

Annex 2- Enabling Actions for Delivery in 2026/27

New Actions for 2026/27

Strategic Priority	Enabling Action
Productivity	Health boards to ensure utilisation of the total factor productivity model, and set out the actions and quantified productivity impact that will increase total productivity in 2026/27 from the baseline position.
Mental Health	Health boards to implement actions to deliver a material reduction in the number of out of area placements in 2026/27, and associated costs.

Actions to be rolled over to 2026/27 using the existing definition

Strategic Priority	Enabling Action
Timely Access to Care	Improvement in the implementation and delivery of High Volume Low Complexity Theatre lists, with an initial focus on - Cataract 90% of lists to have 7 Cataracts per list by end of Q2, Arthroplasty 90% of lists to have 4 Primary joints per day and 90% of time achieve at least 6 HVLC General Surgery procedures on an all-day list made up of hernias/gallbladders by end of Q2
Building Community Capacity	Support the implementation and roll-out of the NHS Wales app for maximum impact and benefit to include the uptake of its use for repeat prescriptions.
Maximising Value for Money	Non-Pay - ensure implementation of Value & Sustainability Board recommendations, which includes local implementation of clinically endorsed and mandated product choice to maximise market share and deliver best value.
	Medicines Management - ensure full implementation of the high value medicines Value & Sustainability Board programme, which includes delivering opportunities against each of the programme areas.
	Estate - ensure strengthened actions are taken to improve estate utilisation including the appropriate repurposing & disposal of under-utilised estate.
	CHC - ensure implementation of Value & Sustainability Board recommendations which include continued actions to improve clinical and financial effectiveness associated with packages of care.
Improving Value, Optimising Outcomes, &	Ensure progress with the implementation of Value & Sustainability Board High Value High Impact pathway - Bone Health

minimising Variation	
Workforce Productivity	Ensure effective implementation of job planning policy, to include ensuring that > 90% of all Consultants have an agreed job plan in place at all times by 30 September 2026 and aligned to service demand and capacity plans.
	Continue to deliver a further and sustained reduction in agency expenditure, with a target 30% reduction in 2026/27 from 2025/26 outturn and ensuring no off-contract expenditure.
	Fully implement the actions outlined in the Variable Pay & Agency Control Framework Welsh Health Circular
	Organisations who have achieved a reduction in agency spend on Healthcare Support Worker, Admin & Clerical, and Estates & Ancillary staff to maintain that position. Organisations yet to deliver that position to deliver zero by 30th September 2026.
	Ensure a reduction in sickness absence in 2026/27 in comparison to 2025/26, through maximising adherence to the requirements of agreed attendance at work policies and adhering to the all-Wales Occupational Health minimum service levels.

Actions to be rolled over to 2026/27 with re-defined action definition

Strategic Priority	Newly defined action for 26/27
Timely Access to Care	Ensuring the full implementation of the National Optimal Pathway (NOPs) in Cancer
	Theatre session utilisation is improved to achieve GiRFT standard of 85%- late starts (>15 mins), early finishes (>60 minutes) and overall utilisation are reported as key KPIs to underpin the 85% standard
	Consistent clerical and clinical validation should be in place using the national SOP - any patient waiting greater than 26 weeks should be validated. Volumes of non-admitted closed pathways will be monitored as proxy supported by National Programme team visits
	Each Health Board should see a referral return rate of 20+% and/or a reduced referral rate per 100,000 population by December 2026 - utilising Health Pathways optimally.
	Through effective streaming of patients on arrival at the front door allied to a focus on safe, efficient and early discharges, deliver all ambulance patient handovers within a maximum of 45 minutes, aiming for achievement of >90% in 15 minutes by the end of 2026/2027.

	<p>Deliver, as a minimum, all principles set out in the six goals for urgent and emergency care programme Optimal Hospital Flow Framework with a focus on 7-day working with leaner acute hospital processes and more efficient discharge transport services to facilitate earlier discharges and increasing weekend discharges.</p>
	<p>Deliver medical same day emergency care (SDEC) and acute frailty services at the front door of hospitals in line with all principles set out in national SDEC policy and strategy documents, and the six goals for urgent and emergency care programme <i>Front Door Acute Frailty Service (AFS) Framework for Acute Hospitals</i>.</p>
	<p>Deliver, as a minimum, all principles set out in the six goals for urgent and emergency care programme community-based falls response framework and, in support, implement a focus on prevention and early intervention in line with the policy statement on population health management.</p>
	<p>Deliver, as a minimum, all principles set out in the six goals for urgent and emergency care programme single point of access (SPOA) framework to ensure people with urgent care needs receive timely and appropriate support, minimising unnecessary escalation to emergency ambulance conveyance or hospital admission.</p> <p>Prioritise tailored interventions for frail and older adults, scaling up “call before convey” as a business-as-usual model and referrals to community nursing services enabling urgent response. Strengthen integration with key system partners, including WAST and Local Authorities, to deliver coordinated and effective care across the urgent care pathway.</p>
Population Health & Prevention	<p>Ensure progress of the focused Diabetes High Value High Impact pathway</p>
Improving Value, Optimising Outcomes, & minimising Variation	<p>Eradicate unsupported systems and devices and ensure a clear cyber response plan for the organisation.</p>

Appendix 1

Actions not rolled forward from 2025/26

Strategic Priority	Enabling Action	Note
Timely Access to Care	Implementation of CIN follow up criteria both prospectively and retrospectively to established Follow-up waiting lists.	Action completed
	On 90% of days planned care inpatient/day case/theatre recovery capacity should be protected from unscheduled care pressures and outlying of patients by the end of Q1.	Action completed – should now be considered as business as usual
	Ensure monitoring of DNA/CNA rates is in place for every Outpatient clinic. When DNA/CNA as a combined rate is greater than 5%, overbooking additional patients should be implemented and monitored.	Action completed – should now be considered as business as usual
	Implement national guidelines with thresholds by Clinical Implementation Network (CIN) and procedure. This includes delivery of effective outpatients through See on Symptom (SOS) and Patient Initiated Follow-up (PIFU) by default. Individual CINs will establish PIFU / SOS targets by specialty & sub-specialty on an ongoing basis by March 2025.	The action should become BAU but should continue to be monitored through programme and performance meetings
	Deliver improvements in day surgery rates, with an expectation to achieving a BACDS day case rate of 70% from April 2025, moving to 80% by the end of June 2025.	Action completed – should now be considered as business as usual
	Maintaining the actions within the 50 Day challenge that can be delivered consistently with minimal additional resource, within organisations and as a priority within regional partnership arrangements.	Action will be taken forward under OHFF under UEC.
	All new Cataract referrals should be direct listed to treatment stage of the pathway following an admin triage by the end of Q2.	Action completed – should now be considered as business as usual
	Progress implementation of the national approach to Interventions not normally undertaken (INNU) Deliver the 8 priority procedures determined for implementation as part of Phase 1.	Remove and propose performance management via optimisation framework
	Progress implementation of the national approach to Interventions not normally undertaken (INNU) - continue to implement ongoing recommendations throughout 2025/26.	Remove and propose performance management via optimisation framework

	Ensuring full compliance with straight to test guidance	Remove as included in the rolled over Cancer National Optimal Pathway (NOPs in Cancer action
Improving Value, Optimising Outcomes, & minimising Variation	Ensure progress with the implementation of Value & Sustainability Board High Value High Impact pathway - Arthroplasty (Hip & Knee).	Remove and propose performance management via optimisation framework