

**2009 No.35**

**THE NATIONAL HEALTH  
SERVICE (WALES) ACT 2006**

**The Welsh Health Specialised  
Services Committee (Wales)  
Directions 2009**

*Made* 6.00 p.m. on 1 October 2009

*Coming into force* 6.10 p.m. on 1 October  
2009

The Welsh Ministers give the following Directions in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 12(1)(b) and (3), 13(2)(c), (3)(c) and (4)(c) and 203(9) and (10) of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006<sup>(1)</sup>.

**Title, commencement and application**

**1.**—(1) The title of these Directions is the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (Wales) Directions 2009.

(2) These Directions come into force at 6.10 p.m. on 1 October 2009.

(3) These Directions are given to Local Health Boards and apply in relation to Wales.

**Interpretation**

**2.** In these Directions—

“the Act” (“*y Ddeddf*”) means the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006;

“host Local Health Board” (“*Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol cynhaliol*”) means Cwm Taf Local Health Board;

“Local Health Board” (*“Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol”*) means a Local Health Board established in accordance with section 11(2) of the Act<sup>(1)</sup>;

“operational date” (*“dyddiad gweithredol”*) means 1 April 2010;

“shadow period” (*“cyfnod cysgodol”*) means the period between 1 October 2009 and the operational date;

“the interim functions” (*“y swyddogaethau interim”*) means the functions listed in Annex 1 in so far as they are exercised by Welsh Ministers together with the planning and securing of the provision of any other specialised or tertiary services undertaken by them;

“the joint committee” (*“y cydbwyllgor”*) means the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee established under direction 3;

“the relevant functions” (*“y swyddogaethau perthnasol”*) means the planning and securing of specialised and tertiary services which consist of the interim functions subject to any variations to those functions agreed from time to time by the joint committee; and

“Welsh health specialised services team” (*“tîm gwasanaethau iechyd arbenigol Cymru”*) means staff employed by the host Local Health Board to exercise the relevant functions from the operational date and to exercise preparatory functions in the shadow period.

### **Directions to each Local Health Board**

**3.**—(1) The Local Health Boards will jointly exercise the relevant functions from the operational date.

(2) For the purpose of jointly exercising the relevant functions from the operational date the Local Health Boards will establish a joint committee from as soon as practicable after 1 October 2009.

(3) The Local Health Boards will not exercise the interim functions during the shadow period.

(4) The host Local Health Board will exercise its functions so as to provide administrative support for the running of the joint committee and establish the Welsh health specialised services team.

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(1) Powys Teaching Local Health Board was established under the Local Health Boards (Establishment) (Wales) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/148 (W.18)). Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Local Health Board, Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board, Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board, Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board, Cwm Taf Local Health Board and Hywel Dda Local Health Board were established under the Local Health Boards (Establishment and Dissolution) (Wales) Order 2009 (S.I. 2009/778 (W.66)).

### **Limited functions of the joint committee during the shadow period**

4. During the shadow period the Local Health Boards will secure that the joint committee established pursuant to direction 3(2) will take such decisions and make such arrangements as are reasonably necessary to enable it to perform the relevant functions satisfactorily from the operational date.

### **Membership of the joint committee**

5.—(1) The members of the joint committee consist of the chief executive of each Local Health Board together with—

- (a) a chair;
- (b) a vice-chair selected from existing non-officer members of a Local Health Board;
- (c) two non-officer members selected from existing non-officer members of Local Health Boards; and
- (d) officer members.

(2) The officer members consist of—

- (a) a director of specialised and tertiary services;
- (b) a medical director of specialised and tertiary services;
- (c) a finance director of specialised and tertiary services; and
- (d) a nurse director of specialised and tertiary services.

(3) Officer members in paragraph (2) will have such responsibilities as may be prescribed by the joint committee.

(4) In addition there will be three associate members who will be the chief executives of Velindre National Health Service Trust, the Welsh Ambulance Services National Health Service Trust and the Public Health Wales National Health Service Trust. Associate members may not vote in any meetings or proceedings of the joint committee.

## ANNEX 1

Direction 3

Commissioning of Specialised Services for adults and children in respect of:—	Description	
	Blood and bone marrow transplantation	Autografts and Allografts, all phases.
	Assessment and provision of equipment for people with complex physical disability	Prosthetics and complex orthotics; Wheelchair provision including complex postural seating and powered wheelchair controls; Communication aids (excluding all forms of hearing aids and cochlear implants); Environmental controls and other electronic assistive technology; Telecare; All services provided by the Artificial Limbs and Appliances Service.
	Haemophilia and other bleeding disorders	All activity including genetic support.
	Spinal services	Spinal injuries (with damage or threat to spinal cord function)—all activity in designated centres; Complex spinal deformity surgery and reconstructive spinal surgery (without threat to spinal cord function).
	Burns services	The treatment of complex burns including acute surgical care, intensive care, rehabilitation and multiple in-patient and out patient interventions for re-constructive surgery.
	Cystic fibrosis	All services including outreach and shared care.
	Cleft lip and palate services	Services provided by all relevant specialities.
	Allergy	Treatment of allergic disease requiring special facilities for investigation and management normally available only in national specialist centres.
	Medical genetics	Clinical genetics; Laboratory genetics; Cytogenetics; Molecular genetics; Metabolic biochemistry; Planning for population screening.

