

Parliamentary Accountability and Audit Report

Expenditure accounted for in 2021-22 includes expenditure (and associated Welsh Government funding) in respect of clinician's tax liabilities. The amounts are included following a Ministerial Direction issued on 18 December 2019 to the Permanent Secretary of the Welsh Government to proceed with plans to commit to making payments to clinical staff to restore the value of their pension benefits packages for additional work undertaken. This expenditure is deemed irregular because the payments are contrary to paragraph 5.6.1 of Managing Public Money and constitute a form of tax planning which will leave the Exchequer as a whole worse off. The Minister's Direction alone does not regularise the scheme. With exception of this item, all remaining expenditure is compliant with the relevant legislation. Charges for services provided by public sector organisations pass on the full cost of providing those services. We ensure public funds are used appropriately and to deliver the intended objectives.'

Where we undertake activities that are not funded directly by the Welsh Government we receive income to cover our costs. Further detail of income received is published in the annual accounts; within note 4 headed 'other operating revenue'.

We confirm we have complied with cost allocation and the charging requirements set out in HM Treasury guidance during the year.

We have been informed by our legal advisors that £1,318,000 of claims for alleged medical or employer negligence against us have been assessed as having a remote chance of succeeding. If the claims were to succeed against us, £878,000 of this figure would be recoverable from the Welsh Risk Pool. Therefore, the net liability to Public Health Wales NHS Trust is £440,000.