

Sian Lewis  
Managing Director  
Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee  
**Via Email:** [sian.lewis100@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:sian.lewis100@wales.nhs.uk)

29 June 2021

Dear Sian

I am writing to request the support of the WHSSC team in the development of a service specification for specialised paediatric orthopaedic surgery.

At the May meeting of the NHS Wales Health Collaborative Executive Group (CEG), members received a paper (attached), from the Regional and Specialised Services Provider Planning Partnership (RSSPPP), on the current sustainability issues within paediatric orthopaedic surgery services in South and West Wales. Following discussion, it was agreed that service specifications were needed in order to inform the commissioning of these services.

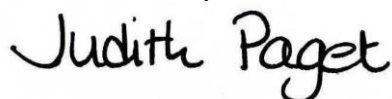
As these services provide a mixture specialised and non-specialised procedures, it will be necessary to have service specifications that span the entire range of procedures. Therefore, the CEG has agreed to commission two complementary service specifications:

- Non specialised – commissioned by Health Boards
- Specialised – currently commissioned by Health Boards, but included in the WHSSC signal of commissioning intent for the 2022/23 Integrated Commissioning Plan

As WHSSC has a well-established process for developing comprehensive and detail specialised service specifications, I am writing in my capacity as chair of the CEG, to request your support to develop a service specification for specialised paediatric orthopaedic surgery. In parallel to this, I will be writing to the chair of the Welsh Orthopaedic Board to request their support to develop a service specification for non-specialised paediatric orthopaedic surgery. I have asked Ian Langfield, Associate Programme Director for Tertiary and Specialist Services Planning Partnership, to liaise with both teams to support the development of these documents, and to ensure that the respective processes for approval are fully aligned.

Please can you confirm that WHSSC team would be able to take this work forward, in order to ensure that there are service specifications in place for these services by the end of this year.

Yours sincerely



**Judith Paget**  
**Chair - NHS Wales Health Collaborative**