The Welsh Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 45, 203(9) and (10) and 204(1) of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006(a), and after consulting in accordance with section 45(4) of that Act with the bodies appearing to them to be representative of persons to whose remuneration these Directions relate, give the following Directions.

Title and application

1.—(1) The title of these Directions is the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2021.

(2) These Directions are given to Local Health Boards.

(3) These Directions come into force on 20 April 2021 but have effect from 1 April 2021.

Amendments to the Statement of Financial Entitlements

2.—(1) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013(b) which came into force on 11 June 2013, as amended by the Directions listed in Annex J at the Schedule to these Directions, are further amended as follows.

(2) In Part 1 – Global Sum and Minimum Practice Income Guarantee, section 2—

(a) for paragraph 2.3 substitute—

"2.3. Once the contractor’s CRP has been established, this number is to be adjusted by the Global Sum Allocation Formula, a summary of which is included in Annex B of this SFE. Beginning with 1 April 2021 the resulting figure, which is the contractor’s Weighted Population for the quarter, is to be multiplied by £95.65.”, and

(b) omit paragraph 2.4A.

(3) In Part 2 – Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework—

(a) in section 4—

(i) for paragraph 4.35 substitute—
“4.35. There are two groups of access standards within the Access Domain. Group 1 contains five standards and Group 2 contains two standards. Contractors will be paid annually for the standards completed during a QAIF (Access) year subject to evidencing that they have complied with the relevant access standards for at least one calendar month prior to the end of the financial year for which payment is being claimed. Contractors are expected to achieve standards 1 to 7 by 31 March 2022 and are required to provide a report to the LHB on their achievement progress at the end of each quarter. The standards can be found at Section 5 of Annex D.”;

(ii) in paragraph 4.36 for “10” substitute “10.A”; and

(b) in section 6 for paragraph 6.10 and its heading substitute—

“Calculation of Achievement Payments for QAIF Access from 1 April 2020

6.10. The QAIF Access points value for Achievement Payments will be made at the QAIF (QA and QI) point value calculated for the QAIF (QA and QI) year in which the QAIF Access year ends using the contractor’s registered patient list size as at 1 January in that QAIF Access year against the mean average of contractor registered patients also taken at 1 January of that same QAIF Access year.

6.10A. If a contractor achieved Access Standard 2 as at 31 March of QAIF Access year 2020 then the contractor will be deemed to have also achieved Access Standard 2 for the period ending with 31 March in QAIF Access year 2021. If a contractor did not achieve Access Standard 2 as at 31 March of QAIF Access year 2020, the contractor may evidence that they can meet Access Standard 2 for the period ending with 31 March of QAIF Access year 2021.”.

(4) In Annex D – Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework—

(a) in Part 1: Introduction—

(i) for paragraph D.14 substitute—

“D.14. The Access domain is based on the Access to In-Hours GMS Services Standards announced by the Minister for Health and Social Services on 20 March 2019. The standards set clear requirements on GP providers in terms of expectations relating to access including an increased digital offering.”;

(ii) in paragraph D.15, under the heading Group 2 for “all three standards” substitute “standards 6 and 7”;

(b) in Part 4: Quality Improvement (QI) for paragraph 4.1 substitute—

“4.1. The QI domain is based on the introduction of a “basket” of quality improvement projects. The basket of projects available for QAIF (QA and QI) 2019/20 and 2020/21 years combined will be:

(a) Patient Safety Programme - Reducing medicines related harm through a multi-faceted intervention for the cluster population.

(b) Reducing stroke risk through improved management of Atrial Fibrillation for the cluster population.

(c) Ceilings of care / Advanced Care planning.

(d) Urinary tract infection to multi-disciplinary Antimicrobial Stewardship QAIF (QA and QI) 2019/20 and 2020/21 years combined.

