

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

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FURTHER ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO NHS WALES THROUGH THE SPECIALIST CAMHS PLANNING NETWORK'S (SCPNs)

I am writing to you to confirm that the Directorate for Children's Health and Social Services has secured a further allocation of recurrent funds for Specialist CAMHS for the financial year 2009-10. We are targeting this new money on supporting NHS Wales in developing Specialist CAMHS to enable it to:

- Meet the requirements of section 31 of the Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended by the Mental Health Act 2007) for providing age appropriate accommodation for children and young people by 1 April 2010;
- Provide comprehensive forensic CAMHS by creating new very specialised teams at Tier 3 by 31 March 2011; and
- Provide Specialist CAMHS to all 16 and 17 year old young people by 31 March 2012.

This letter provides further information about each of these tasks and financial allocations to support NHS Wales in achieving them. Outlines of the developments to forensic CAMHS and the age range of Specialist CAMHS are at Annexes A and B.

Our intention is that the SCPNs (formerly known as the CAMHS Commissioning Networks until October 2009) should lead the work on each topic and agree with the Health Boards in their areas allocations of funding from the total provided to them, to support the Health Boards in achieving what is required. This work is to be achieved in two phases that cross the current and subsequent financial years.



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Phase 1: 2009 - October 2010

In this phase, the SCPNs are asked to work with the relevant Health Boards to:

- Assist them to prepare for and achieve the requirements of section 31 of the amended Mental Health Act 1983 by 1 April 2010. The monies allocated in the present financial year are intended to underpin backfilling staff who can then be freed to work on plans to achieve the requirements of s.31 and as a contribution to making such changes to the estate as fulfilling this requirement may entail.
- Plan service developments to create the NHS components of new forensic CAMHS at Tier 3. Shortly, we will provide the SCPNs with further information on the Assembly Government's preferred model;
- Take forward service developments so as to create a continuum of the NHS components of forensic CAMHS by beginning to develop new teams that are capable of delivering the functions of Tier 3 according the Assembly Government's model such that the teams are in place by no later than 31 March 2011; and
- Assist each health board that delivers Specialist CAMHS to work in association with its local authority partners to provide Welsh Assembly Government, by 31 October 2010, with a plan for how each will provide Specialist CAMHS for all children and young people who are aged up to and including 17 years (i.e. up to the eve of their 18th birthdays) by 31 March 2012.

Phase 2: 2010 - 2012

In this phase, the SCPNs are asked to work with the relevant health boards to:

- Consolidate and monitor the impact of their work on achieving the requirements of section 31 of the amended Mental Health Act 1983;
- Continue to take forward local service developments so as to create new teams within NHS Wales that are capable of delivering the NHS functions of Tier 3 of forensic CAMHS according the Assembly Government's model by 31 March 2011; and
- Assist each health board that delivers Specialist CAMHS to work in association with its local authority partners to extend the roles of Specialist CAMHS such that they are available to all children and young people who are aged up to and including 17 years (i.e. up to the eve of their 18th birthdays) by 31 March 2012 by implementing plans after each has been agreed with the Assembly Government.

Financial assistance

Assembly Government will assist NHS Wales with the financial implications of each of these three areas of service development. We are allocating now the following sums to the three SCPNs: (a) South East Wales SCPN: £480K; (b) North Wales SCPN: £360K; and (c) Mid and West Wales SPCN: £360K. In the current financial year, the sums should be used by the SPCNs to assist Health Boards to achieve the four tasks that comprise Phase 1.

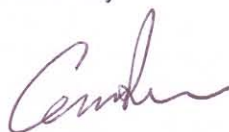
Furthermore, it is our intention that these sums should become recurrent from April 2010 and that, from that date, they be allocated to: (a) Developing forensic CAMHS at Tier 3: South East Wales: £200K; North Wales: £150K; and Mid and West Wales: £150K, and (b) to extending the age range of CAMHS: South East Wales: £280K; North Wales: £210K; and Mid and West Wales: £210K.

