

Committee: **Social Services Scrutiny Committee**
Date of meeting: **27th September 2019**
Report Subject: **Integrated Care Fund Update 2019**
Portfolio Holder: **Cllr John Mason, Executive Member Social Services**
Report Submitted by: **Alyson Hoskins – Head of Adult Services (Social Services)**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
27/09/19		07.10.19			17.10.19	Info Item 06.11.19		

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report provides an overview for Members on the current allocation of funding for projects monitored by Adult Services and funded via the Welsh Government Integrated Care Fund (ICF) as at September 2019.
- 1.2 It also highlights the new bids that have been submitted from Adult Services for allocation from the current slippage on the ICF budget and how the service is actively accessing the funding to test different preventative approaches to service delivery.

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 Previous annual reports have identified the history of the Integrated Care Fund – formerly known as the Intermediate Care Fund (ICF)
- 2.2 ICF funding has been available to health and social care organisations since 2014/2015. Blaenau Gwent has been accessing this fund since its inception and since 2014 it has supported some of our most successful services including:
1. Step up / step down intermediate care beds (CARIAD beds)
 2. 3 x Community Connector posts
- 2.3 Members are aware that the funding has been a critical component in the testing of new initiatives to support the development of our prevention services and have been important in the delivery of continued development of the ‘Living Independently in Blaenau Gwent in the 21st Century’ Strategy and our cultural changes required following the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.
- 2.4 The Integrated Care Fund is currently governed via the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) structures and the grant funding is administered through the ICF performance monitoring unit within Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB). The fund can be accessed by sectors that support the priorities of the

Regional Partnership Board (RPB) and the overarching population needs assessment for Gwent. The grant supports the delivery of the key priorities in the areas of:

- Older people with complex needs and long term conditions including dementia
- People with Learning Disabilities
- Children with Complex Needs due to disability or illness
- Carers, including young carers

- 2.5 The allocation and bidding process can be complex as there are **both revenue and capital funding streams** within the investment plan of ICF and allocations within these funding streams can be for differing time periods.
- 2.6 The total **capital** ICF grant allocation for Gwent is almost £20 million across a spending plan of 3 years until 2021/22 – the length of the plan is due to the nature of the building development process.
- 2.7 The ICF **capital** allocation is split into a further 2 funding streams for schemes that are being developed at a cost of less than £100k (25% of total allocation) and those whose costs are over £100k (75% of total allocation). The Gwent spending profile for the 3 years of the capital fund is:

Table 1

	Total allocation	75%major schemes	25% discretionary schemes
2018/19	£5,558,000	£4,168,500	£1,389,500
2019/20	£6,484,000	£4,863,000	£1,621,000
2020/21	£7,410,000	£5,557,500	£1,852,500
Total	£19,452,000	£14,589,000	£4,863,000

- 2.8 In addition to the main **ICF revenue funding** pot administered by ABUHB, there are also 3 additional revenue ICF streams which are held centrally by Welsh Government:
- **ICF dementia funding** – this funding supports the priorities of the All Wales Dementia Actions Plan. Funding for 2018/19 Wales wide was £984k with a further £3.2 million available over 2019-2021.
 - **ICF WCCIS funding** – this funding supports the implementation of the new all Wales health and social care IT system - the Gwent allocation for this for 18/19 was £292k.
 - **ICF Autism Funding** - this funding supports the priorities of the All Wales Autism Actions Plan – the Gwent allocation for this for 18/19 was £458k.
- 2.9 In relation to **revenue funding** there has been no commitment from Welsh Government to continue the funding after April 2021 and therefore, exit strategies are being developed to identify the potential to sustain the services from core or alternative budgets. In some instances this will mean that some services may be withdrawn and during 2020/21 assessments will need to be developed to ascertain the impact for our citizens.

3. Options for Recommendation

3.1 Members are asked to scrutinise the report, and how in future they would wish to receive through a reporting mechanism, progress of this strategy.

3.2 **Option 1**- Endorse the report and the evidence provided to support the way in which available ICF grant funding is being accessed to support the strategic priorities of the Council, and the service to continue to provide progress updates to the Scrutiny Committee in 2020/21 as outlined in this report.

3.3 **Option 2** – Members to recommend any additional information and/or an alternative methodology for reporting progress, challenges and opportunities during 2020/21.

4. Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan

4.1 **Corporate Plan – 2018 to 2022.** The Living Independently in the 21st Century Strategy links to the key themes of the Corporate plan and in its promotion of resilient communities. Both the Corporate Plan and Living Independently in the 21st Century promote the ethos of preventative approaches to support vulnerable people. ICF grant funding is used to further promote these strategies here in Blaenau Gwent.