GMS contractors will be required to implement two QI projects in QAIF (QA and QI) 2019/20 and 2020/21 years combined:

(i) Patient Safety Programme – mandatory, and

(ii) Quality Improvement – choice from b, c, d set out above.

Further details on each of the projects are detailed at http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/480/Guidance%20for%20GMS%20Contract%2
0Wales%20-%20Quality%20and%20Improvement%20Framework%202019-20.pdf except that, from 1 October 2020 until 30 September 2021, contractors will not be required to deliver the “cluster level” requirements in paragraphs 4.3 to 4.6 of that guidance.”;

(c) in Part 5: Access in the indicator column of the Table—
   (i) in Group 1, paragraph 4—
      (aa) omit “By the end of March 2020:”,
      (bb) in the first bullet point for “trhgouh” substitute “through”, and
   (ii) in Group 2, Access Standard 8 is omitted;

(d) in Part 5: Access in the Points column of the Table adjacent to the entry for Group 2 substitute—
   “Less than 2 Standards = 0
   2 Standards (Standards 6 and 7) = 50”.

(5) For Annex J – Amendments substitute Annex J attached at the Schedule to these Directions.

Amendment to the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (COVID-19 Suspension of QAIF and Alteration of Enhanced Services) Directions 2021

3. In the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (COVID-19 Suspension of QAIF and Alteration of Enhanced Services) Directions 2021(a)—
   (a) in Direction 1(4) in the definition of “relevant quarter”—
      (i) omit “either”, and
      (ii) after “2020/2021” insert “ and the 3 month period ending on June 30 and September 30 in financial year 2021/2022”;
   (b) in Direction 2(1) omit sub-paragraph (a).

Signed by Alex Slade, Deputy Director, Primary Care and Health Science under the authority of the Minister for Health and Social Services, one of the Welsh Ministers

Date: 19 April 2021

(a) WG21-04.
SCHEDULE

ANNEX J – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Directions to the Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013, which came into force on 11 June 2013

(a) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2013 (2013 No.60), which were made on 30 September 2013;
(b) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2014 (2014 No.3), which were made on 16 June 2014;
(c) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2014 (2014 No.17), which were made on 27 June 2014;
(d) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2014 (2014 No.24), which were made on 30 September 2014;
(e) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2015 (2015 No.7), which were made on 31 March 2015;
(f) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No 2) Directions 2015 (2015 No.14), which were made on 01 April 2015;
(g) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No 3) Directions 2015 (2015 No.15), which were made on 20 April 2015;
(h) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment No 4) Directions 2015 (2015 No.19), which were made on 25 June 2015;
(i) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.5) Directions 2015, which were made on 30 September 2015;
(j) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2016, which were made on 30 March 2016;
(k) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2016, which were made on 11 April 2016;
(l) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2016, which were made on 13 July 2016;
(m) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 4) Directions 2016 (2016 No.19), which were made on 16 August 2016;
(n) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.5) Directions 2016 which were made on 15 December 2016;
(o) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 6) Directions 2017 which were made on 31 January 2017;
(p) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2017 which were made on 27 April 2017;
(q) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.2) Directions 2017 which were made on 9 August 2017;
(r) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No.3) Directions 2017 which were made on the 28 September 2017;
(s) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2018 which were made on the 14 June 2018;
(t) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2018 which were made on 19 November 2018;
(u) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2019 which were made on 29 March 2019;
(v) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2019 which were made on 28 June 2019;
(w) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2019 which were made on 29 August 2019;
(x) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 4) Directions 2019 which were made on 30 September 2019;
(y) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 5) Directions 2019 which were made on 14 October 2019;
(z) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2020 which were made on 24 March 2020;
(aa) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2020 which were made on 22 June 2020;
(bb) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 3) Directions 2020 which were made on 15 July 2020;
(cc) Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 4) Directions 2020 which were made on 16 September 2020; and
(dd) Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) (No. 5) Directions 2020 which were made on 2 November 2020.