

2025/26 BCF Planning Template

National Conditions Tab

National Condition	Planning expectation that BCF plan should:	Where should this be completed	HWB submission meets expectation (Yes/No)
1. Plans to be jointly agreed.	1.1 Reflect local priorities and service developments that have been developed in partnership across health and care, including local NHS trusts, social care providers, voluntary and community service partners and local housing authorities.	Planning Template – cover sheet. Narrative Plan – Overview of Plan.	Yes
	1.2 Be signed off in accordance with organisational governance processes across the relevant ICB and local authorities.	Planning Template – Cover sheet.	Yes
	1.3 Must be signed by the HWB chair, alongside the local authority and ICB chief executives – this accountability must not be delegated.	Planning Template – Cover sheet.	Yes
2. Implementing the objectives of the BCF.	2.1 Set out a joint system approach for meeting the objectives of the BCF which reflects local learning and national best practice and delivers value for money.	Narrative Plan – Section 2.	Yes

	2.2 Set goals for performance against the 3-headline metrics which align with NHS operational plans and local authority social care plans, including intermediate care capacity and demand plans.	Planning Template – Metrics.	Yes
	2.3 Deomstrate a ‘home first’ approach and a shift away from avoidable use of long-term residential and nursing care homes.	Narrative Plan – Section 2.	Yes
	2.4 Following the consolidation of the previously ring-fenced Discharge Fund, specifically explain why any changes to the use of funds compared to 2024/25 are expected to enhance urgent and emergency care flow (combined impact of admission avoidance and reduced length of stay and improving discharge).	Narrative Plan – Section 2.	Yes
3. Complying with grant and funding conditions, including maintaining the NHS minimum contribution to Adult Social Care (ASC).	3.1 Set out expenditure against key categories of service provision and the sources of this expenditure from different components of the BCF.	Planning Template - Expenditure	Yes
4. Complying with oversight and support processes	4.1 Confirm that HWBs will engage with the BCF oversight and support process if necessary, including senior officers attending meetings convened by BCF national partners.	Planning Template - Cover	Yes

	4.2 Demonstrate effective joint system governance is in place to: submit required quarterly reporting, review performance against plan objectives and delivery, and change focus and resourcing if necessary to bring delivery back on track.	Narrative Plan – Executive Summary.	Yes
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