

To: CCGs, NHS Acute Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts

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Dear colleague,

### **Additional elective activity in quarter 4**

This note clarifies the arrangements for any additional activity undertaken by Trusts and Foundation Trusts to support the reduction of any potential over 18 week waits during Quarter 4.

It is important that patients who have been waiting for longer than the constitutional standard, or who are likely to, should be treated as quickly as possible and providers should not hesitate to get on with treating these patients themselves or subcontracting treatment to the IS. Activity in Q4 which is above baseline contract levels will be paid at 115% of tariff.

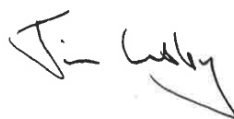
For clarity, the activity related to this work will not be linked back to any previous initiative in order to determine additionality. Activity volumes against any previous initiatives will need to be resolved locally.

It follows that we do not expect CCGs to enact contractual sanctions for underperformance against the 3 RTT operational standards where underperformance is a consequence of this work in Q4 to support the reduction of potential over 18 week waits.

CCGs should be aware that arrangements for payment of the additional 15% premium for this period will be made nationally. Further details on the reimbursement mechanisms will follow.

Where any Trust or CCG is unclear about any of these arrangements, they should escalate the issue to their Regional Tripartite urgently but this should not delay Trusts undertaking the activity.

Yours sincerely



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