

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

Date issued: August 2026



Contents

Contents	2
Introduction	4
Accounts audit update	5
Performance audit update	6
Other relevant publications	8
Further information	9

This document has been prepared as part of work performed in accordance with statutory functions.

The Auditor General, Wales Audit Office and staff of the Wales Audit Office accept no liability in respect of any reliance or other use of this document by any member, director, officer or other employee in their individual capacity, or any use by any third party.

For further information, or if you require any of our publications in an alternative format and/or language, please contact us by telephone on 029 2032 0500, or email info@audit.wales.

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

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:** 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:** Complete. Our Audit of Accounts report was presented to the Trust's Audit Committee and an unqualified opinion was provided upon the Trust's financial statements.
- **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:** Final.
- **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 - reporting.
- **Expected committee date:** December 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:** In progress - fieldwork.
- **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:** In progress - planning.
- **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.

<u>Additional Learning Needs: Do public bodies know if the system is working?</u>	April 2026
---	------------

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

<u>The Code of Audit Practice of the Auditor General for Wales</u>	July 2026
--	-----------

<u>Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26</u>	June 2026
---	-----------

<u>Strategic Equality Plan 2026-2030</u>	April 2026
--	------------

Further information

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.

Visit our website to find:



Our publications which cover our audit work at public bodies.



Information on our upcoming work and forward work programme for performance audit.



Data tools to help you better understand public spending trends.



Details of our Good Practice work and events including the sharing of emerging practice and insights from our audit work.



Our newsletter which provides you with regular updates on our public service audit work, good practice, and events.



Audit Wales

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.

