

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive
Date:	30 November 2020
Subject:	Cyngor Sir Ynys Mon and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Shared Service Delivery (Pooled Budget) Pilot – Learning Disabilities
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Llinos Medi
Head of Service / Director:	Iola Richards, Interim Head of Adults Services
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Local Members:	Relevant to all Members

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p><u>Purpose of the Report:</u> Purpose of this report is to update members on the progress made by IOACC and partners at BCUHB on the project “ Shared Service Delivery - Pooled Budgets for Learning Disabilities Services”.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The North Wales Learning Disability Strategy https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/learning-disabilities/ was approved by all six local authorities and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board in March 2019. The aim of the strategy is to develop seamless health and social care services for people with learning disabilities. Through better integrating health, social care and the third sector, the strategy aims to help people with learning disabilities live more independently and get the care they need to closer to home.</p> <p>A pivotal action in the strategy is to explore and pilot pooled budgets between health and social care in a locality.</p> <p>To support the implementation of the strategy, the North Wales Regional Partnership Board secured funding through ‘A Healthier Wales’ Transformation Fund to put in place the North Wales Together Learning Disability Transformation Programme and a delivery team. This team is charged with providing the support and resources required by the partners to implement the key tenants of</p>

the strategy.

The pooled fund pilot between BCUHB and Anglesey County Council is in many respects, the flagship of the programme and the Welsh Government have shown a specific interest in its development and success.

The pilot will have the added benefit of supporting the delivery of the North Wales Social Services and Wellbeing Improvement Collaborative Integration Agreement under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

This agreement sets out the key projects (including learning disabilities) that the six County Council's and BCUHB have agreed to collaborate on in order to identify opportunities for integrated services that may also lend themselves to formalised pooled fund arrangements. This agreement was formally signed by all six County Council's and BCUHB in 2018.

The Pilot Project

North Wales has a growing population of both young and elderly people with learning disabilities (North Wales Population Assessment, p.165). Medical advances have had a positive impact with more young people with very complex needs surviving into adulthood. Older people with learning disabilities also have increasingly complex needs and behaviours as they get older.

This trend presents significant challenges to the region's health and social care services to provide the right type of support to ensure people with a learning disability achieve wellbeing. Innovative approaches are required including better joint working around funding, commissioning and resolving disputes quicker (North Wales Population Assessment, p.164).

The North Wales Together Learning Disability Transformation Programme which is supported by Ynys mon Local Authority and BCUHB is responding to this challenge by seeking to pilot a pooled fund for the supported living budget for adults with learning disabilities resident in Anglesey. The pilot will be delivered jointly by Ynys Mon, Adult Learning Disability Services and BCUHB Mental Health and Learning Disabilities division who have a long history of strong partnership working.

Pooled funds are a mechanism to enable greater integration of health and social care support and are viewed as being particularly effective for population groups with complex needs. The current mechanism for securing joint health and social care funding for adults with learning disabilities involves two processes which are not well aligned.

The rationale for piloting a pooled fund, is to test and evaluate whether integrating these processes leads to better quality services and outcomes for individuals whilst also improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

A copy of the Pilot Project plan and milestones aligned to full pooled budget transformation plan can be found in the Appendix for your perusal.

Pilot Project Assessment & Analysis

Strategy Implications:

IOACC is a key partner in both the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy and the North Wales Together: seamless service for people with Learning disabilities. The approval of this pilot by IOACC will enable the Local Authority to make a significant contribution to the successful achievement of key performance measures for the Transformation Programme the foundation of which is the Learning Disability Strategy.

The discussions have been held through the Regional Partnership Board..

Standard Operational Implications:

The pooled fund is underpinned by a statutory Sect 33 agreement outlining joint responsibilities, management structures, performance and quality assurance measures , financial governance and project governance structures.

To support the embedding into current operational practice- the S33 will inform the development of a standard operational procedure that outlines the supportive governance structures and systems to support implementation.

This will include clear and robust quality assurance processes aligned to key performance indicators from existing frameworks. IOACC, along with BCUHB will be supporting the view that the current KPI's and Q&A processes for CHC / Joint funding applications to the health board will be utilised.

Additionally the health equalities framework will be used to measure outcomes for each individual.

Financial Implications:

The first stage of the pilot will pool the existing financial commitments of both agencies for supported living for adults with learning disabilities resident in Anglesey. The North Wales Together Transformation Programme will allocate a financial contribution to the pooled fund once the pilot is operational to support the initial stages of delivery.

The financial implications for IOACC and BCUHB will not be increased as a result of the pilot though there may be a requirement to contribute to annual supported living uplifts and uplifts in health care support needs for individuals as would be the case regardless of the pilot.

