

WG - No. 20-29

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

**Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of
Financial Entitlements (COVID-19 Suspension of Enhanced
Services) (Amendment) Directions 2020**

Made 18 June 2020

Coming into force 19 June 2020

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⁽¹⁾, 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, application and commencement

1.—(1) The title of these Directions is the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (COVID-19 Suspension of Enhanced Services) (Amendment) Directions 2020.

(2) These Directions are given to Local Health Boards. They relate to the payments to be made by Local Health Boards to a GMS contractor under a GMS contract.

(3) These Directions are made on 18 June and come into force on 19 June 2020.

Amendment of the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (COVID-19 Suspension of Enhanced Services) Directions 2020

2.—(1) The Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (COVID-19 Suspension of Enhanced Services) Directions 2020 are amended as follows.

(2) In Direction 1(4)—

(a) for the definition of “financial year” substitute—

““financial year” means a year ending on 31 March;”, and

(b) in the appropriate place, insert—

““post payment verification” means the process undertaken by NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership to provide assurance to Local Health Boards that the claims for payment made by GMS contractors are correct and in accordance with the Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013⁽²⁾, relevant Local Health Board procedures and individual enhanced service specifications;

(1) 2006 c.42.

(2) 2013 No.8.

“quarter” means each three month period ending on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31;”.

(3) Omit Direction 2(2).

(4) After Direction 2 insert—

“Payments for Enhanced Services Suspended due to COVID-19

2A.—(1) A GMS contractor who provides an enhanced service suspended in accordance with direction 2 for the financial year 2020/21 is entitled to receive a payment in the sum of whichever is the greater of—

- (a) the claim submitted for that enhanced service by the GMS contractor for the relevant quarter of financial year 2020/21, pursuant to the relevant Directions for that enhanced service, or
- (b) the payment the GMS contractor received pursuant to the relevant Directions for that enhanced service in the same quarter of financial year 2019/20 claimed for in sub-paragraph (a).

(2) A GMS contractor who provides an enhanced service suspended in accordance with direction 2 for a part of financial year 2020/21 but subsequently decides to withdraw its provision of that enhanced service, is entitled to receive a payment—

- (a) where the GMS contractor provided the enhanced service for less than 13 weeks of financial year 2020/21, in the sum of whichever is the greater of—
 - (i) the claim submitted for that enhanced service by the GMS contractor for the relevant period of financial year 2020/21, pursuant to the relevant Directions for that enhanced service, or
 - (ii) the payment the GMS contractor received for that enhanced service in the same period of financial year 2019/20 claimed for in paragraph (i); or
- (b) where the GMS contractor provided the enhanced service for at least 13 weeks of financial year 2020/21, is the sum the contractor would be entitled to receive in accordance with paragraph (1).

(3) A GMS contractor who provided an enhanced service for the financial year 2019/20 which has been suspended in accordance with direction 2 is not entitled to receive any payment for that enhanced service for the financial year 2020/21 if the GMS contractor—

- (a) has not been commissioned to provide that enhanced service for the financial year 2020/21, or
- (b) has been commissioned to provide, but subsequently gives the Local Health Board notice of its decision to withdraw the provision of, that enhanced service for the financial year 2020/21.”.

(5) For Direction 4 substitute—

“4. All post payment verification is suspended until 1 October 2020.”.

(6) In the Schedule, in the table—

- (a) for the entry “Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunisations Scheme” in column 1, omit “and Pneumococcal”, and
- (b) in the appropriate place insert—

“Pneumococcal Immunisations Scheme	Continue, subject to the following modifications; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call patient on the day of appointment to assess wellbeing; and• Prioritise the use of Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPV23) vaccine on the basis of individual assessment.”.
------------------------------------	--

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Slade', written in a cursive style.

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

Date: 18 June 2020