

 <p>GIG CYMRU NHS WALES</p> <p>Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales</p>	<p>Name of Meeting Audit and Corporate Governance Committee</p> <p>Date of Meeting 13 October 2022</p> <p>Agenda item: 7.2</p>
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Bi Annual Update on Compliance with Welsh Health Circulars 1 January 2022 to 31 August 2022

Executive lead:	Helen Bushell, Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit
Author:	Liz Blayney, Deputy Board Secretary and Board Governance Manager

Approval/Scrutiny route:	<p>Helen Bushell, Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit</p> <p>Business Executive Team (For information) - 4 October 2022</p>
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Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee on the current compliance with Welsh Health Circulars issued by the Welsh Government.

This report was submitted to the Business Executive Team on 4 October 2022 and is submitted to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee for assurance.

APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/>	CONSIDER <input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMEND <input type="checkbox"/>	ADOPT <input type="checkbox"/>	ASSURANCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The Audit and Corporate Governance Committee is asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the update provided; • Take assurance on the process for recording and monitoring the Organisation's compliance with Welsh Health Circulars. 				

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Link to Public Health Wales [Strategic Plan](#)

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities and well-being objectives.

This report contributes to all 7 of the Strategic Priorities and Well-being Objectives.

Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	A specific Equality and Health Impact Assessment (EHIA) is not required to support of this report.
Risk and Assurance	This report provides assurance on the organisations compliance with the Welsh Health Circulars issued by Welsh Government.
Health and Care Standards	This report supports and/or takes into account the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Quality Themes Governance, Leadership and Accountability
Financial implications	There are no financial implications as a result of approval of this report.
People implications	There are no people implications as a result of approval of this report.

1. Purpose / situation

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee on the current compliance with Welsh Health Circulars issued by the Welsh Government.

2. Background

The Board Business Unit maintain a tracker for monitoring and recording the Welsh Health Circulars that are received by the Trust. The WHCs are sent to the relevant Executive Lead for action, and the completion of actions are recorded within a central record log.

Internal Audit – Limited assurance Report

In May 2020, the Welsh Health Circular process was part of an Internal Audit Report on the management alerts, which received a limited assurance rating. Following the Audit, the process has been revised for recording and monitoring responses to Welsh Health Circulars, to ensure additional checks were put in place to proactively monitor the Welsh Government website to ensure all WHCs are logged, circulated and communicated around the Organisation in a timely manner.

Attached at appendix 1 is the latest update from the WHC log covering the period 1 January 2022 to 31 August 2022. 19 Welsh Health Circulars have been received in total during this period.

In line with the agreed process, the Welsh Government website has been checked regularly to ensure that there are not any WHCs issued that had not been received.

Of the 19 WHCs received:

- 2 were for compliance
- 17 were for action and/or information and/or compliance

Following the review of the WHCs, 7 of the 19 received were not applicable to Public Health Wales. These were:

Ref	Title	Purpose	Status
WHC/2022/006	Direct Paramedic Referral to Same Day Emergency Care: All Wales Policy	Action	Not applicable
WHC/2022/007	Recording of Dementia READ codes	Action	Not applicable
WHC/2022/009	Prioritisation of COVID-19 patient episodes by NHS Wales Clinical	Compliance/Action	Not applicable

	Coding Departments		
WHC/2022/011	Patient Testing Framework – Updated guidance	Action	Not applicable
WHC/2022/012	Donation and Transplantation Plan for Wales: 2022-2026	Action	Not applicable
WHC/2022/017	Wales Rare Diseases Action Plan 2022 – 2026	Action/ Information	Not applicable
WHC/2022/019	Non Specialised Paediatric Orthopaedic Services	Action	Not applicable

The following WHCs were applicable to Public Health Wales:

Ref	Title	Purpose	Status
WHC/2022/002	NHS Wales National Clinical Audit and Outcome Review Plan Annual Rolling Programme for 2022/23	Information/ Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/005	Welsh Value in Health Centre – data requirements	Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/008	New Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Care 2022	Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/010	Reimbursable vaccines and eligible cohorts for the 2022/23 NHS Seasonal Influenza (flu) Vaccination Programme	Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/013	2022/23 LHB, SHA & Trust Monthly Financial Monitoring Return Guidance	Compliance	Applicable
WHC/2022/014	AMR & HCAI Improvement Goals for 2021-23	Action/ Information	Applicable
WHC/2022/015	Changes to the vaccine for the HPV Immunisation Programme	Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/016	The National Influenza Immunisation Programme 2022-23	Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/018	Guidelines for managing patients on the suspected cancer pathway	Compliance	Applicable
WHC/2022/020	Never Events – Policy and Incident List July 2022	Compliance/ Action/ Information	Applicable
WHC/2022/021	National Optimal Pathways for Cancer (2022 update)	Action	Applicable
WHC/2022/022	The Role of the Community Dental Service	Action	Applicable

Of the 12 WHCs that were applicable to Public Health Wales, 11 have been completed and have been signed off by Executive leads, there is one outstanding circular on the register.

The following WHC remains open:

WHC 2022 008	New Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Care 2022
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The Executive Lead has confirmed that this WHC is in progress. A review is currently in progress by the Information Governance Team of the requirements to ensure our compliance with the WHC. This will be undertaken in conjunction with Phase 2 of the records management project which commenced the week of 26 September. .

3. Recommendation

The Audit and Corporate Governance Committee is asked to

- **Note** the update provided;
- **Take assurance** on the process for recording and monitoring the Organisation's compliance with Welsh Health Circulars.