

## WHSSC STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS 2018/19

### Aim

These Intentions provide notice to Health Boards and NHS Wales Trusts of the planned developments in the commissioning and delivery of specialised services.

The ICP is structured to support the purpose of the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC), which is:

“on behalf of the seven Health Boards; to ensure equitable access to:

### Safe,

**Quality and Outcomes Framework** - WHSSC will implement the Quality and Outcomes Framework for Specialised Services agreed by Joint Committee supported by the Quality Team which is in the process of being recruited to.

**Patient Experience** - Patient experience will be captured using a variety of methods – Audit Days, Patient experience surveys, Stakeholder meetings. This will require close working with Health Boards and Trusts and development of relations with Third Sector and other patient focused organisations.

**Clinical Risk** - WHSSC will work with Health Boards to review their corporate risk registers in order to develop plans to address any clinical risks that have been identified, both within the services that they provide, or that their resident population access from another provider.

### Sustainable,

**Responsive to Government legislation and new developments in Healthcare** – WHSSC will be responsive to legislation such as The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wellbeing Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 by working with all stakeholders to ensure that each of the five sustainable development principles – long term thinking, prevention, involvement, collaboration and integration, are reflected in all of the services that it commissions on behalf of Health Boards.

WHSSC will need to be aware and take account of the impact that new developments in the way Healthcare is delivered such as through the introduction of Major Trauma Centres, Units and Networks will have on existing specialised services.

**Demand and Capacity** - WHSSC will expect Health Boards and Trusts to have appropriate referral pathways in place including primary and secondary care provision, in order to ensure that all referrals into specialised services are managed in accordance with the agreed pathways of care. This will include effective repatriation of non specialist activity to secondary and primary care facilities and working with providers to reduce unnecessary referrals to specialised services through providing pre referral advice and where appropriate, non medical interventions such as physiotherapy as a pre-requisite for listing for surgery.

Where clinically appropriate and cost effective, WHSSC will work closely with Welsh providers to identify and develop plans for activity that can be repatriated back into Welsh services.

## Annex 1

**Service Risk** – WHSSC will work with Health Boards to develop plans to address risks identified by Health Boards relating to the sustainability of specialized services.

and **Effective** specialised services for the people of Wales, as close to patients' home as possible, within available resources.”

**Value Based Commissioning** – WHSSC will work with Health Boards and Trusts to identify and secure improved value, increased efficiencies and opportunities.

**Evidence Based Commissioning** - WHSSC will consider all proposals for new developments on the basis of the available evidence for clinical and cost-effectiveness.

**Clinical Innovation** - WHSSC will work closely with Welsh and NHS England providers to review the potential for implementing clinical innovation where it is evidence-based and cost-effective.

**Delivery of Tier 1 Targets** – Most notably in regard to the Referral to Treatment and Cancer Delivery targets, WHSSC will work with providers on plans to meet and sustain the agreed Delivery Measures and National Priorities. This will include implementation of the recently developed Performance Escalation process which has a series of steps to address specialties which are failing to achieve Tier 1 targets whilst underperforming against the contracted baseline.

**Managing within Resources** - WHSSC has a duty on behalf of NHS Wales to utilise its allocated resources effectively and efficiently and to manage specialised services within the resources agreed by NHS Wales.

Providers will be expected to ensure that any local cost improvement plans for specialised services are clearly identified, and confirm that plans will have no adverse impact on the quality or performance of the service.

**Referral Management system** – Implementation of the WHSSC referral system which clearly sets out the WHSSC commissioned services and IPFR/Gate-keeping arrangements for access to treatments which fall outside of the Referral Management system.