

## **NHS Wales Waiting Time Recovery Priorities**

### **Reducing Waiting Times in Neurodevelopmental Services for Children and Young People.**

**October 2024**

**To: All Local Health Board Executive Leads for Neurodiversity Services**

Dear Colleagues,

The number of children and young people waiting to receive a neurodevelopmental assessment (ADHD and ASD), and the length of time they are waiting continues to increase.

Monthly activity shows that all Health Boards have children and young people who have been waiting longer than 52 weeks, with demand and capacity and modelling analysis indicating that despite current efforts, this position will continue to worsen.

The Welsh Government Neurodivergent Programme have put a number of actions in place to improve services including a forthcoming accelerated design event of which a separate communication and invitation has been sent to Health Boards and Partners.

In addition, The Welsh Government have set out an approach to meet key priorities which includes immediate focus on reducing Neurodevelopmental Service waiting times. This approach includes releasing additional in year funding to support Health Boards to achieve this.

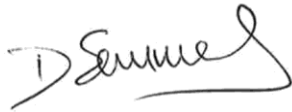
To inform this approach I am writing to request further detail be provided on the forecasted waiting position for your ND services for children and young people. Details should include:

- The current trajectory
- The number of assessments required to eliminate 3 year and 2 year backlog by end of March 2025 with a revised trajectory to demonstrate this
- The actions required to achieve this position including associated costs.

I would be grateful if this information could be completed using the attached template and returned to [Dave.Semmens@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Dave.Semmens@wales.nhs.uk) no later than the 11<sup>th</sup> of October.

Following receipt of submissions your service leads will be contacted to further validate the trajectories and actions.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Semmens', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dave Semmens – Assistant Director, Performance and Assurance, NHS Executive

Cc:,

**Jeremy Griffith** – Director of Operations, NHS Wales, Health Social Care and Early Years, Welsh Government

**Rhiannon Ivens** – Deputy Director, Inclusion and Corporate Business, Social Services and Integration, Health Social Care and Early Years, Welsh Government

**Ciara Rogers** – National Director, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Neurodiversity, NHS Executive

**Gareth Lee** – National Director, Performance and Assurance, NHS Executive