Staffordshire Better Care Fund

First Draft submission – covering note

This document is a first draft, developed by the partners to the Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board.

It represents an initial response to the opportunities and challenges presented by the Better Care Fund. It is explicitly work-in-progress, subject to further consultation with key stakeholders including our citizens, voluntary and community sector, primary, acute and community health providers, and our social service teams. Any numbers included at this stage are best current estimates, based on work to date; and these, together with our overall proposals, will invariably evolve and change through the consultation process and as our knowledge and understanding grows.

The Better Care Fund has a focus on Older Adults at a national policy level however our local Staffordshire intention is to include mental health, learning disability and equipment services, where pooled or joint arrangements currently exist. It should be stressed here that this provides us with an opportunity to take fuller advantage of the good work already done to date in recent years around integrating resources, commissioning activity, etc. across these areas.

This Better Care Fund plan is the start of a journey and we recognise the challenges and further work required to develop this vision which is based squarely on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, into detailed work plans and implementation over the coming years. Development of the NHS 2 and 5 year plans will be a major part of this process.

Appendix A provides the narrative section, while Appendix B provides the financial breakdowns and metrics proposed.

A number of supporting documents have been included which provide further background detail.