

Audit and Corporate Governance Committee Update – Public Health Wales NHS Trust

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About this document

- 1 This document provides the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee with an update on our current and planned accounts and performance audit work at Public Health Wales NHS Trust. We presented our most recent Audit Plan to the committee in March 2023.
- 2 We also provide additional information on:
 - Other relevant examinations and studies published by the Audit General.
 - Relevant corporate documents published by Audit Wales (e.g., fee schemes, annual plans, annual reports), as well as details of any consultations underway.
- 3 Details of future and past Good Practice Exchange (GPX) events are available on our [website](#).

Accounts audit update

4 Exhibit 1 summarises the status of our current and planned accounts audit work.

Exhibit 1 – Accounts audit work

Area of work	Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status	Planned date for consideration
Audit of the 2022-23 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Huw George	Audit of the 2022-23 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Work complete. Audit of accounts presented to the July ACGC. Auditor General signed the accounts on 31 July 2023.	July 2023

Performance audit update

5 Exhibit 2 summarises the status of our current and planned performance audit work.

Exhibit 2 – Performance audit work

Area of work	Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status	Planned date for consideration
All-Wales thematic on workforce planning arrangements	Neil Lewis	The work examines the workforce risks that NHS bodies are experiencing currently and are likely to experience in the future. It looks at how local and national workforce planning activities are being taken forward to manage those risks and address short-, medium- and longer-term workforce needs.	Draft report in clearance with the Trust.	January 2024
Review of the Trust's arrangements to recover its screening arrangements	Meng Khaw	The work examines the Trust's approach to recovering its screening programmes from the impacts of the pandemic, with a particular focus on Breast Test Wales, Diabetic Eye Screening Wales and the Wales Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Programme.	Work complete. Final report presented to the September ACGC.	September 2023
Review of the Trust's approach to setting its Well-being Objectives	Nathan Jones	This work will examine how well the Trust is applying the sustainable development principle in its review of its Well-being Objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.	At the Trust's request, the work was postponed to late autumn 2022 to coincide with the Trust's review	January 2024

Area of work	Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status	Planned date for consideration
			<p>of its strategic priorities. We will incorporate our review of the Trust's review of its Well-being Objectives into our 2023 Structured Assessment work.</p>	
<p>Structured Assessment – core</p>	<p>Paul Veysey</p>	<p>This work will review the following core areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board and committee cohesion and effectiveness; • Corporate systems of assurance; • Corporate planning arrangements; and • Corporate financial planning and management arrangements. <p>This work will also include a review of the arrangements that are in place to track progress against previous audit recommendations. This allows the audit team to obtain assurance that the necessary progress is being made in addressing areas for improvement identified in previous audit work. It also enables us to more explicitly measure the impact our work is having.</p>	<p>Project brief issued in August 2023. Fieldwork being undertaken between July and October 2023.</p>	<p>January 2024</p>

Area of work	Executive Lead	Focus of the work	Current status	Planned date for consideration
Structured Assessment – deep dive into digital	To be confirmed	This work will examine digital arrangements, with a particular focus on how NHS bodies are investing in digital technologies, solutions, and capabilities to support the workforce, transform patient care, meet demand, and improve productivity and efficiency.	Early scoping.	To be confirmed

Other relevant publications

- 6 **Exhibit 3** provides information on other relevant examinations and studies published by the Audit General in the last six months. The links to the reports on our website are provided. The reports highlighted in **bold** have been published since the last committee update.

Exhibit 3 – Relevant examinations and studies published by the Auditor General

Title	Publication Date
NHS Wales Finances Data Tool	September 2023
Cracks in the Foundations – Building Safety in Wales	August 2023

Additional information

- 7 **Exhibit 4** provides information on corporate documents published by Audit Wales since the last committee update. Links to the documents on our website are provided.

Exhibit 4 – Audit Wales corporate documents

Title	Publication Date
Consultation on Fee Scales 2024-25	September 2023
Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Plan for Audit Wales 2023 – 2027	August 2023
Annual Report and Accounts 2022-23	June 2023

There are no relevant Audit Wales consultations currently underway.



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