To: Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

Intermediate Care Fund

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

To inform Cabinet of the Intermediate Care Fund that the Welsh Government has made available and the proposals that have been submitted for the Cwm Taf area for how the grant is be utilised in the 2014/2015 financial year.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 In December 2013 Gwenda Thomas, Deputy Minister for Social Services, Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Local Government and Government Business and Carl Sergeant, Minister for Housing and Regeneration announced that the Welsh Government’s Draft Budget for 2014-15 included proposals to establish an Intermediate Care Fund. The Ministers stated that this Fund provides a real opportunity to build on effective working across health, social services and housing to improve the planning and provision of more integrated services. It must drive a step change in the way services work collaboratively at both a strategic and operational level.

1.2 The aim of the Intermediate Care Fund is to encourage integrated working between local authorities, health and housing. The Fund includes £35 million revenue funding and £15 million capital funding on an All Wales basis to support older people, particularly the frail elderly, to maintain their independence and remain in their own home.

1.3 The Fund will need to be used to avoid unnecessary hospital admissions, or inappropriate admission to residential care, as well as preventing delayed discharges from hospital.

1.4 The Fund provides a real opportunity to drive a step change at both a strategic and operational level, to improve the planning and provision of integrated services and to deliver sustainable models of delivery.
2.0 PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FUND

2.1 The Fund can be used to build on existing good practice and to increase the scale of provision of integrated services across Wales. It can also be used as pump-prime funding to assist transformation and change and to test out new models of delivery. It removes what can be a significant barrier to integrated working, namely the need to secure start-up funding and commitments from a number of organisations.

2.2 The key objectives of the Intermediate Care Fund are to:

- Improve care coordination between social services, health, housing, third and independent sector, to focus on preventative care and to avoid unnecessary hospital admission or delayed discharge for older people, particularly the frail elderly;
- promote and maximise independent living opportunities (including ensuring increased provision of timely home adaptations) in response to referrals from health and care services; and
- support recovery and recuperation by increasing the provision of reablement services (at home or through the provision of step-down / convalescence beds in the community setting).

2.3 The Fund provides an opportunity to:

- Focus the resources and increase capacity of care coordination or rapid response schemes (such as community resource teams) and the pace at which they are being developed, to better meet demand and improve equity of access to services.
- Establish a more proactive approach, seeking to identify those people at risk of becoming ‘stuck’ within secondary care with a resulting impact upon their ability to return to independent living.
- Increase the capacity of reablement and rapid response services to better meet demand (including night time and weekend services).
- Encourage innovation and develop new models of delivering sustainable integrated services.

2.4 The use of adaptations to people’s homes, irrespective of where they live and whether they rent or own their own home, can make a significant contribution to helping people to remain living safely (avoiding falls) and independently in their own home. They play a vital role in avoiding hospital admission and helping people to be discharged in a timely manner from hospital, thus avoiding unnecessary delayed transfers of care. The Fund can therefore be used to increase the direct referrals made by health and social care teams or care coordinators for adaptations and to ensure they are delivered as part of a wider, co-ordinated package of care and support to meet people’s needs.
2.5 Whilst it is anticipated that adaptations will play an important part in helping to achieve the aims of the Fund, the capital funding is not restricted to this. The Fund can also be used to support the provision of step-down/convalescence beds within a residential care or community setting. These beds, operating within a reablement culture, can again support older people back to independence and avoid either hospital or long-term residential care admissions.

3.0 FUNDING

3.1 The Intermediate Care Fund is available only for the 2014-15 financial year. It can be used alongside other funding streams to maximise the benefits of the Fund and in relation to supporting ongoing costs beyond 2014-15.

3.2 The £50 million Fund comprises £35 million revenue within the Local Government budget: £5 million of this has been allocated to health and social care projects which previously received funding through the Regional Collaboration Fund (RCF). There is £15 million capital funding provided from the Housing and Regeneration budget. The intention is to manage the revenue and capital streams of funding as a “single” coordinated fund, to maximise the support for people requiring intermediate care, through a coherent package of measures.

3.3 Funding will be allocated to the regional footprint areas of Cardiff and the Vale, Cwm Taf, Mid and West, North Wales, Western Bay, Gwent. The allocations have been calculated using the Older Adults Personal Social Services formula from the Local Government Revenue Settlement.

