

 GIG CYMRU NHS WALES Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales	Name of Meeting Board Date of Meeting 24 September 2026 Agenda item: 5.4
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Board Committee Membership and Board Champion Roles	
Executive lead:	Paul Veysey, Board Secretary and Head of the Board Business Unit
Author:	Liz Blayney, Deputy Board Secretary and Deputy Head of the Board Business Unit

Approval/Scrutiny route:	Pippa Britton, Board Chair
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Purpose
Pippa Britton, Board Chair, has reviewed Committee membership with the Non Executive Directors. This paper summarises the changes recommended by the Board Chair for approval by the Board. This report will be presented to the Board annually. Any in-year changes to Board Committee membership or Board Champion roles will be made at the discretion of the Board Chair and subject to ratification, where required.

Recommendation:				
APPROVE ☒	CONSIDER ☐	RECOMMEND ☐	ADOPT ☐	ASSURANCE ☐
The Board is asked to: • Approve the proposed Board Committee membership and Board Champion roles. • Note this membership will take effect from 1 October 2026. • Note the indemnity provided to members of the Board				

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 the following:

Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	All Strategic Priorities/Well-being Objectives
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Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	An Equality or Health Impact Assessment is not deemed required as there is no policy implementation or business change.
Risk and Assurance	In accordance with the Standing Financial Instructions, all Trust Board members and officers must be made aware of these Standing Financial Instructions.
Health and Care Standards	This report supports the domains of quality, in particular through ensuring effective leadership. Governance, Leadership and Accountability
Financial implications	None identified
People implications	None identified

1. Purpose / situation

Pippa Britton, Board Chair, has reviewed Committee membership with the Non Executive Directors. This paper summarises the changes recommended by the Board Chair for approval by the Board.

2. Background

The requirements for appointment to Board Committees are set out in Public Health Wales' Standing Orders.

Standing Orders state that the membership of Board Committees, including the designation of Chair, will usually be determined by the Board on the recommendation of the Trust Chair and subject to any specific requirements, directions or regulations made by Welsh Ministers (SO 3.3.5).

Public Health Wales has established the following Board Committees and Sub-groups:

- Audit and Corporate Governance Committee
- Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee
- Knowledge, Research and Information Committee
- People and Organisational Development Committee
- Remuneration and Terms of Service Committee
- Covid Inquiry Preparedness Sub-group

The membership requirements for each are outlined in their respective terms of reference.

3. Board Committee Membership

Pippa Britton, Board Chair, has reviewed Committee membership with the Non Executive Directors, Board Secretary and Chief Executive.

Standing Board Committees

For Standing Board Committees, the requirements are as follows:

- ❖ The Committee Chair must be a Non Executive Director.
- ❖ Membership must comprise three Non Executive Directors, except for the Remuneration and Terms of Service Committee.
- ❖ The Vice Chair of the Board should not be the substantive Chair of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.

The following membership is proposed from 1 October 2026:

Audit and Corporate Governance	Chair	Kate Young
	Members	Nick Elliott
		Catherine Purcell
Quality, Safety and Improvement	Chair	Clare Jenkins
	Members	Nick Elliott
		Huw David
People and Organisational Development Committee	Chair	Tamsin Ramasut
	Members	Huw David
		Clare Jenkins
Knowledge, Research and Information	Chair	Catherine Purcell*
	Members	Tamsin Ramasut
		Kate Young
Remuneration and Terms of Service Committee	Chair	Board Chair
	Members	All Non-Executive Directors
		Tracey Cooper, Chief Executive

Note: Catherine Purcell's appointment as Chair of the Knowledge, Research and Information Committee was effective from 15 September 2026.

The Board has also established the Covid Inquiry Preparedness Sub-group. In line with its Terms of Reference, the membership is as follows, with no changes proposed:

Covid Inquiry Preparedness Sub Group	Chair	Board Chair
	Members	Chair of Audit and Corporate Governance Committee
		Vice Chair of the Board
		Chief Executive

The Board should note that Committee membership may be amended during the year at the Board Chair's discretion and remains subject to review once Welsh Government confirms the Board Chair cover arrangements from 1 November 2026.

Committee membership will remain flexible to support effective governance. Non Executive Directors may cover other Committees where required and will count towards the quorum requirement of two Non Executive Directors.

Non Executive Directors may attend any Committee meeting of interest or relevance to their role during the year.

4. Board Champion Roles

The requirement to appoint Board Champions is outlined in the WHC issued by Welsh Government in January 2021: <https://www.gov.wales/health-board-and-trust-champions-assessment-roles-whc2021002>

The list of appointed Champions in Public Health Wales is included at appendix 1 below.

