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| (Our Ref: CE/LSP/17 June 2013) | Oak House  Moorhead Way  Bramley  Rotherham  S66 1YY  Email address – cathy.edwards2@nhs.net  Telephone Number – 01709 302068 |
| Chief Executives  NHS Trust  & Independent Sector Providers  Yorkshire and the Humber | 17th June 2013 |

Dear all

**Re: Service Specifications for Specialised Services**

I am pleased to be able to confirm that the final versions of the service specifications for specialised and highly specialised services are now available on the NHS England website at <http://www.england.nhs.uk/npc-crg/>.

You will be aware from previous correspondence that the intention is to formally mandate the specifications in contracts from October 2013.

There will be a process undertaken shortly to assess compliance against key requirements in the specifications. There will be a national standardised approach to the assessment exercise but the work will be undertaken by the local specialised commissioning team.

I will contact you again shortly to advise you of the details of the process and the required timescales for completion. In the meantime, the specifications are available now for reading in advance of the assessment work.

Any immediate queries should be directed to the contract manager who leads on your particular provider contract.

Yours sincerely



Cathy Edwards

Head of Specialised Commissioning

NHS England

South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Area Team