

## Audit Committee Update – Hywel Dda University Health Board

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# Audit Committee Update

## About this document

- 1 This document provides the Audit Committee 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 2020-21 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Audit work is complete.  The Audit Committee and Board considered our audit report on 10 June. The Auditor General for Wales placed an opinion on the accounts on 15 June and laid them before the Senedd on the 16 June.
Audit of the 2020-21 Charitable Funds Accounts	Audit work complete. Clean opinion with no matters arising reported to the Charitable Funds Committee on 30 November.
Audit of the 2021-22 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Audit planning due to start in January 2022.

## 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 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 Audit Committee
Quality Governance	October 2021
<u>Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee Governance Arrangements</u>	August 2021
<u>Rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Wales</u>	June 2021
<u>Structured Assessment 2021 Phase 1 – Operational Planning</u>	June 2021

### Exhibit 3 – Work currently underway

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and Audit Committee consideration
Orthopaedic services – follow up	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	Date of publication realigned with anticipated publication date of national planned care

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and Audit Committee consideration
Executive Lead – Chief Operating Officer	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.	work of February 2022
Review of the sustainable use of RTT monies  Executive Lead – Chief Operating Officer	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.	Report due to go out for external clearance  February 2022
Structured Assessment  Executive Lead – Board Secretary / Director of Finance	This work will continue to reflect the ongoing arrangements of NHS bodies in response to the COVID-19 emergency. The work will be undertaken in two phases. Phase 1 will review the effectiveness of operational planning arrangements to help NHS bodies continue to respond to the challenges of the pandemic and to recover and restart services. Phase 2 will examine how well NHS bodies are embedding sound arrangements for corporate governance and financial management, drawing on lessons learnt from the initial response to the pandemic.	Report complete – Phase 1  Phase 2 – draft report in clearance  Board – January 2022

#### Exhibit 4 – Planned work not yet started or revised

Topic and relevant Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status and Audit Committee consideration
<p>Review of Unscheduled Care</p> <p>Executive Lead – Chief Operating Officer</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. Once completed, we will use this data analysis to determine which aspects of the unscheduled care system to review in more detail.</p>	<p>Data analysis completed. A whole system commentary alongside the data tool is due for publication in January 2022.</p> <p>Further work being scoped around access to services, and patient flow and discharge.</p>
<p>Review of operational governance arrangements - (Lead TBC)</p>	<p>The precise focus of this work is still to be determined but will look to review the effectiveness of the arrangements for governance at an operational level. This work will follow on from internal work currently being undertaken by the Health Board to strengthen governance arrangements within the directorates.</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>Local work 2021 (TBC)</p>	<p>The precise focus of this work is still to be determined.</p>	<p>TBC</p>

## 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.
- 5 In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have established a **COVID-19 Learning Project** to support public sector efforts by sharing learning through the pandemic. This is not an audit project; it is intended to help prompt some thinking, and hopefully support the exchange of practice. We have produced a number of outputs as part of the project which are relevant to the NHS, the details of which are available [here](#). This includes the material from our COVID-19 Learning Week held in March 2021.
- 6 Details of future events are available on the [GPX website](#).

## NHS-related national studies and related products

- 7 The Audit 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 Committee to support its scrutiny of public expenditure.
- 8 **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
<a href="#">Taking Care of the Carers?</a>	October 2021







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