

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

Date issued: March 2025

This document has been prepared for the internal use of Public Health Wales NHS Trust as part of work performed / to be performed in accordance with statutory functions.

The Auditor General has a wide range of audit and related functions, including auditing the accounts of Welsh NHS bodies, and reporting on the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness with which those organisations have used their resources. The Auditor General undertakes his work using staff and other resources provided by the Wales Audit Office, which is a statutory board established for that purpose and to monitor and advise the Auditor General.

Audit Wales is the non-statutory collective name for the Auditor General for Wales and the Wales Audit Office, which are separate legal entities each with their own legal functions as described above. Audit Wales is not a legal entity and itself does not have any functions.

© Auditor General for Wales 2023. No liability is accepted by the Auditor General or staff of the Wales Audit Office in relation to any member, director, officer, or other employee in their individual capacity, or to any third party, in respect of this report.

In the event of receiving a request for information to which this document may be relevant, attention is drawn to the Code of Practice issued under section 45 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The section 45 Code sets out the practice in the handling of requests that is expected of public authorities, including consultation with relevant third parties. In relation to this document, the Auditor General for Wales, the Wales Audit Office and, where applicable, the appointed auditor are relevant third parties. Any enquiries regarding disclosure or re-use of this document should be sent to Audit Wales at infoofficer@audit.wales.

Contents

Audit and Corporate Governance Committee Update

About this document	4
Accounts audit update	5
Performance audit update	6
Other relevant publications	7
Additional information	7

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 2025.
- 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 2024-25 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Huw George	Audit of the 2024-25 Accountability Report and Financial Statements	Planning	June 2025

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
Review of the Trust's approach to setting its Well-being Objectives	Sumina Azam	This work will examine how well the Trust applied the sustainable development principle in its review of its Well-being Objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015	Draft report in clearance	May 2025
Structured Assessment – Deep Dive – Digital Transformation	Iain Bell	This review 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.	Planning	September 2025
Quality Governance Follow-up Review	Claire Birchall	The work will assess the extent to which previous audit recommendations arising from our thematic review of Quality Governance arrangements have been implemented and are delivering the intended outcomes / benefits.	Project brief issued in February 2025	September 2025

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
<u>Addressing workforce challenges in NHS Wales</u>	February 2025
<u>Cancer services in Wales</u>	January 2025
<u>The National Fraud Initiative in Wales 2022-23</u>	October 2024

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
<u>Fee Scheme 2025-26</u>	January 2025
<u>Audit Quality Report 2024: Strengthening trust in audit</u>	January 2025

- 8 There are currently no relevant Audit Wales consultations underway.



Audit Wales

1 Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street
Cardiff CF10 4BZ

Tel: 029 2032 0500

Fax: 029 2032 0600

Textphone: 029 2032 0660

E-mail: info@audit.wales

Website: www.audit.wales

We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English.
Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg.