

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 complete and an unqualified audit opinion given 30 January 2023.
Audit of the 2022-23 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Audit planning due to start spring 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**).

Exhibit 2 – Work completed

Area of work	Considered by ARAC
Structured Assessment 2022	December 2022

Exhibit 3 – Work currently underway

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status
<p>Orthopaedic services – follow up</p> <p>Executive Lead – Director of Operations</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>National report due to be published on 23 February, along with individual Health Board local data reports.</p> <p>Health Board data report on ARAC agenda for information only.</p>
<p>Review of the sustainable use of RTT monies</p> <p>Executive Lead – Director of Operations</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Short output being considered alongside any further national outputs relating to planned care</p>
<p>Review of operational governance arrangements –</p>	<p>This review will follow on from our Quality Governance and Structured Assessment work and examine the effectiveness of the governance</p>	<p>Draft report in external clearance</p>

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status
<p>Mental Health & Learning Disabilities</p> <p>Executive Lead – Director of Operations</p>	<p>arrangements within the Mental Health & Learning Disabilities directorate.</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>Fieldwork underway. Some delays being experienced.</p>
<p>Follow-up review of primary care</p>	<p>This work will look to examine the progress the Health Board has made in addressing our previous recommendations relating to primary care services.</p>	<p>Scoping</p>
<p>Workforce planning</p> <p>Executive Lead – Director of Workforce &</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Fieldwork underway.</p>

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status
Organisational Development	being taken forward to manage those risks and address short-, medium- and longer-term workforce needs	
Review of operational governance arrangements across service directorates Executive Lead – Director of Operations	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 strengthen governance arrangements within the directorates, as well as the local work we will undertake focusing specifically on the Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Directorate.	Early scoping

Good Practice events and products

- 4 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

- 5 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.
- 6 **Exhibit 4** 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 4 – NHS-related or relevant studies and all-Wales summary reports

Title	Publication Date
<u>'Together we can' – Community resilience and self-reliance</u>	January 2023



Audit Wales

24 Cathedral Road

Cardiff CF11 9LJ

Tel: 029 2032 0500

Fax: 029 2032 0600

Textphone: 029 2032 0660

E-mail: info@audit.wales

Website: www.audit.wales

We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English.
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