

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

Date issued: May 2026



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We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

# Introduction

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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 2026 Audit Plan to the committee in March 2026.

We also provide additional information on:

- other relevant examinations and studies published by the Auditor General; and
- relevant corporate documents published by Audit Wales (e.g. fee schemes, annual plans, annual reports), as well as details of any consultations underway.

# Accounts audit update

## Audit of the 2025-26 Health Board's Annual Report and Accounts

- **Executive Lead:** Interim Executive Director of Operations and Finance
- **Focus of the work:** To provide an audit opinion on the Trust's 2025-26 Annual Report and Accounts.
- **Status:** In progress – audit planning and early sample testing has commenced
- **Expected committee date:** June 2026

# Performance audit update

## Structured assessment - deep dive review of investment in digital systems (2024 Audit Plan)

- **Executive Lead:** Executive Director of Research, Data and Digital
- **Focus of the work:** This work has examined 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.
- **Status:** In progress – draft reporting phase.
- **Expected committee date:** September 2026

## Follow-up Review of Screening Services (2025 Audit Plan)

- **Executive Lead:** National Director of Health Protection and Screening Services and Executive Medical Director
- **Focus of the work:** This work will consider progress made in response to;
  - 2023 recommendations relating to the recovery of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, breast and diabetic eye screening services; and
  - 2024 recommendations relating to workforce planning arrangements in screening services.

The review will also consider the arrangements for delivering the wider screening programme.

- **Status:** In progress.
- **Expected committee date:** September 2026

### **Structured Assessment (2026 Audit Plan)**

- **Executive Lead:** Board Secretary and Head of the Board Business Unit
- **Focus of the work:** Our structured assessment work is designed to examine the existence of proper arrangements for the efficient, effective, and economical use of resources
- **Status:** Not started.
- **Expected committee date:** December 2026

### **Review of the management and prevention of diabetes (2026 Audit Plan)**

- **Executive Lead:** National Director of Health Protection and Screening Services and Executive Medical Director
- **Focus of the work:** This work will consider the Trust's system-wide leadership role in relation to prevention, early intervention and improving the long-term management of diabetes.
- **Status:** Not started.

**Expected committee date:** March 2027

## Other relevant publications

Since the last committee update, the Auditor General has published other relevant outputs which have relevance to the NHS. These are set out below.

<a href="#"><u>Private Finance - Public Impact (Examining decision-making for the new Velindre Cancer Centre)</u></a>	February 2026
<a href="#"><u>Checking the patients. Results from a pilot data matching exercise on GP patient lists</u></a>	January 2026
<a href="#"><u>Positive action on fraud and error in community pharmacy but more analysis could reap rewards</u></a>	December 2025

Since the last committee update, Audit Wales has also published the following corporate documents.

<a href="#"><u>Fee Scheme 2026-27</u></a>	January 2026
<a href="#"><u>Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report for 2023-2025 and Plan for 2026-2028</u></a>	December 2025

## Further information

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Audit Wales has a range of other information to support the scrutiny of Welsh public bodies and to continue to improve the services provided to the people of Wales.

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