

EXECUTIVE BOARD
26TH MARCH, 2018

REGIONAL POOLED FUND AGREEMENTS

Recommendations / key decisions required:

Members are invited to endorse the legal agreements necessary for the establishment of Regional pooled fund arrangements for Adult care home placements;

Reasons:

To ensure obligations are being met under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBA) in respect of pooled funding provisions.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted : A briefing session was held with Members of the Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee on the 27th February.

Exec Board Decision Required YES - 26th March, 2018

Council Decision Required NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. J. Tremlett (Social Care & Health Portfolio Holder)

Directorate:
Communities

Name of Head of Service:

Jake Morgan

Report Author: Kevin Pett

Designations:

Director of Community
Services

Programme Manager,
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
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26TH MARCH, 2018**

REGIONAL POOLED FUND AGREEMENTS

Regional Pooled Fund Agreements

Background

Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act stipulates a requirement for councils and local health boards to establish and maintain pooled funds – underpinned by legal agreements - in relation to:

The exercise of their adult care home accommodation (residential and nursing) functions (by 6th April 2018)

The exercise of their family support functions

Specified functions exercised jointly in response to Population Assessments, where such arrangements are considered appropriate

In response, the Regional Collaboration Unit has supported the Partnership in developing pooled fund arrangements for older adult care home placements. This work will provide a foundation for a second phase of pooled fund agreements over the coming period which will include (1) other adult care home placements, (2) family support services and other areas as identified. A revised regional governance framework to streamline decision-making and accountability across partner agencies and provide for collective oversight of pooled fund arrangements is under development and will be in place by the summer. The statutory Regional Partnership Board will have a scrutiny function in relation to these arrangements.

Pooled fund for older adult care home placements

The Regional pooled fund agreement for care home placements will take effect on 1st April 2018 and provides for a 'virtual' regional budget for older people's care home placements (long term) – where - for the initial financial year - money does not transfer between organisations.

A virtual fund meets stipulated Welsh Government requirements for 2018-19 and has the benefits of:

Eliminating the risk of 'cross-subsidy' between the NHS and local government and between Local Authority areas, whilst presenting a clear Regional picture of spend in this area
Removing a considerable administrative burden were agencies to pay into and receive funding from the pool on a regular basis

Avoiding cash flow issues arising due to retrospective monthly payment of the RSG by Welsh Government

Enabling the continued maximisation of financial investment opportunities by individual partners

Trialling integrated financial arrangements without the risk of transactional error, or the need for complex audit arrangements

These virtual arrangements, (developed in full consultation with Directors of Finance from each of the statutory partner agencies), are intended as a basis for a fully-operational pooled fund for the Region from 2019-20. This again, is in line with Welsh Government expectation. Over the same period, the opportunity will be taken to extend arrangements to cover internally provided services and care homes for younger adults (including people with Learning Disability).

Another key benefit of the pooled fund is the development of robust and integrated Regional data set against which regular reports will be made to partners and will inform financial modelling and commissioning capability.

Integrated commissioning arrangements will also include the establishment of a single regional Contract and service specification for older people’s care homes; accompanied by an integrated approach to contract monitoring and quality assurance.

A Partnership Agreement setting out these terms is included in Appendix 1.

Recommendations

Organisations are asked to approve the pooled fund legal agreements in respect of Adult care home placements.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES Care home placement pooled fund agreement – Appendix 1
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Jake Morgan, Director of Communities

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The subject has significant implications in supporting policy intentions to more effectively integrate services across organisational remits. This is in keeping with policy commitments arising from the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) and the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act (2014).

2. Legal

There are a range of legal issues, to include: responding to the statutory requirements in an appropriate and timely manner; and establishing proper governance arrangements and legal agreements.

3. Finance

Pooling of funds will require appropriate arrangements to ensure adequate control of budgets and suitable measures to protect the Authority in the event of overspends.

4. Risk Management Issues

Minimal risks are attached to the proposed virtual pooled fund arrangement for adult care home placements.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Jake Morgan, Director of Communities

1. Scrutiny Committee

A briefing session was held with members of the Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee on the 27th February.

2. Local Member(s) - N/A

3. Community / Town Council – N/A

4. Relevant Partners

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014		http://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/151218part9en.pdf