

CIH Briefing

The Integration Transformation Fund

What is the integration transformation fund?

In the spending round June 2013, government announced that it was investing £3.8 billion in a pooled fund to enable the NHS and local authorities to jointly commission health and social care services, to drive development of integration locally. This will be available from 2015-16, but plans to direct its use are being developed now.

It will include funding for Disabled Facilities Grant, so local housing authorities and housing partners need to be aware and linked into the process of the development of these plans, which are being led by local social services authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

Where is the funding coming from?

It is not new money but a combination of funds:

- £130million Carers' Break fund
- £300million CCG re-ablement fund
- c.£350million capital grant funding, **including £220million for DFGs**
- £1.1billion existing money transferred from health to social care
- £1.9billion additional funding from MHS allocations, including funding to cover demographic pressures on social care and costs associated with implementation of care Bill.

£1billion of the fund will be performance related; half of which will be paid April 2015, and the rest within year 2015-16.

Who is developing the plans?

Plans which will direct the use of the integration transformation fund are being developed now by CCGs and local social services authorities. These will be signed off by local Health and Wellbeing Boards, and then go through an assurance process by NHS England.

Timetable for the plans

- Now: initial local planning discussions
- Nov/Dec: NHS Planning framework will be issued
- Dec/ Jan: plans completed
- March 2014: plans assured

More detail can be found in a joint letter issued by NHS England and LGA [here](#). This includes the conditions that need to be addressed by the plans and alignment with other strategic planning by local government and NHS.

Process

Local housing authorities have a duty to provide DFGs to applicants that qualify for help, through a means tested grant. It is not subject to Fairer Access to Care criteria.

Local authorities and other partners are able to contribute further funding in addition to that allocated nationally; many local housing authorities have continued to do so, even after the obligation to provide 40% to match national funding was withdrawn.

Previously DFGs have been funded by DCLG and allocated to local housing authorities, but from 2015-16, funding will come from the Dept of Health and included in the integrations transition fund. The exact mechanism and whether allocations will still be via DCLG is not currently clear.

CIH view

CIH welcomes the development of a fund to drive greater integration of health and care services. We believe that the inclusion of housing, adaptations and related support services is necessary to achieve the shift to person centred and preventative support, and deliver savings for health and care services.

The inclusion of DFG funding means it is critical that housing authorities and partners are aware of and linked into the planning process of the Integration Transformation Fund, which is happening now.

Adaptations enable older and disabled people to maintain active and independent lives, and prevent/ reduce/ delay the need for more costly care and health services. It is vital that the Fund continues to ensure the ongoing investment in and provision adaptations to meet needs in local areas.