



COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT/ADRODDIAD DIWEDDARU'R PWYLLGOR – DIGITAL, DATA AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Date of last meeting/ Dyddiad y cyfarfod diwethaf: 21 July 2026

Quoracy/ Cworwm: Met

Report by/ Adroddiad gan: Mr Maynard Davies, Chair

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS AND MATTERS FROM THE DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING/ PWYNTIAU TRAFOD ALLWEDDOL A MATERION I'W HUWCHGYFEIRIO O'R DRAFODAETH YN Y CYFARFOD:

Alert¹ (may require discussion)/ **Rhybuddio** (efallai y bydd angen trafodaeth)

The Digital, Data and Innovation Committee wish to **alert** members of the Board that:

- The **Assurance and Risk Report** highlighted the significant risk associated with the national Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) 2 programme. As an All-Wales issue, the programme remains dependent on national delivery arrangements, key interdependencies and critical milestones necessary to maintain a safe and effective laboratory information management system. Given the potential impact on service delivery and the limited local control over programme outcomes, the risk continues to be appropriately rated at 25 and requires ongoing monitoring through the Health Board's risk and assurance framework; and by the Board.

Advise² (to monitor)/ **Cynghori** (i fonitro)

The Digital, Data and Innovation Committee wish to **advise** members of the Board that:

- Whilst assurance was received regarding the management of the Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) process, the **DPIA Assurance Report** highlighted increasing DPIA workloads and associated resource pressures. Delays in completing DPIAs may impact the timely implementation of new services, systems and technologies, hinder research and innovation projects, and present a broader organisational risk. Mitigating actions include the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and streamlined processes for low-risk assessments, development of a national DPIA template, and continued focus on balancing delivery timescales with information governance, cyber security and clinical safety requirements.
- The **Information Governance Sub-Committee (IGSC) 3A's Update** provided assurance regarding improved information governance and cyber security training compliance, the approval of updated Health Records and IT Procurement policies, and high levels of clinical coding completeness. However, concern was raised regarding the growing backlog of Subject Access Requests (SARs). Given the statutory timescales and legal obligations associated with SARs, ongoing

¹ There is a lack of confidence that any action in place is sufficient to address the issue satisfactorily and/or within the scope of the operational team or executive to resolve. Engagement, action or intervention required.

² There are areas of concern where assurance has been taken on actions in place but requires close monitoring. An early warning of an emerging and potentially serious concern.

workload pressures increase the risk of non-compliance, with potential legal, regulatory and reputational impacts for the Health Board.

- The Committee received assurance regarding continued progress in **Digital Inclusion**, including digital readiness assessments, development of digital champion networks, skills development initiatives, and collaborative work with partners to address digital exclusion across communities. Ongoing research is also helping to improve understanding of the digital divide and inform future priorities. However, limited staffing capacity remains a significant constraint on community-facing digital inclusion activity, reflecting a wider resource challenge across digital transformation, data and information governance functions.

Assure³ (to note)/ Sicrhau (i nodi)

The Digital, Data and Innovation Committee wish to **assure** members of the Board that:

- The **Data Quality Report** provided assurance on the continued delivery of data quality deep dives and the ongoing refinement of the underlying methodology. These activities form a key component of the Health Board's approach to improving data integrity, providing a structured and repeatable framework for identifying, monitoring and addressing data quality issues, while supporting effective assurance and continuous improvement.
- Assurance was received that the Health Board has undertaken a **Review of Organisational AI Readiness** which identified the need for robust governance, clear accountability and appropriate oversight arrangements. However, as Executive review is still ongoing, further work is required to define governance structures, risk management arrangements and safeguards to support the safe, effective and responsible use of AI across the organisation.
- The **Extracting Insight from Data** report provided assurance that a structured three-year Data Blueprint is being implemented to strengthen data quality, governance, integration and analytical capability across the Health Board. The programme provides a clear framework for improving the use of data to support assurance, operational performance and evidence-based decision-making, while enhancing data literacy, analytical consistency and readiness for future developments, including AI.
- Assurance was received that delivery of the **Digital Strategic Plan** is progressing, with a number of key digital programmes already being implemented and a structured roadmap in place to deliver 87 projects over the next three years. Clinical leadership and clinical safety are being embedded within digital transformation programmes through a developing clinical informatics model, although sustaining progress will require permanent organisational structures, workforce planning and clear career pathways to ensure long-term resilience and capacity to support the Health Board's digital ambitions.
- Assurance was provided that **Planning Goal 5: People First, Digital Always** continues to deliver significant progress, including the implementation of Patient Flow, Electronic Observations (EObs) and Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration (ePMA), alongside advancement of the wider digital transformation programme. A readiness-led approach, robust implementation processes and post-implementation learning arrangements support successful

³ There is confidence that actions are robust and will be sufficient to address the issue or generally operating effectively. Routine monitoring.

deployment and adoption, helping to maximise benefits and inform future digital rollouts.

- The **Digital Partner Update** informed the Committee of the continued use of CGI to support Board-approved digital transformation activity, subject to appropriate governance, financial scrutiny and approval processes.
- The **Research and Innovation Sub-Committee (RISC) 3A's Update** indicated that research and innovation activity continues to be effectively managed. Delays in DPIA and information governance processes impacting research projects; and an emerging financial pressure within the Research and Innovation function are being actively managed, with mitigating actions underway and constructive engagement with Welsh Government colleagues.
- Assurance was received that implementation of the **Research and Innovation Strategic Plan** is progressing well, with the majority of actions rated green or amber and overall delivery remaining on track. Whilst some areas require continued focus and partnership working, particularly where progress is dependent on external organisations, assurance was also provided by the positive progress made during the first six months of implementation and the overall direction of travel.
- **University Partnership Arrangements** continue to develop positively, strengthening collaboration with regional academic partners across education, workforce development, research, innovation and enterprise. These partnerships create additional opportunities to support the Health Board's strategic objectives, particularly in relation to its rural context, while enhancing links between education, research and service delivery across the region.
- The Committee approved adoption by HDdUHB of the **NHS Wales Research & Innovation Finance Policy 2026**.

Review of Risks/ Adolygiad o Risgiau

The Committee reviewed the corporate risks which are aligned to it. As part of its review, the Committee considered the status of each risk and the current score of each risk and noted concerns regarding the LIMS 2 programme.

Sharing of learning/ Rhannu dysgu

Not applicable.

Recommendation/ Argymhelliad

The Board is asked to:

- **Respond** to the items that they are being alerted to
- **Note** the items the Committee is advising them of
- **Take assurance** from the items that the Committee is providing assurance on

Date of next meeting/ Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf: 20 October 2026

Agenda, papers and minutes are available on our website/ Mae agenda, papurau a chofnodion ar gael ar ein gwefan: [Digital, Data and Innovation Committee \(DDIC\) - Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)