4.2 **Blaenau Gwent Well-being plan – *Priority area - enabling older people to feel valued and empowered to maximise their independence and lead healthy and engaged lives*** - this strategy is key in delivering this Well-being outcome including:

- **Thinking in the Long Term** - The development of schemes accessing ICF promotes effective cooperation and partnership working between all agencies and organisations, including health, and is a key element of meeting the needs of citizens in Blaenau Gwent.
- **Taking an integrated approach** – The funding streams promote an integrated approach across Health, Social Care and the Third Sector.
- **Taking a preventative approach** – The way in which we accessed and utilised the ICF funding has promoted preventative services including reablement and assistive technology as a model that promotes personal independence and management of a person's own well-being. The ICF funding has enabled the service to deliver a preventative and early intervention approach to minimise the escalation of need and dependency on statutory services.
- **Collaborating** - The use of ICF has been across all agencies and sectors including Health and Housing.
- **Involvement** - A key aspect of the ICF grants funding has been ensuring

people have a voice and control over their care and support to achieve the outcomes that are important to them i.e. through the development of transition and advocacy projects.

5. Implications Against Each Option

Option 1 – this will result in a report for 2019/20 being developed using a similar approach and methodology to that used for 2018/19. Updates will continue to be provided using information contained in the tier 1 and 2 business plans, team briefings, progress reports and data from our Corporate Performance Team and feedback from any relevant regulatory reviews.

Option 2 – the format and reporting mechanism for future reports will be amended to reflect additional information as requested by members.

- 5.1 **Impact on budget** – in the short term, the use of the fund has been advantageous in enabling external funding to be accessed to develop both capital and revenue schemes in Blaenau Gwent. However longer term – as stated in 2.9 above for revenue funding there has been no commitment from Welsh Government to continue the funding after April 2021 and therefore exit strategies are being developed to identify the potential to sustain the services from core or alternative budgets. In some instances this will mean that some services may be withdrawn and during 2020/21 assessments will need to be developed to ascertain the impact for our citizens.
- 5.2 **Risk including Mitigating Actions** – the development of exit strategies for the potential reduction in funding resulting in the closure of preventative services is scheduled to commence in early 2020 and the outcome will be reported to Scrutiny. The time frame is however dependent on further Welsh Government decisions around the future of the ICF funding streams and other grants within the Healthier Wales health and social care portfolio.
- 5.3 **Legal** – there are no legal implications associated with this report. This strategy supports the delivery of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Healthier Wales transformation programme.
- 5.4 **Human Resources** – there are no OD implications associated with this report at this point in time. However it is important to note that a number of the posts funded via Integrated Care Fund contained in tables 2 and 3 below are fixed term posts until 2020 and work is currently underway to scope the implications both in terms of finances and service delivery should Welsh Government confirm that funding will not be available after March 2021.

6. Supporting Evidence

During 2018/19 the following services were supported in Blaenau Gwent utilising the Integrated Care Fund (ICF):

Table 2

Revenue Schemes 2018/19	Allocation	Description of service
BG Mynydd Practitioner	32,640.00	1 Post to support Home Care and CRT integration
CARIAD intermediate care beds	347,536.00	8 intermediate care beds
Community Co-ordinators - Blaenau Gwent	72,270.00	2 Posts of Community Connectors
Blaenau Gwent Emergency Care at Home	45,000.00	Home Care support
Blaenau Gwent Care & Repair additional funding	10,000.00	Aids and adaptations
2 Additional CARIAD beds	12,290.00	One off funding to support winter pressures
Additional capacity to clear DFG backlog	7,500.00	One off funding to support winter pressures
Additional in-house dom care/emergency care at home	7,500.00	One off funding to support winter pressures
Carers Co-ordinators - Blaenau Gwent	49,321.00	1 Post of Community Connector
Carers support - Blaenau Gwent	52,853.00	2 posts - Carers Trust GP scheme
Transition - development of integrated working across adult and childrens services in Gwent	70,500.00	2 Social workers - Learning Disability Team
Community Co-ordinator - Learning Disability Team	26,520.00	1 Post of Community Connector
Total	£733,441.00	
Capital Schemes 2018/19		
Initial refurbishment of internal rooms at Augusta Respite Centre	62,048	Improvement of internal environment including new assistive technologies and equipment
Digital and Mobile Assistive Technology Solutions	66,624	Equipment for our SMART houses in Extra Care
Integrated Telephony / IT systems	7,491	New IT for the IAA team
Mobile apps for Home Care / Community Resource Team	19,000	New technology for call monitoring in Home Care
Total	£155,163.00	

During 2019/20 the following services have been supported in Blaenau Gwent utilising the Integrated Care Fund (ICF):

