## PWYLLGOR ADNODDAU CYNALIADWY
## SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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| **DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD:**<br>**DATE OF MEETING:** | 29 August 2023 |
| **TEITL YR ADRODDIAD:**<br>**TITLE OF REPORT:** | Welsh Health Circulars (WHC) |
| **CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL:**<br>**LEAD DIRECTOR:** | Huw Thomas, Director of Finance<br>Lee Davies, Director of Planning |
| **SWYDDOG ADRODD:**<br>**REPORTING OFFICER:** | Rachel Williams, Head of Assurance and Risk |

**Pwrpas yr Adroddiad** (dewiswch fel yn addas)
**Purpose of the Report** (select as appropriate)

Er Sicrwydd/For Assurance

## ADRODDIAD SCAA
## SBAR REPORT

### Sefyllfa / Situation

This report to the Sustainable Resource Committee (SRC) includes updates on progress in relation to the implementation of Welsh Health Circulars (WHCs), which come under the remit of SRC and its Sub-Committee structure. The Committee is requested to receive assurance from the lead Executive/Director or Supporting Officer on the management of WHCs within their area of responsibility, particularly in respect of understanding when the WHC will be delivered, any barriers to delivery, impacts of non/late delivery and assurance that the risks associated with these are being managed effectively.

### Cefndir / Background

WHCs provide a streamlined, transparent and traceable method of communication between NHS Wales and NHS organisations relating to different areas such as estates, finance, governance, health professional letters, information governance, quality and safety, legislation, planning, performance and delivery, policy, public health, research, science, and workforce. WHCs are published on the [Welsh Government website](#).

The Board has requested that WHCs that have not been implemented by the stated timescales should be closely monitored by its Committee structure, in order to provide assurance on the compliance and delivery of the outstanding WHC, in addition to an understanding of the impacts resulting from late/non-delivery.

### Asesiad / Assessment

It is noted that since the previous update to SRC, the classification system for WHCs has been updated to mirror the same classification system used in the Audit & Inspection Tracker to account for WHCs for which the means of compliance are currently outside the gift of the Health Board.

WHCs are not always clear in terms of implementation timescales, a result of which previously these were reported as "Amber" (i.e., on schedule).The Assurance and Risk Team have been

seeking updates from leads on these WHCs to determine the planned date for implementation by the Health Board where a specific date is not provided in the guidance itself. The following BRAG status is now applied to WHCs:

- **Green** = completed
- **Amber** = a plan is in place and on schedule to be completed by the timescale provided by the Lead Officer
- **Red** = behind schedule to the timescale provided by the Lead officer, or a plan (with date for implementation) is not yet in place
- **Blue** = External i.e., the means to achieve compliance is currently outside the gift of the Health Board

An update from each Supporting Officer, in respect of the WHCs that fall under the remit of SRC, is attached at Appendix 1.

**WHCs which have been completed since the last report in February 2023 (Green RAG status)**

| WHC Ref | Name of WHC | Date Issued | Lead Executive/ Director | Health Board Date for Completion |
|---------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 012-23 | 2023/24 LHB, SHA & Trust Monthly Financial Monitoring Return Guidance | 24/03/2022 | Director of Finance | Jun-23 |

Progress Update:

Monthly Monitoring Return (MMR) reporting was fully implemented as of 13 June 2023 following the Month 3 MMR submission. The MMR is also shared in each SRC as part of the appendices.

**WHCs which have not been implemented however are in progress within stated timescales (Amber RAG status).**

| WHC Ref | Name of WHC | Date Issued | Lead Executive/ Director | Health Board Date for Completion |
|---------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 007-15 | Update on the all Wales position of the EDCIMS (Emergency Department Clinical Information Management System) *No online link available* | 30/03/2015 | Director of Finance | 31/03/2025 |

Progress Update:

This project has stalled nationally and so far, this has only progressed within Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB). Progress will be via the Digital Transformation team once planning commences.

**WHCs which have not been implemented within stated timescales *or* where an implementation date has not been specified (Red RAG status).**

| WHC Ref | Name of WHC | Date Issued | Lead Executive/ Director | Health Board Date for Completion |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 005-22 | Data requirements for Value Based Health Care | 24/03/2022 | Director of Finance | Feb-23 (Revised date TBC – see below) |

Progress Update:

As of May 2023, the Health Board's Digital service are now providing Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW) with the requested clinical audit/registry data on a routine basis. At the last update in May 2023, the Head of Information Services was hoping to provide a completion date for the WHC as soon as the Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN) has been agreed and published by the DHCW data standards process, allowing further work to progress towards the collection of Value Based Health Care data.

**WHCs for which the means to comply are currently outside the gift of the Health Board (Blue RAG status).**

| WHC Ref | Name of WHC | Date Issued | Lead Executive/ Director | Health Board Date for Completion |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 009-22 | Prioritisation of COVID-19 patient episodes by NHS Wales Clinical Coding Departments | 04/04/2022 | Director of Finance | Unknown – dependant on Welsh Government advice |

Progress Update:

The service currently awaits a formal response from Welsh Government (WG) to be able to close this WHC. Previous correspondence from WG suggested that the unfeasible method of coding referenced in the circular can now be withdrawn, however no official response has been published and it is unknown whether this WHC will be withdrawn or superseded. The status of this WHC was recently changed from red (overdue) to blue (external) as it is recognised that the means of complying with this WHC are currently outside the control of the Health Board.