Clinical Immunology	Laboratory investigation for the diagnosis, clinical assessment and treatment of patients with suspected and established primary and humoral immunodeficiencies and the monitoring of complex therapies.
Commissioning of Specialised Services for Adults in respect of:—	
Cancer Services	Specialised services including Continuous Hyperfractionated Accelerated Radiotherapy (for lung cancer), Stereotactic radiosurgery, total skin electron beam radiotherapy cutaneous lymphoma only, micrographic surgery for skin cancer, thoracic surgery for the treatment of cancer, exenterative surgery for gynaecological cancer, brachytherapy, hyperthermia, radionuclide therapy, specialised palliative care services for common cancers: stents, laser and cryotherapy, photodynamic therapy, conformal radiotherapy, photopheresis, Positron Emission Tomography scanning, testing people for cancers that have genetic or familial associations including familial polyposis, hereditary non-polyposis, colon, breast. Specialised conditions including brain/central nervous system/spinal cancers, endocrine, sarcoma (soft tissue and bone), skin cancer (melanoma (any site)), cutaneous lymphoma, Human Immunodeficiency Virus related malignancies, mesothelioma, specialised gynaecological cancers—vulval, vaginal and germ cell cancers, head & neck cancers, haematological malignancies such as leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma, urological cancers—complex bladder, retro-peritoneal surgery, testes, lymphnode section, complex penile; pituitary tumours and teenage & young adult cancer (up to age 25).
Complex rehabilitation for brain injury and complex disability	Centres providing a significant proportion of complex rehabilitation—excluding local aftercare and rehabilitation.
Neurosciences	Neurosurgery; Neurology (excluding in-patient stroke and cerebral haemorrhage);

	Neurorehabilitation; Neuropathology; Neurophysiology; Neuroradiology; Neuroophthalmology; Neurootology.
Renal services	Treatment for End Stage Renal Failure; Treatment for acute renal failure; General nephrology (provided in a main nephrology unit); Renal related surgery including dialysis.
Home parental nutrition	Home care packages and support provided by hospital team.
Cardiology and cardiac surgery	Cardiothoracic transplantation (including implantable ventricular assist devices); Pulmonary hypertension; Cardiac electrophysiology; Congenital heart disease; Invasive cardiology; Angiography and cardiac surgery.
Infectious diseases	Inpatient infectious disease activity.
Hepatology, hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery	Services for the treatment of patients with viral hepatitis; Services for patients with acute liver failure and advanced complications of cirrhosis; Services for patients with benign and malignant liver tumours and cancer of the intra and extrahepatic biliary tree (including pancreas); Hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery.
Mental Health	Tertiary Eating Disorder services; Neuropsychiatry; Forensic Services excluding low secure; Mental health services for deaf people; Gender Identity disorder; Perinatal psychiatric services (Mother and Baby) units; Complex and/or treatment resistant disorders.
Plastic Surgery	Surgery on the skin and/or appendages including microsurgery.
Thoracic surgery	Surgery on the lungs and thoracic cavity and walls excluding cardiac surgery.
Women's health	Foetal medicine including prenatal diagnosis and foetal therapy; Congenital abnormalities of the genital tract. Infertility Services involving in-vitro techniques
Pathology	
Dermatology	

Cochlear Implants	
<b>Commissioning of Specialised Services for Children in respect of:—</b>	
	<p>Cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery;  Nephrology, including renal replacement therapy;  Gastroenterology/ Hepatology/  Nutritional support;  Respiratory;  Oncology;  Malignant haematology;  Non-malignant haematology;  Neonatal intensive care;  Paediatric intensive care;  Immunological disorder/infectious disease/allergy;  Paediatric pathology;  Paediatric Neurosciences (Including complex disability and rehabilitation);  Metabolic disorders;  Paediatric endocrinology and diabetes; Rheumatology;  Specialised child and adolescent mental health services;  Specialised dermatology;  Paediatric surgery;  Paediatric orthopaedic surgery;  Paediatric ophthalmology;  Paediatric ear, nose and throat surgery;  Paediatric oral and maxillofacial surgery;  Paediatric plastic surgery;  Paediatric urology;  Complex child and adolescent gynaecology,  congenital anomalies and intersex.</p>
<b>Other Services</b>	<p>Rheumatology;  Endocrinology;  Hyperbaric treatment;  Respiratory services;  Vascular services;  Pain management services;  Bone Anchored Hearing Aids;  Colorectal services;  Orthopaedic services;  Morbid obesity services.</p>
Highly specialised services which are commissioned on a UK basis by the National Specialist Commissioning Advisory Group	

National Poisons Information Service	Advisory service for the identification, treatment and management of poisoning.
NHS Direct	
National Population Screening Programmes	Programmes of population screening including NHS Breast Screening Programme, Cervical Screening Wales and New Born Hearing Screening Wales.
Emergency Ambulance Services	Emergency transport services for the sick and injured.
Blood Transfusion and Tissue Typing Services	The collection, testing and distribution of blood and blood products in Wales, including autologous transfusion, storage and distribution of blood products, tertiary reference service for transfusion serology, a medical advisory service and support to the transfusion medicine teaching curriculum; Maintaining the Welsh Bone Marrow Donor Registry and a tissue typing service for transplantation.
Regional Pharmaceutical Services	Clinical Support Services; Quality and Technical Services; Surgical Materials Testing Service.

**Signed by Edwina Hart AM, Minister for Health and Social Services, One of the Welsh Ministers.**

**2009**