The first stage of the pilot will involve pooling of the existing joint funding commitments for supported living for 36 cases. The current total spend for both BCUHB and the Local Authority is: £ 3,166,201.87. This is currently split as:

- Health - 1,346,723.81
- Local Authority - £1,819,478.06

The pooled fund will be held and managed by IOACC on behalf of the partners and the Service Manager for Learning Disability and Mental Health will become the pooled Fund Manager responsible for the effective utilisation of the agreed pooled fund in line with the sect 33 agreement..

Progress beyond this stage will be dependent on an evaluation of impact against the agreed performance measures for the pilot. These will be set out in the Section 33 agreement that both partners will sign prior to the commencement of the pilot in December 2020. The North Wales Together Programme will provide resources to support every element of the pilot's delivery including:

- Financial contribution to the pooled fund to support any uplift of costs.
- Independent evaluation support.

Continued support from BCUHB finance team is instrumental in supporting the additional governance to this pilot.

Risk Analysis

The benefit of putting in place a Section 33 agreement for the pilot is that it will provide an agreed framework for both partners to manage risk. Such agreements must comply with certain statutory directions on content and which therefore, enable the partners:

- to clearly agree joint priorities and targets,
- what resources are needed, the types of services required,
- what outcomes are to be met,
- how the partnership will be governed including dispute resolution

A Partnership Management Board will also be established for the pilot. It will jointly report to the Regional Partnership Board and to the Senior Management Structures within BCUHB and Ynys Mon. The Board will provide opportunity for the partners to meet regularly and agree on objectives, resources, performance and any urgent variations within the context of local measures for the partnership. The Board will receive reports on performance measuring, the impact of the partnership and whether any appropriate action requires to be taken. The Board will have an annual review process, whereby resources and next steps in business plans will be confirmed.

Legal and Compliance:

Part 9 Agreements under the Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (or Section 33 Agreements), permits the pooling of budgets between the NHS and a Local Authority if a full written agreement is completed between the partners.

As noted a Section 33 agreement will be approved and signed by both Ynys Mon and BCUHB thereby providing the legal framework under which the pilot will operate. Both partners shall seek joint and individual legal advice prior to signing the partnership agreement. This will ensure that both partners know their rights/powers and any legal restrictions.

Once signed the agreement will remain in place for one calendar year at which stage it will be subject to a strategic and financial review by the Partnership Management Board.

Timetable

It is proposed that the report is shared with the following committees:

Senior Leadership Team 18th October 2020.
Corporate Scrutiny Committee 10th November 2020
Executive Committee 30th November 2020

Recommendations

- 1.1 Members are invited to offer comment on the content of the draft Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Shared Service Delivery / Pooled Budget Pilot – Learning Disabilities
- 1.2 To approve the piloting of a pooled fund between Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board in a staged approach for the existing supported living budget for adults with learning disabilities resident in Anglesey who are currently jointly funded. This is for agreement of phase 1 sign off initially.
- 1.3 IOACC Legal department to provide an independent view aligned to the S33 agreement.
- 1.4 That the Executive delegate to the Monitoring Officer the right to complete the section 33 agreement and to the 151 Officer to agree with the BCUHB the financial arrangements to ensure the funds are properly and effectively managed.

B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

The suggested pilot is being run under the safety of a Section 33 agreement in order to evaluate progress to ensure that the Pooled Budget long term project can be amended and developed to be effective and future proofed. Phase 2 of the pooled fund will be dependent on an independent evaluation of Phase 1 pilot over 12 month period(2021-2022)

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

As the above clarifies, Pooled Budgets, managed through a joint Partnership Management Board, governed by a Section 33 agreement will be a strategic change in direction, and it is essential that our Executive Members fully understand and support the implications and effects.

CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

YES

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D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?
Yes

E – Impact on our Future Generations(if relevant)		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	Provides better outcomes for service users and delivers on the integration agenda.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority. If so, how:-	Will provide more streamlined processes for agreeing jointly funded care provision for service users in supported living accommodation
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision, if so, please advise whom:	Yes This is a collaborative initiative between IOACC and BCUHB and supported by the regional Transformation team for Learning Disability
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward? Please explain how:-	There is no direct impact on service users in how the funding arrangements are agreed and managed.
5	Outline what impact does this decision have on the Equalities agenda and the Welsh language	Fully compliant with requirements of the Equalities and Welsh Language

DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	This was approved by the SLT on the 18 th October 2020.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	As above. IOACC Finance Staff have been involved in the process to date.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	As above. IOACC Legal staff have been involved in the process to date.
4	Human Resources (HR)	Not applicable
5	Property	Not applicable

6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	Not applicable
7	Procurement	Not applicable
8	Scrutiny	The Report was considered by Members of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 10 th November 2020.
9	Local Members	Not applicable

F - Appendices:

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FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

Further information can be found by searching the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy link:
<https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/learning-disabilities/>