These arrangements remain subject to further review in light of recent Executive Director changes, confirmed post cover arrangements and Welsh Government confirmation of the Board Chair cover arrangements from 1 November 2026.

The Board Chair will make any in-year changes as appropriate.

5. Indemnity to Board Members

In accordance with SO 1.4.4 of the Standing Orders, all Board Members are provided with the following indemnity from the Trust:



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“A Board [or Committee] member, who has acted honestly and in good faith, will not have to meet out of their personal resources any personal liability which is incurred in the execution of their Board function. Such cover excludes the reckless or those who have acted in bad faith”

6. Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- Approve the proposed Board Committee membership and Board Champion roles.
- Note this membership will take effect from 1 October 2026.
- Note the indemnity provided to members of the Board.

Appendix 1 : Board Champion Roles

Role	Exec / Non-Exec	Reason for maintaining	Statutory	PHW Champion
Fire Safety	Exec	The role is considered essential (WHC/054/2002)		Zoe Pietrzak (Executive Director of Strategy, Finance and Performance)
Emergency Planning	Exec	NHS organisations have a duty under the Civil Contingency Act 2004	Y	National Director Health Protection and Screening Service, Executive Medical Director) * or equivalent post(s) to be confirmed
Caldicott	Exec	Ongoing activity. (WHC (99) 92)		Eleri Davies Interim Medical Director
Violence and Aggression	Exec	Provides leadership to the roll out of the 'Obligatory Responses to Violence in Healthcare' 2018.		Claire Birchall (National Director of Population Screening and Quality / Executive Director of Nursing)
Infection prevention and control	Non Exec	Continued need for the role to ensure infection prevention and control is embedded in the organisation and reflected by policy and procedures.		Sian Griffiths (Non Executive Director – Public Health)* <i>Vacant from 1 November</i>
Armed Forces and Veterans	Non Exec	Advocate for veterans and service personnel to ensure their needs are reflected in local service plans.		Board Chair <i>*to be reviewed subject to interim cover arrangements from 1 November</i>
Mental Health	Vice Chair	Continuing need and a specific responsibility of Vice Chairs. Routine meetings between Vice Chairs and Minister.		Clare Jenkins (Vice Chair of the Board)
Equality	Non Exec	Continuing need for the role		Tamsin Ramasut (Non Executive Director – Equality and Diversity)

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Role	Exec / Non-Exec	Reason for maintaining	Statutory	PHW Champion
Children and Young People	Exec & NE	Specified in Chapter 31 of The Children's Act 2004	Y	Kate Young (Non Executive Director – Third Sector) Claire Birchall (National Director of Population Screening and Quality / Executive Director of Nursing)
Putting Things Right	Exec & NE	Specified by the NHS (Concerns, Complaints and Redress Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2011	Y	Clare Jenkins (Vice Chair of the Board) Claire Birchall (National Director of Population Screening and Quality / Executive Director of Nursing)
Speaking Up Safely (Staff)	Exec or NE	Bullying and harassment identified as a particular issue across all NHS organisations. Leadership necessary to enable a safe route for staff to raise concerns. (Procedure for NHS Staff to Raise Concerns (Whistleblowing) 2017)		Tamsin Ramasut (Non Executive Director – Equality and Diversity) Paul Veysey (Board Secretary and Head of the Board Business Unit)
Welsh Language	Exec	Leadership necessary to ensure Welsh language is promoted and mainstreamed into the work of the Health Board and Trusts. (WHC (2008) 002 and More Than Just Words 2016)		Neil Lewis (Director of People and Organisational Development)
Older Persons	NE	Under further consideration		Board Chair

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Role	Exec / Non-Exec	Reason for maintaining	Statutory	PHW Champion
				<i>*to be reviewed subject to interim cover arrangements from 1 November</i>

Additional PHW Champion Roles

Role	Exec / Non Exec	PHW Champion
Socio-Economic Duty	Exec	Sumina Azam (National Director Policy and International Health) Paul Veysey (Board Secretary and Head of the Board Business Unit)
Research	Non Exec	Catherine Purcell (Non Executive Director – Universities)
Data	Exec and Non-Exec	Iain Bell (National Director Public Health Knowledge and Research) Nick Elliott (Non Executive Director – Data and Digital)
Corporate Safeguarding	Exec and Non-Exec	Clare Jenkins (Vice Chair of the Board) Claire Birchall (National Director of Population Screening and Quality / Executive Director of Nursing)