**Argymhelliad / Recommendation**

The Committee is requested to receive assurance, or otherwise, from the lead Executive/Director or Supporting Officer on the management of WHCs within their area of responsibility, particularly in respect of understanding when the WHC will be delivered, any

barriers to delivery, impacts of non/late delivery and assurance that the risks associated with these are being managed effectively.

| Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau) Objectives: (must be completed) | |
|---|---|
| Committee ToR Reference: Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor: | 2.2    To receive an assurance on delivery against all relevant Planning Objectives falling in the main under Strategic Objective 6 Sustainable Use of Resources (See Appendix 1), in accordance with the Board approved timescales, as set out in HDdUHB's Annual Plan. |
| Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score: | Risks to delivery of WHC's should be identified on directorate/service risk registers. |
| Galluogwyr Ansawdd: Enablers of Quality: Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com) | 6. All Apply |
| Parthau Ansawdd: Domains of Quality Quality and Engagement Act (sharepoint.com) | Not Applicable |
| Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives: | Not Applicable |
| Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives | Not Applicable |
| Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2021-2022 | 10. Not Applicable |

| Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information: | |
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| Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base: | Relevant Welsh Health Circulars |
| Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms: | Contained within the report |
| Partïon / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Adnoddau Cynaliadwy: | Not applicable |

| Parties / Committees consulted prior to Sustainable Resources Committee: | |
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| **Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau)** **Impact: (must be completed)** | |
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| **Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian:** **Financial / Service:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Ansawdd / Gofal Claf:** **Quality / Patient Care:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Gweithlu:** **Workforce:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Risg:** **Risk:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Cyfreithiol:** **Legal:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Enw Da:** **Reputational:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Gyfrinachedd:** **Privacy:** | Dependent on individual WHC |
| **Cydraddoldeb:** **Equality:** | Dependent on individual WHC |

| WHC No | Year | Name of WHC | Link to WHC | Date Issued | Status | Category | Overarching Actions Required | Lead Director | Lead Officer | Date of Expiry / Review | Action required from | Action required by | Status RAG / R - behind schedule / A - on schedule / G - Completed | Progress update | Lead Service / Directorate | UHB implementation date | Datix risk reference | Additional resources required |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 005-22 | 2022 | Data requirements for Value Based Health Care | https://gov.wales/welsh-value-health-centre-data-requirements-whc2022005 | ######## | Action | Information governance | Provides an update to the arrangements set out in WHC 2020(003), and in particular ensuring that the aim of higher value health and care as described in A Healthier Wales, the Welsh Government's long term plan for health and social care, is facilitated through the Welsh Value in Health Centre, in line with its strategy to 2024. | Director of Finance | Gareth Beynon | mar-25 | Health Boards and NHS Trusts in Wales (Health Boards and Trusts) and Digital Health and Care Wales | Immediately | Red | 12/05/2023 - As of this week, the UHB are now providing DHCW with the requested data on a routine basis. Further work will be needed to conform to the Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN) once this has been agreed and published by the DHCW data standards process. | Digital & Performance | Feb-23 N/K | TBC | TBC |
| 007-15 | 2015 | Update on the All Wales position of the EDCIMS (Emergency Department Clinical Information Management System) | Not available online | ######## | Compliance | Information Technology | To reiterate the position of the Minister for Health and Social Services concerning the 'Once for Wales' Implementation of the Emergency Department Clinical Information System (EDCIMS) national programme. | Director of Finance | Anthony Tracey | Ongoing | Not provided | Not provided | Amber | 26/05/2023 - This project has stalled nationally and so far, has only got off the ground in Swansea Bay UHB. Progress will be via the Digital Transformation team once planning commences. | Digital & Performance | 31/03/2025 | N/A | Given the pressures on the capital programme, funding not expected in 2022/2023. Planning phase expected in 2023/2024 with implementation in 2024/2025 |
| 009-22 | 2022 | Prioritisation of COVID-19 patient episodes by NHS Wales Clinical Coding Departments | https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-04/prioritisation-of-covid-19-patient-episodes-by-nhs-wales-clinical-coding-departments_0.pdf | ######## | Compliance/Action | Performance/Delivery | New reporting directions for COVID-19 episodes of care and reminder of coding standards. | Director of Finance | Gareth Beynon | feb-23 | Clinical Coding Managers of Local Health Boards and NHS Trusts | Immediately | External | 12/06/2023 - The service are currently awaiting a formal response from WG to be able to close this WHC. Previous correspondence from WG suggested that the unfeasible method of coding referenced in the WHC can be disregarded, but no official response has yet been published e.g. whether this WHC will be withdrawn or superseded. | Digital & Performance | Unknown - awaiting further guidance from WG | TBC | Clarification from WG |