3.4 The indicative allocation for the Intermediate Care Fund for Cwm Taf broken down across the two local authorities is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consortia</th>
<th>Indicative ICF Revenue Allocation £000s</th>
<th>Indicative ICF Capital Allocation £000s</th>
<th>Total Allocation £000s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cwm Taf</td>
<td>2,918</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>4,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhondda Cynon Taf</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>1,173</td>
<td>3,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merthyr Tydfil</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>858</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.5 The Fund is not to be used:

- for proposals which are not related to support for older people or frail elderly (except those projects which have already been approved under the Regional Collaboration Fund);
- to substitute existing funding streams; and
- to generate ongoing demand which cannot be met from within existing resources.

3.6 The allocations represent the amounts available to each region but Welsh Government have indicated that actual funding will be distributed on the basis of the spend incurred on approved proposals.
4.0 FUNDING PROPOSALS

4.1 Proposals are to be submitted on a regional collaborative footprint basis, to ensure change is driven at a strategic level and to improve the consistency of service provision and uniformity of outcomes. Local authorities will lead the development of proposals, working in close partnership with Health Boards, Housing and the Third and Independent Sectors.

4.2 One submission is to be made per region. These should be appropriately endorsed by the political and executive fora within the region.

4.3 As the funding is for one year only, any proposals for work extending beyond 31st March 2015 should clearly state how sustainability will be achieved and where any future funding will come from. They should also indicate if there are plans to contribute funding from existing sources to the proposal and, if so, set out these plans.

4.4 Welsh Government recognise that needs vary within regions, so it will be for each region, with their partners, to develop proposals and determine the most appropriate model of delivery to best meet the specific needs within their area. The expectation is that a wide range of partners including Local Authorities, Health Boards, the Third and Independent sectors will be involved in the delivery.

4.5 The proposals must clearly demonstrate how they will meet the objectives of the Fund and should cover both revenue and capital costs. The proposals should also include how they will meet the following key criteria:

Integration - The Fund aims to encourage integrated working, so proposals should clearly demonstrate the role and contribution of all relevant partners within the region.

Transformational - The proposals should demonstrate a recognisable shift in the way services are delivered or in the ways the collaborating organisations operate. The impact must be on the long term and achieving sustainable integrated services.

New/Additional - The Fund must be used to support new or additional provision of services and ways of working. Proposals must clearly demonstrate the additionality that will be delivered and how this will be measured, particularly within the context of population outcomes.

Deliver benefits - The proposals should clearly highlight the benefits and outcomes for older people, particularly the frail elderly and those with complex health and social care needs, and also highlight how the provision of integrated services will be enhanced or developed within the region. This should include value for money, cost avoidance or savings as appropriate.

Strategic - The proposals should indicate alignment to the strategic aims of the Programme for Government and Sustainable Social Services. They should also demonstrate coherence with Single Integrated Plans.

Well-managed - Proposals should set out how delivery will be managed within a rigorous and transparent governance framework, with clear leadership accountabilities, milestones and progress measures.
5.0  CWM TAF SUBMISSION

5.1 The programme aims to create a 'whole system' approach across Cwm Taf H&SC economy, promoting healthy interdependence for older people, through sharing responsibility for improving outcomes and experiences. Whilst planning to establish integrated management for all intermediate care services and piloting it in one locality, we are planning that housing and adaptations will feature as an integral part of intermediate care.

5.2 The project has five key themes:
- project management and evaluation;
- promoting well-being;
- laying the foundations for transforming services;
- the significance of the physical environment; and
- commissioning for the whole health and social care economy.

5.3 This programme aligns with the objectives of the Social Services and Well-Being Bill to focus on promoting people's well-being as a means of avoiding unnecessary access into acute and heavily resourced hospital and community-based services, whilst also giving people more control over and involvement in their care and support when that is appropriate and necessary.

5.4 We are determined to strengthen the connections with housing and adaptation services, as critical contributors to a whole system approach for older people, along with offering much easier access to early intervention and preventative services, as a result of working with third sector agencies as key and equal partners in the programme.

