

Annex 2: Policy work

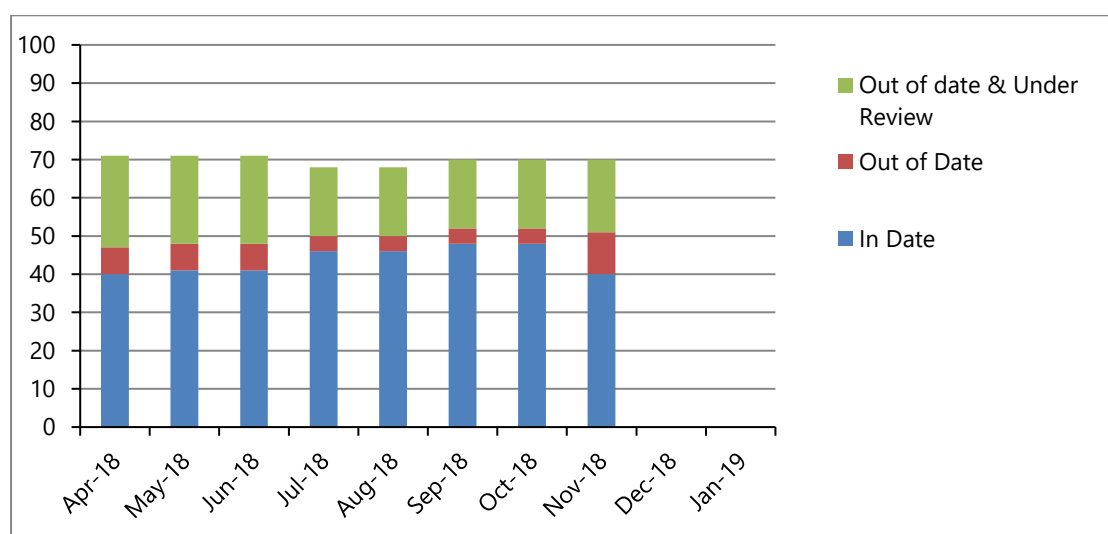
The WHSSC Policy Group was established in November 2016 in response to a growing list of out of date published commissioning policies. The Group is currently chaired by the Managing Director and all teams within WHSSC are represented.

The Group has the delegated powers and authority to sign off and approval of policy proposals for further consideration by Management Group. Where there is no financial or service impact or where the funding requirement has already been identified within the Integrated Commissioning Plan (ICP) Management Group may approve for publication

If a policy is identified as having a financial or service impact or where a funding requirement has not been identified within the ICP the policy must be formally progressed via Management Group to the Joint Committee for final ratification.

WHSSC is committed to regularly reviewing and updating all of its policies based upon the best available evidence of both clinical and cost effectiveness (where available). The eventual aim is to produce a suite of policies, each containing a supporting evidence review, with a clear link between the evidence and the recommendations/indications in the policy.

The below table shows the total number of policies by month broken down by: out of date and under review, out of date and no current update and in date.



Significant work has also taken place (and is on-going) to develop new commissioning policies and service specifications in key clinical areas. Since

April 2018 WHSSC has published 11 new or updated policies which are shown in the below table. In addition, there are 31 new commissioning policies currently in development.

Publications to date (2018-19)

Publication Date	Policy Number	Policy Title
April 2018	CP74	Inhaled therapy for patients six years and older with cystic fibrosis, Commissioning Policy [UPDATE]
April 2018	CP140	Specialised Neurorehabilitation, Commissioning Policy [UPDATE]
April 2018	CP141	Specialised Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation, Commissioning Policy [UPDATE]
April 2018	CP128	Specialised Neuropsychiatric Rehabilitation, Commissioning Policy [UPDATE]
April 2018	CP160	Paediatric Specialised Neuro-rehabilitation Commissioning Policy [NEW]
May 2018	CP50	Positron Emissions Tomography, Commissioning Policy [UPDATE]
May 2018	CP159	New Treatment Fund policy (internal to WHSSC)
July 2018	CP38	Specialist Fertility Services, Service Specification [UPDATE]
July 2018	PP156	Asfotase alfa for treating paediatric-onset hypophosphatasia, Policy Position [NEW]
October 2018	CP29b	Bariatric Surgery, Service Specification [UPDATE]
November 2018	PP167	Emicizumab as prophylaxis in people with congenital haemophilia A with Factor VIII inhibitors (all ages), Commissioning Policy [NEW]

2.8.1 Policy development methodology

In order to ensure WHSSC continues to produce clear, consistent and evidence based commissioning policies a new methodology guide has been produced. This guide primarily for use by WHSSC staff, explains how WHSSC will develop and updates policies, from pre-scoping (preparation and planning) through to publication. It provides advice on the technical aspects of policy development and the methods used. It also recommends a clinically led approach using both the WHSSC Associate Medical Directors and colleagues in the service.

To accompany the methodology manual a suite of supporting documentation has been prepared including revised commissioning policy, position policy and service specification templates. The role of stakeholder engagement has

been strengthened, including better coverage of policy consultation and greater transparency in responding to stakeholder feedback.