

REPORT FOR DECISION



DECISION OF:	Cabinet
DATE:	May 2020
SUBJECT:	Extension of the Mutually Binding Agreement (MBA) for the Local Care Organisation until 31 March 2020
REPORT FROM:	Cllr Andrea Simpson, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
CONTACT OFFICER:	Geoff Little, Chief Executive
TYPE OF DECISION:	KEY DECISION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	In the public domain
SUMMARY:	This report is to request from Cabinet the approval of extending the
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	<p>Cabinet is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the content of the MBA remains unchanged from that approved for the year to 31 March 2020; 2. Approve the extension of the MBA until 31 March 2021.
IMPLICATIONS:	Failure to support this work will result in the Council not delivering transformation in line with the Council's priorities and GM Devolution

Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	There are no direct financial implications of these proposals on the Council's budget. There are wider system/OCO costs associated with maintaining the LCO but these has already been built into the relevant plans for 20/21.
Health and Safety Implications	No issues identified at this stage.
Equality/Diversity implications:	
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	The purpose of the LCO in integrating health and social care in Bury has commenced and the Mutually Binding Agreement (MBA) sets out the terms of reference for the partner agencies. It is important its work continues and so the extension of the MBA and current arrangements is appropriate
Wards Affected:	All
Scrutiny Interest:	Health Scrutiny Committee

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR:

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Cabinet Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet/Committee	Council	

1. BACKGROUND

Bury's Locality Plan articulated an ambition to bring together the main providers of health and social care services to explore innovative methods of delivery, improve outcomes for Bury people and reduce costs. To do this seven partner

organisations have come together, and from 1 April 2019, signed up to the current version of the Mutually Binding Agreement to form a Local Care Organisation for Bury. The partners are:-

- Bury GP Practices Ltd. This is a federation of all GP Practices in Bury.
- The Council
- The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group. This is an NHS Trust comprising Salford Royal Foundation Trust and the Pennine Acute Hospitals Trust (including Fairfield Hospital)
- Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust which provides community health and mental health services to a number of localities across Greater Manchester including Bury
- BARDOC a provider of GP Out of Hours services across Bury and parts of Rochdale
- Persona, the Council's Local Authority Traded Company (LATCo)
- The Voluntary Community and Faith Alliance (VCFA).

In April 2018, a formal agreement was signed which holds each partner to account in terms of operating 'system wide' with a focus on delivery of transformation and generating improved outcomes for the people of Bury.

This document was refreshed in March 2019, and became the Mutually Binding Agreement for the seven partners.

2. Update in respect of the development of the Local Care Organisation (LCO) during 2019/20 before the Covid-19 crisis

The purpose of the LCO is to provide integrated care and health support with the aim of helping people to remain healthy for as long as possible. When people do need health and care services these should be provided for as long as possible in their own homes. The intention is therefore to reduce admissions to acute health and residential care services by shifting more care and resources into the community. This will be a major contributor to improving the services received by Bury people and reducing the financial gap.

The work in respect of the LCO is driven through the LCO Board.

- The host arrangements for the LCO are delivered by the Northern Care Alliance, including back office support.
- An LCO management team has been established to accelerate delivery and operate as a single management team, including key roles from within each partner organisation, such as:
 - a senior manager of the GP Federation to support the leadership and coordination role of Primary Care in each of the five neighbourhoods.
 - a senior manager of Adult Social Care,
 - a senior manager of Community Health.
 - a senior manager of Community Mental Health

During the past 12 months a number of key milestones have been achieved, including:-

Five Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) covering the whole of the Borough that consist of primary care, adult social care, community care and VCFA staff have been operational since April 2019. The teams have:

- Single line management by five team leaders, reporting to a single post in the LCO management team
- Co-located community health, adult social work and VCFA staff in neighbourhoods supporting the delivery of high quality primary care
- Joint access to case management systems and access to relevant care records
- Risk stratified identification of cohorts, from the beginning of INTs going live
- Undertaken Active Case Management for people with complex health needs
- Undertaken innovative approaches to keeping people within their community

The Intermediate Tier of provision (ie between neighbourhood and hospital based services) brings together services such as reablement, intermediate care and end of life care provision to enable patients to effectively step up and down through different levels of intensity of care across Bury. This service has been significantly expanded during 2019/20, especially in respect of Rapid Response services.

Council staff in the LCO and the Council's statutory responsibilities for Adult Social Care

Approximately 150 adult social care staff work under single line management arrangements within the LCO, including the Assistant Director of Adult Social Care Operations. This includes approximately 33 in the INTs and approximately 100 moving into the integrated intermediate tier of the LCO. In other words staff in the LCO are not be managed within service silos.

However it is essential that the professional expertise of staff is not diminished and that the Council's statutory responsibilities for adult social care are protected. The Assistant Director of Social Care Operations sits on the LCO management team and provides professional supervision and development support to adult social care staff, as does the Principal Social Worker, who remains within the Council. The Assistant Director is also accountable to the Council's Director of Adult Social Care (DASS) who will in turn remain accountable for the Council's statutory duties to the Council Chief Executive and to the Deputy Leader of the Council who holds the statutory adult social care responsibilities.

The arrangements to protect the Council's role as an employer and to ensure that the statutory duties for adult social care, which cannot be delegated, are properly discharged are set out in detail in the Mutually Binding Agreement between the LCO partners.

3. Impact of the Covid-19 Crisis

All partners within the LCO are currently working to provide a joined up response to the Covid-19 crisis. It is considered that the strong relationships in place before the crisis between the LCO partner agencies have contributed to the effective stand up of the initial response to the crisis and is ensuring that people in Bury are being supported in the best way possible in terms of service delivery. Cross-system working continues to be strong, and under LCO leadership, front line Council services, such as Integrated Neighbourhood Teams and Rapid Response are supporting people to stay well in their community. Others, such as Killelea and Reablement are providing intermediate tier support to people recovering from stays in hospital due to both Covid-19 and other health diagnoses, with significant support from the Council's Public Health Infection Control Team.

4. Mutually Binding Agreement

As described above, the LCO partner organisations are all working to support the people of Bury through the current Covid-19 crisis. It is therefore proposed to simply roll forward the existing 2019-20 MBA without any change, and the document itself allows for this eventuality. It will mean that the governing document of the LCO is technically dated the previous year, however it will be noted at LCO Board that the provision to extend it for a further year has been put in place.

The mutually binding agreement is attached in Appendix 1. Its aim is to outline the expectations of the partner agencies in their dealings with one another, in the spirit of partnership with the intention of creating a substantial, long-term relationship based on a shared intention to create a sustainable health and social care system in Bury.

There are a number of principles set out in section 3 of the document, but the over-arching aim is to ensure that decision-making at all times is in the best interests of the people of Bury, whose health and wellbeing will be the first priority.

5. Recommendations

Given the importance of the LCO in delivering integrated services for the people of Bury, it is recommended to Cabinet that members:

- Note the content of the MBA remains unchanged from that approved for the year to 31 March 2020;
- Approve the extension of the MBA until 31 March 2021 for the Council as one of the seven partners to this document.

Appendix 1 – separate document

End

Contact Details:-

Geoff Little – Chief Executive, Bury Council