5.5 Both VAMT and Interlink are partners in the programme and this builds on long-standing relationships where there is now mutual trust and respect for what each has to offer. The Regional Collaborative Board has overarching responsibility for the programme, consolidating the work that has previously taken place within LSBs. This has shown that 'doing things together' offers efficiency and, as importantly, delivers better outcomes for people. Through training, staff development and commissioning, independent sector agencies will be part of a broader strategic conversation about improving outcomes, giving older people and their carers a stronger voice, whilst offering them more control in determining how they receive care and support.

5.6 One of the main focuses of the programme is to build on our existing community services infrastructure - @home and Reablement and Intermediate Care services, to establish a transformed and integrated '@home' service across Cwm Taf. These services will focus on maintaining independence, admission avoidance and support for the independent sector. We will explore establishing a pooled budget, although that may take the immediate form of aligning current budgets. In addition we will explore a longer-term process towards a single information system, accessible from all work places and agencies. The Single Point of Access (SPA) will ensure that making use of the service becomes a default for all potential referrers.
5.7 The new additional services that are being proposed in addition to existing services are:

a) The integrated '@home' service will make better use of existing resources, as well as harness additional resources in the programme - Outcome: more people offered support, care and treatment at home.

b) The extension of the Butterfly project, improving practice for older people with dementia, will cover more residential and nursing homes as well as extending it to domiciliary care - Outcome: wider understanding about impact of dementia and positive changes in behaviour towards older people with dementia.

c) 'A number of our services are currently limited in provision often offering access Monday to Friday only. We will explore the potential for 7 day services in particular where we focus on admission prevention/early discharge support - Outcome: better coordinated services and understanding of impact and need.

d) All intermediate care services will be offered to older people with dementia – Outcome: better coordinated services and understanding of impact and need.

e) Community coordinators will be appointed - Outcome: wider and easier access to community and neighbourhood facilities that support people’s well-being, recovery and reablement, with primary care services developing knowledge and confidence in using those services.

f) Development of a business case for a single Cwm Taf-wide commissioning team and single commissioning strategy - Outcome: initial joint commissioning of nursing home provision and services for people ineligible for CHC funding, with default position of commissioning being an activity typified by shared responsibility between agencies.

g) Procurement of nursing homes provision, through block contracts, to enable discharge from hospital for people whose first choice is unavailable - Outcome: earlier and safe discharge for more people, reducing lengths of stay.

h) Development of additional step up/down provision in current facilities, eg. sheltered housing schemes - Outcome: more people having opportunities to experience reablement and recovery in ordinary daily living settings and being better prepared to lead more independent lives.

i) Whole system approach to the 'physical environment', ensuring that housing and adaptation services complement the provision of care and support, all developed irrespective of tenure - Outcome: people will receive well-managed and speedy support in making their homes safe and sustainably accessible whatever their tenure.

5.8 The body with overarching responsibility for the programme is the Regional Collaborative Board (RCB) chaired by the Chief Constable, building on previous work of the local service boards.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report as the Intermediate Care Fund is 100% grant funded by the Welsh Government for 2014/2015.

6.2 Details of the Intermediate Care Fund bid for Cwm Taf are shown in Appendix One.
7.0 SINGLE INTEGRATED PLAN AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT SUMMARY

7.1 The Single Integrated Plan & Sustainability Impact Assessment has been completed and the proposals positively impact on a number of aspects of the Corporate Plan and Single Integrated Plan, including People in Merthyr Tydfil benefiting from a strong, sustainable and diverse economy; People, who live and work in Merthyr Tydfil are supported to enjoy a healthier and better quality of life; Sustainable Development; and Preventing Poverty. No negative impacts have been identified by the Single Integrated Plan & Sustainability Impact Assessment.

8.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time. The screening form can be accessed on the Council’s website/intranet via the ‘Equality Impact Assessment’ link.

GIOVANNI ISINGRINI
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BACKGROUND PAPERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title of Document(s)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cwm Taf Region ICF Application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cwm Taf Region ICF Proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cwm Taf Region ICF Background and Context</td>
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Consultation has been undertaken with Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.
## Intermediate Care Fund Application for Cwm Taf - 2014/2015

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name/ Description of Scheme</th>
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<td>Improve Quality of Care and Support Provided to Older People with Dementia</td>
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