaction rates for the ACS enablement survey – not to be monitored centrally and unlikely to continue in 2017-19*
6. *An increase in dementia diagnosis rate (locally agreed metric) – not monitored centrally in 2017-19*