

Hywel Dda University Health Board

Outline Audit Plan 2023

Audit year: 2022-2023

Date issued: April 2023

This document is a draft version pending further discussions with the audited and inspected body. Information may not yet have been fully verified and should not be widely distributed.



This document has been prepared as part of work performed in accordance with statutory functions. Further information can be found in our [Statement of Responsibilities](#).

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We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

About Audit Wales

Our aims:

Assure



the people of Wales
that public money is
well managed

Explain



how public money
is being used to
meet people's
needs

Inspire



and empower the
Welsh public sector
to improve

Our ambitions:



Fully exploit
our unique
perspective,
expertise and
depth of insight



Strengthen our
position as an
authoritative,
trusted and
independent voice



Increase our
visibility,
influence and
relevance



Be a model
organisation for the
public sector in
Wales and beyond

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Introduction

This Outline Audit Plan specifies my statutory responsibilities as your external auditor and to fulfil my obligations under the Code of Audit Practice. It also sets out details of my audit team and key dates for delivering my audit team's activities and planned outputs. I intend sharing a Detailed Audit Plan later in the year following the completion of my planning work. It will set out my estimated audit fee and the work my team intends undertaking to address the audit risks identified and other key areas of audit focus during 2023.

My audit responsibilities

Audit of financial statements

I am required to issue a report on your financial statements which includes an opinion on their 'truth and fairness' and the regularity of income and expenditure, and the proper preparation of key elements of your Remuneration and Staff Report. I lay them before the Senedd together with any report that I make on them. I will also report by exception on a number of matters which are set out in more detail in our [Statement of Responsibilities](#).

I do not seek to obtain absolute assurance on the truth and fairness of the financial statements and related notes but adopt a concept of materiality. My aim is to identify material misstatements, that is, those that might result in a reader of the accounts being misled. The levels at which I judge such misstatements to be material will be reported to you in my Detailed Audit Plan.



Adrian Crompton
Auditor General for
Wales

I am also required to certify a return to the Welsh Government which provides information about the Health Board to support preparation of the Whole of Government Accounts.

Performance audit work

I must satisfy myself that the Health Board has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in its use of resources. I do this by undertaking an appropriate programme of performance audit work each year.

My work programme is informed by specific issues and risks facing the Health Board and the wider NHS in Wales. I have also taken account of the work that is being undertaken or planned by other external review bodies and by internal audit.

Fees and audit team

In January 2023 I published the [fee scheme](#) for the year, approved by the Senedd Finance Committee. This sets out my fee rates and also highlights the impact of the revised auditing standard ISA 315 on my financial audit approach. More details of the revised auditing standard and what it means for the audit I undertake is set out in **Appendix 1**.

I will provide an estimate of your fee in my Detailed Audit Plan in May 2023, following completion of my detailed risk assessment.

Your engagement team:

Anthony Veale	Engagement Director & Audit Director (Financial Audit)
Dave Thomas	Audit Director (Performance Audit)
Lucy Evans	Audit Manager (Financial Audit)
Anne Beegan	Audit Manager (Performance Audit)
Eleanor Ansell	Audit Lead (Financial Audit)
Urvisha Perez	Audit Lead (Performance Audit)

We confirm that our audit team members are all independent of the Health Board and your officers.

Audit timeline

We set out below key dates for delivery of our audit work and planned outputs.

Planned output	Work undertaken	Report finalised
2023 Outline Audit Plan	February 2023	April 2023
2023 Detailed Audit Plan	February – April 2023	May 2023
Audit of financial statements work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit of Financial Statements Report • Opinion on the Financial Statements. 	May - July 2023	July 2023
Performance audit work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured Assessment, incorporating a deep dive into a specific thematic area which will be confirmed in the detailed plan in May 2023. • All-Wales thematic review of planned care, following on from my previous work in this area in 2022. • Local project work (to be confirmed in detailed plan in May 2023) 	Timescales for individual projects will be discussed with you and detailed within the specific project briefings produced for each study.	

Audit quality

My commitment to audit quality in Audit Wales is absolute.

I believe that audit quality is about getting things right first-time.

We use a three lines of assurance model to demonstrate how we achieve this.

We have established an Audit Quality Committee to co-ordinate and oversee those arrangements. We subject our work to independent scrutiny by QAD¹ and our Chair acts as a link to our Board on audit quality. For more information see our [Audit Quality Report 2022](#).



Our People

The first line of assurance is formed by our staff and management who are individually and collectively responsible for achieving the standards of audit quality to which we aspire.

- Selection of right team
- Use of specialists
- Supervisions and review



Arrangements for achieving audit quality

The second line of assurance is formed by the policies, tools, learning & development, guidance, and leadership we provide to our staff to support them in achieving those standards of audit quality.

- Audit platform
- Ethics
- Guidance
- Culture
- Learning and development
- Leadership
- Technical support



Independent assurance

The third line of assurance is formed by those activities that provide independent assurance over the effectiveness of the first two lines of assurance.

- EQCRs
- Themed reviews
- Cold reviews
- Root cause analysis
- Peer review
- Audit Quality Committee
- External monitoring

¹ QAD is the Quality Assurance Department of ICAEW

Appendix 1 – the key changes to ISA315 and the potential impact on your organisation

Key change	Potential impact on your organisation
More detailed and extensive risk identification and assessment procedures	<p>Your finance team and others in your organisation may receive a greater number of enquiries from our audit teams at the planning stage of the audit. Requests for information may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• information on your organisation’s business model and how it integrates the use of information technology (IT);• information about your organisation’s risk assessment process and how your organisation monitors the system of internal control;• more detailed information on how transactions are initiated, recorded, processed, and reported. This may include access to supporting documentation such as policy and procedure manuals; and• more detailed discussions with your organisation to support the audit team’s assessment of inherent risk.
Obtaining an enhanced understanding of your organisation’s environment, particularly in relation to IT	<p>Your organisation may receive more enquiries to assist the audit team in understanding the IT environment. This may include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IT applications relevant to financial reporting;• the supporting IT infrastructure (e.g. the network, databases);• IT processes (e.g. managing program changes, IT operations); and• the IT personnel involved in the IT processes.

Key change	Potential impact on your organisation
	<p>Audit teams may need to test the general IT controls and this may require obtaining more detailed audit evidence on the operation of IT controls within your organisation.</p> <p>On some audits, our audit teams may involve IT audit specialists to assist with their work. Our IT auditors may need to engage with members of your IT team who have not previously been involved in the audit process.</p>
<p>Enhanced requirements relating to exercising professional scepticism</p>	<p>Our audit teams may make additional inquiries if they identify information which appears to contradict what they have already learned in the audit.</p>
<p>Risk assessments are scalable depending on the nature and complexity of the audited body</p>	<p>The audit team's expectations regarding the formality of your organisation's policies, procedures, processes, and systems will depend on the complexity of your organisation.</p>
<p>Audit teams may make greater use of technology in the performance of their audit</p>	<p>Our audit teams may make use of automated tools and techniques such as data analytics when performing their audit. Our teams may request different information or information in a different format from previous audits so that they can perform their audit procedures.</p>