

**AGENDA ITEM 6****RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL****CABINET****25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015****INTERMEDIATE CARE FUND ALLOCATION FOR CWM TAF : 2015 – 2016****REPORT OF GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Cabinet with an update on the Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) and its allocation within Cwm Taf for 2015/16.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Note the allocation of the ICF for 2015/16 as endorsed by the Cwm Taf Social Services and Wellbeing Partnership Board.
- 2.2 Note that further guidance is awaited on an indicative allocation of £243k for innovations.
- 2.3 Note that a comprehensive evaluation framework will be developed and monitored through the Cwm Taf Social Services and Wellbeing Partnership Governance arrangements to meet Welsh Government requirements.
- 2.4 Note the allocation of the ICF Grant in Cwm Taf for 2015/16 as agreed by the Cwm Taf Social Services and Wellbeing Board on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2015.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In January 2014 Welsh Government announced the Intermediate Care Fund for 2014/15 for all regional collaboration footprints. The aim of the fund is to maximise support for older people requiring intermediate care by developing new models of sustainable integrated services that maintain and increase people's well being and independence. The objectives of the fund are to:

- Improve care co-ordination between health, social care, third sector and Housing;
- Promote/maximise independent living opportunities;
- Support recovery by increasing reablement provision;

- Establish more proactive approaches; and
  - Avoid unnecessary admission or delayed discharge.
- 3.2 The Cwm Taf health & social care economy was awarded £4.37m non-recurrently in 2014/15, which included both revenue and capital funding. The proposal developed by Cwm Taf partners (including the UHB, the Local Authorities and the County Voluntary Councils) was informed by the “Statement of Intent – Integrated Care” (March 2014) and grouped in to five themes as follows:
- Project management and evaluation;
  - Laying the foundations for transforming services;
  - Promoting well being;
  - The significance of the physical environment;
  - Commissioning for the whole health and social care economy.
- 3.3 Practice Solutions Wales were commissioned by the Cwm Taf partners to undertake the evaluation of the fund and its impact on the health, care and well-being of the over 65 years population in Cwm Taf.
- 3.4 Through the '**Laying the Foundations for Transforming Services**' work-stream the partners commissioned additional capacity to support more people to be discharged safely and more speedily from hospital, whilst the numbers of people needing support to achieve that safe and speedy discharge has continued to increase.
- 3.5 Within the '**Promoting Well-being**' work-stream the Neighborhood Capacity Fund was established and distributed to both large and small community groups and Third Sector organisations, enabling greater access to local facilities for older people, some of whom will be frail and/or socially isolated, and some of whom will be at an early stage of recognising their need and wish for support. Five new Community Co-ordinators were appointed and have begun to help individuals to identify local sources of support that have the potential to be sustainable over many years, with the key ingredient being a real choice made by the people themselves. In addition one of the Community Co-ordinators is linked to primary care services. She is promoting locally-based, community-organised activities as appropriate and alternative responses to older people's frailty and their wish for support, and in some cases care.
- 3.6 In the '**Physical Environment**' work-stream, there has been a good deal of activity in 'housing-related services', with increased activity to adapt people's own homes to make them more likely to be a 'home for life', and negotiations with Registered Social Landlords around providing some adapted and accessible accommodation options for frail older people. There has also been significant investment in equipment and Joint Equipment Services.
- 3.7 In the '**Commissioning**' work-stream work has been completed to put in place a Joint Commissioning Statement for Older People's services across

the Cwm Taf Region to replace the separate strategies and approaches of each of the public sector agencies.

#### **4. INTERMEDIATE CARE FUND 2015/16**

- 4.1 Originally the Intermediate Care fund was provided for 2014/15 as a non-recurrent grant, however indications were given in the New Year that a recurrent allocation of £20m for intermediate care would be made available across Wales from 2015/16. Discussions started within the ICF Partnership about the need to continue to progress those schemes which were deemed to have been successful. However confirmation of funding and guidance was not received from Welsh Government until 17<sup>th</sup> April 2015 (attached as **Annexes 1 and 2**).
- 4.2 The guidance once received, confirmed that the Cwm Taf Partnership would receive two allocations:
- **£1,698,000** to fund the continuation of successful ICF schemes; and
  - An indicative allocation of **£243,000** for innovative schemes. (Further guidance on this second component is awaited, so whilst some priorities are identified for its use, no recommendations are yet being made.)
- 4.3 Whilst the recurrent allocation of £1.698m is welcome, it is clearly far less than the £4.37m which was received in 2014/15 and is revenue funding only.
- 4.4 As a consequence, there have therefore been some detailed and challenging discussions within the Partnership about its use, but ultimately agreement has been reached that ensures a balanced position,
- 4.5 To reach the final recommendation for the Fund the Cwm Taf Social Services & Well-being Partnership Board adopted the following principles:
- ICF funding has been considered within the wider context of additional funding from Welsh Government.
  - The ICF allocation confirmed by Welsh Government would be challenged by the UHB's Director of Finance on the basis that a 9.7% share is 'out of kilter' with other funding allocations.
  - Those schemes deemed to be successful were identified on the basis of:
    - Outcomes of the quarter 3 evaluation which was undertaken by Practice Solutions;
    - Alignment with the Joint Commissioning Statement for Older People; and
    - Alignment with the Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.



