Table 3

Revenue Schemes 2019/20	Allocation	Description of service
BG Mynydd Practitioner	32,640.00	1 Post to support Home Care and CRT integration
CARIAD intermediate care beds	347,536.00	8 intermediate care beds
Community Co-ordinators - Blaenau Gwent	72,270.00	2 Posts of Community Connectors
Social Value Project - Catering & Community Meals Enterprise	£44,600	New post – not yet able to recruit as advertised and failed to appoint
Health & Social Care Changing Culture - Social Media Project	£46,800	New post – not yet able to recruit as awaiting outcome of job evaluation
Advocacy Access	£115,000	Gwent wide scheme

Resilient In House Provision (Adults) for Day opportunities	£115,000	Gwent wide scheme
Carers Co-ordinators - Blaenau Gwent	49,321.00	1 Post of Community Connector
Carers support - Blaenau Gwent	52,853.00	2 posts - Carers Trust GP scheme
Transition - development of integrated working across adult and children's services in Gwent	70,500.00	2 Social workers - Learning Disability Team
Community Co-ordinator - Learning Disability Team	26,520.00	1 Post of Community Connector
Total	£919,187	
<u>Dementia ICF (19/20)</u>		
Dementia Reablement Service – 2 year service	£81,675	Currently scoping staffing complement across health and social care. 2020-21 136,317.00)
Increased befriending support (Alzheimer Society)	£25,598	Increased support to prevent social isolation and support carers/ citizens following diagnosis of dementia
Total	£107,273	
<u>Slippage Bids (19/20)</u>		
		Awaiting response – only submitted September 19
Dementia Cats and Dogs	£9,700	Joint bid with Caerphilly
Carers Events	£1,500	Visit to theatre in Cardiff
Additional purchases of dementia pets	£9,700	Joint bid with Caerphilly
Additional blood screening units	£1,320	Equipment in the Community Resource Team
Total	£12,520	
<u>Capital Schemes 19/20</u>		
Reablement facility to be developed for Augusta House (2 year development)	£391,853	Development of additional units at current location
Further investment in assistive technologies	£63,420	Increased working with Worcester Telecare
Support for aids and adaptation to promote independence	£97,500	Bid submitted by Care and Repair Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent
Total	£552,773	(19/20 only)

6.1 The following paragraphs provide examples of where the ICF funded schemes are currently being utilised to meet the key strategic priorities of the Blaenau Gwent Living Independently strategy:

Priority 1: Long term care: ICF intermediate care beds (CARIAD) are used to support assessments of suitability of citizens for placement into long term care. They have been critical in Blaenau Gwent maintaining low numbers of people remaining in hospital when they are fit for discharge (known as DTOC) and have also supported in a reduction of numbers of days Blaenau Gwent residents in our community hospitals.

Priority 2: Reablement/Enabling services: The development of a new Dementia Reablement service (19/20) will support people living with Dementia to remain as independent as possible in their homes.

Priority 3: Day Opportunities/Community Options: Our Community Connector Service supports the development of alternative ways of being supported during the day and reduces instances of social isolation, whilst promoting community based solutions.

Priority 4: Assistive Technology: ICF funding has been used to expand the assistive technology support to citizens by procuring new and innovative care and support technology solutions to promote independence and reduce reliance on family carers and commissioned support. The introduction of our dementia friendly 'cats / dogs and babies' has proved to be a huge success in our care homes and are being expanded as 'company' to citizens living in their own homes.

Priority 7: Carers: We have extended the support we provide to unpaid carers through a number of initiatives including the Carers GP engagement service – in partnership with Carers Trust South East Wales. This service has recently been shortlisted for an Argus Health and Care Award.

6.2 **Expected Outcomes for the public**

This use of the Integrated Care Grant funding (ICF) focusses on the development of services that promote Well-being and independence in their own homes which may or may not include a Care Home. It utilised the key principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 including:

- a. **Voice and control** – putting the individual and their needs, at the centre of their care, and giving them a voice in, and control over reaching the outcomes that help them achieve well-being.
- b. **Prevention and early intervention** – increasing preventative services within the community to minimise the escalation of critical need. The fund has been used to trial new interventions and opportunities to support new ways of working across the Adult health and social care sector.
- c. **Well-being** – supporting people to achieve their own well-being and measuring the success of care and support.
- d. **Co-production** – encouraging individuals to become more involved in the design and delivery of services.

6.3 **Equalities Impact Assessment** – the development of the new services using the ICF funding has included the development of individual impact assessments. The critical impact assessment will be required following any decision to withdraw funding from these projects as it is anticipated that some services will cease and there will be an impact for citizens within the protected characteristics.

7. Monitoring Arrangements

- 7.1 All Integrated Care Fund (ICF) funded schemes are subject to high level of scrutiny and ongoing monitoring from ABUHB and Welsh Government. Officers are required to complete both quarterly financial and data monitoring outcomes returns for each of the projects. During 2018/19 were also asked to deliver briefing sessions on progress of the projects, to the respective regional partnership board planning groups.

Background Documents /Electronic Links