

Audit & Risk Assurance Committee Update – Hywel Dda University Health Board

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Audit & Risk Assurance Committee Update

About this document

- 1 This document provides the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) with an update on current and planned Audit Wales work. Accounts and performance audit work are considered, and information is also provided on the Auditor General's wider programme of national value for money examinations and the work of our Good Practice Exchange (GPX).

Accounts audit update

- 2 **Exhibit 1** summarises the status of our key accounts audit work currently underway.

Exhibit 1 – Accounts audit work

Area of work	Current status
Audit of the 2021-22 Charitable Funds Accounts	Audit planning due to start autumn of 2022.
Audit of the 2022-23 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Audit planning due to start early 2023.

Performance audit update

- 3 The following tables set out the performance audit work included in our current and previous Audit Plans, summarising:
 - completed work since the last Audit & Risk Assurance Committee update (**Exhibit 2**);
 - work that is currently underway (**Exhibit 3**); and
 - planned work not yet started or revised (**Exhibit 4**).

Exhibit 2 – Work completed

Area of work	Considered by ARAC
<u>Structured Assessment 2021 Phase 2 – Corporate Governance and Financial Management Arrangements</u>	February 2022

Exhibit 3 – Work currently underway

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and ARAC consideration
Orthopaedic services – follow up Executive Lead – Director of Operations	This review will examine the progress made in response to our 2015 recommendations. The findings from this work will inform the recovery planning discussions that are starting to take place locally and help identify where there are opportunities to do things differently as the service looks to tackle the significant elective backlog challenges. Our findings will be summarised into a single national report with supplementary outputs setting out the local position for each health board.	We are preparing an all-Wales summary report and a discrete Annex for each Health Board, for publication in December 2022 December 2022
Review of the sustainable use of RTT monies Executive Lead – Director of Operations	The focus of this work will examine whether the Health Board’s use of RTT funding in 2019-20 resulted in sustainable solutions for reducing waiting times and the extent to which these can be used to aid recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.	Short output being considered alongside any further national outputs relating to planned care February 2023

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and ARAC consideration
<p>Review of operational governance arrangements – Mental Health & Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Executive Lead – Director of Operations</p>	<p>This review will follow on from our Quality Governance and Structured Assessment work and examine the effectiveness of the governance arrangements within the Mental Health & Learning Disabilities directorate.</p>	<p>Draft reporting</p> <p>December 2022</p>
<p>Review of Unscheduled Care</p> <p>Executive Lead – Director of Operations</p>	<p>This work will examine different aspects of the unscheduled care system and will include analysis of national data sets to present a high-level picture of how the unscheduled care system is currently working. The work will include an examination of the actions being taken by NHS bodies, local government, and Regional Partnership Boards to secure timely and safe discharge of patients from hospital to help improve patient flow. We also plan to review progress being made in managing unscheduled care demand by helping patients access services which are most appropriate for their unscheduled care needs.</p>	<p>Blog and data tool published in April 2022</p> <p>Project brief issued. Fieldwork underway</p> <p>April 2023</p>
<p>Structured Assessment</p> <p>Executive Lead – Board Secretary</p>	<p>This work will continue to form the basis of the work we do to examine the existence of proper arrangements for the efficient, effective, and economical use of resources. The 2022 work will review the corporate arrangements in place at the Health Board in relation to:</p>	<p>Fieldwork underway</p> <p>December 2022</p>

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and ARAC consideration
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and leadership; • Financial management; • Strategic planning; and • Use of resources (such as digital resources, estates, and other physical assets). 	
Follow-up review of primary care	This work will look to examine the progress the Health Board has made in addressing our previous recommendations relating to primary care services.	Scoping April 2023
Workforce planning Executive Lead – Director of Workforce & Organisational Development	This review will assess the workforce risks that NHS bodies are experiencing currently and are likely to experience in the future. It will examine how local and national workforce planning activities are being taken forward to manage those risks and address short-, medium- and longer-term workforce needs	Review currently being scoped. Fieldwork due to start December 2022 April 2023

Exhibit 4 – Planned work not yet started or revised

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and ARAC consideration
Review of operational governance arrangements across service directorates	This work will look to review the effectiveness of the arrangements for governance at an operational level across the service directorates. This work will follow on from internal work currently being undertaken by the Health Board to	Date for consideration to be confirmed

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and ARAC consideration
Executive Lead – Director of Operations	strengthen governance arrangements within the directorates, as well as the local work we will undertake focusing specifically on the Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Directorate.	

Good Practice events and products

- In addition to the audit work set out above, we continue to seek opportunities for finding and sharing good practice from all-Wales audit work through our forward planning, programme design and good practice research. Details of future events are available on the [GPX website](#).

NHS-related national studies and related products

- The Audit & Risk Assurance Committee may also be interested in the Auditor General's wider programme of national value for money studies, some of which focus on the NHS and pan-public-sector topics. These studies are typically funded through the Welsh Consolidated Fund and are presented to the Public Accounts & Public Administration Committee to support its scrutiny of public expenditure.
- Exhibit 5** provides information on the NHS-related or relevant national studies published since our last Committee Update. It also includes all-Wales summaries of work undertaken locally in the NHS.

Exhibit 5 – NHS-related or relevant studies and all-Wales summary reports

Title	Publication Date
<u>Equality Impact Assessment: More than a Tick Box Exercise?</u>	September 2022
<u>NHS Wales Finance Data Tool</u>	August 2022
<u>Public Sector Readiness for Net Zero Carbon by 2030: Evidence Report</u>	August 2022



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