

Appendix 5 – What is the Better Care Fund?

The Better Care Fund (previously referred to as the Integration Transformation Fund) was announced in June as part of the 2013 Spending Round. It provides an opportunity to transform local services so that people are provided with better integrated care and support. It encompasses a substantial level of funding to help local areas manage pressures and improve long term sustainability. The Fund will be an important enabler to take the integration agenda forward at scale and pace, acting as a significant catalyst for change.

The Better Care Fund provides an opportunity to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our society, giving them control, placing them at the centre of their own care and support, and, in doing so, providing them with a better service and better quality of life.

The Fund will support the aim of providing people with the right care, in the right place, at the right time, including through a significant expansion of care in community settings. This will build on the work Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and councils are already doing, for example, as part of the integrated care “pioneers” initiative, through Community Budgets, through work with the Public Service Transformation Network, and on understanding the patient/service user experience.