Evaluation of the spend in Phase 1 is required by 31 October 2010. Please forward your reports to me at the address below.

As regards transferring the funds, we are assuming that they will go to the appropriate LHB in the first instance. Should this not be appropriate, please inform me as soon as possible, otherwise, the Assembly Government's finance department will issue a revised allocation in due course.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'C. Anderson', written in a cursive style.

Directorate for Children's Health and Social Services

Annex A:

Forensic CAMHS

Officials have consulted with services in Wales by a variety of means in respect of designing and implementing its preferred model for forensic CAMHS in Wales and, in particular, the role of teams that are to provide the functions of Tier 3.

There is a consistency of opinion that supports plans to:

- expand the capability, capacity and availability of forensic CAMHS at Tier 3;
- develop teams to deliver the functions of Tier 3;
- make teams available across Wales that offer a greater level of specialised expertise in forensic mental healthcare than is appropriate at Tier 2;
- base these very specialised teams within the existing NHS-funded Specialist CAMHS and to develop them from within and by supplementing their staff; and
- draw together within the teams at Tier 3 the staff who deliver the roles of the Mental Health Advisers and the community psychiatric nurses that are out-posted from the Specialist CAMHS to deliver Tier 2 functions within the YOTs.

The Assembly Government now wishes each Specialist CAMH Service in Wales to develop very specialised forensic teams, with greater expertise in the forensic arena, to offer the functions of Tier 3. More detail on the preferred model will be issued to the Specialist CAMHS Planning Networks during the second half of 2009-10.

Annex B:

Extending NHS Specialist CAMHS to deliver services for all 16 and 17 year olds and transition processes between them and specialist mental health services for adults

Welsh Assembly Government has been undertaking preparatory work on transition of responsibilities for young people between Specialist CAMHS and the specialist mental health services for adults. Consequently, it recognises that transition is more complicated than solely choosing age ranges for services because there are matters of service culture and roles, young people's experiences and preferences, and staff skills etc, that are highly relevant. There is also a requirement to retain flexibility that is appropriate to young people's needs, circumstances and preferences as well as the differing capabilities of staff and services by services not being managed according to rigid age boundaries. The Assembly Government has received recommendations from several quarters that the direction of travel should be towards services for older adolescents and young adults, but that certain preparatory activities will be necessary and that the way forward should be staged.

The recommendations made to the Assembly Government include the view that it should consider developing policy for a new specialist mental health service for older adolescents and young adults that is staffed by specialists of all relevant disciplines from the specialist child and adolescent mental health services (SCAMHS) and the specialist mental health services for adults of working age (SMHSA). It is considering this matter. Whether or not that recommendation is accepted, it agrees that plans should be put in hand to extend the age range for the NHS component of SCAMHS to ensure that all 16 and 17 year olds have SCAMHS made available to them regardless of the educational or occupational status.

Thus, the Assembly Government's intention now is that the health boards should ensure that Specialist CAMHS are made available for all children and young people who are aged up to and including 17 years (i.e. up to the eve of their 18th birthdays) by 31 March 2012.

To this end, the Assembly Government is, hereby, asking each of the Health Boards in NHS Wales that provide SCAMHS and/or SMHSA to:

- Conduct a review of demand and capacity in 2009-2010 to determine the developments to services, facilities, and staff and their training that are required to achieve this policy with the intention that each health board that delivers NHS Specialist CAMHS is able to deliver plans for extending SCAMHS up to 18 years of age by the end of March 2012;
- Develop strategic policies and protocols for joint working by SCAMHS and SMHSA;
- Work with their partner agencies to provide to Assembly Government by 31 October 2010 a plan for how it proposes to provide Specialist CAMHS for all children and young people who are aged up to and including 17 years (i.e. up to the eve of their 18th birthdays) by 31 March 2012. The plan that is provided to Assembly Government by 31 October 2010 should contain information on each health board's planning assumptions and a protocol that has been agreed by the Specialist CAMHS and SMHSA for effective, patient-centred management of the transition between them of responsibilities for patient care.