

 GIG CYMRU NHS WALES Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales	Name of Meeting Audit and Corporate Governance Committee Date of Meeting 3 September 2026 Agenda item: 9.1
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Annual Review of the Public Health Wales Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instructions and Reservations and Delegations of Powers

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Approval/Scrutiny route:	- BET – 19 August 2026 - ACGC on 3 September 2026 for Recommendation to the Board - Board for Adoption on 24 September 2026
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Purpose

To present to ACGC a reviewed set of Standing Orders Reservations, Standing Financial Instructions and Delegations of Powers.

Recommendation:

Recommendation				
APPROVE ☐	CONSIDER ☒	RECOMMEND ☒	ADOPT ☐	ASSURANCE ☐
ACGC is asked to:				
• Consider the proposed revisions to Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instructions and Reservations and Delegations of Powers. • Recommend the proposed changes to the Board for adoption.				
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			

Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	Choose an item.
Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	Choose an item.

Summary impact analysis	
Equality and Health Impact Assessment	An Equality and Health Impact Assessment has been completed.
Risk and Assurance	The Standing Orders, SFIs and Scheme of Reservation and Delegation of Powers provides assurance that appropriate arrangements are in place within the organisation to make decisions.
Health and Care Standards	This report supports and/or takes into account the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Quality Themes Governance, Leadership and Accountability Choose an item. Choose an item.
Financial implications	N/A
People implications	N/A

1. Purpose / situation

Whilst the Welsh Government has not issued revised Model Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers this year, nor have Model Standing Financial Instructions been provided. Public Health Wales is however required to undertake an annual review of both governance documents on an annual basis.

The purpose of this paper is to set out the changes recommended as a result of this review in order for ACGC to recommend the proposed revisions to Board for adoption.

2. Background

The Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers (SOs), together with a range of other framework documents, are designed to translate the statutory requirements set out in Public Health Wales National Health Service Trust (Membership and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (2009/1385) (as amended) into day-to-day operating practice. Together with the adoption of a Schedule of Decisions Reserved to the Board; a Scheme of Decisions to Officers and others; and Standing Financial Instructions (SFIs), they provide the regulatory framework for the business conducted by the Trust.

The current Public Health Wales NHS Trust SOs were adopted by the Board in May 2025.

We are required to review our SOs and SFIs annually whether model versions are issued by the Welsh Government or not. The Welsh Government has not (as yet) issued revised Model SOs or Model SFIs for 2026.

Very minor typographical other minor updates to tiles, functions and embedded links to documents have been made.

3. Description/Assessment

Attached at appendix 1 are our current Standing Orders with the proposed changes highlighted in red / track changes.

Attached at appendix 2 are our current Standing Financial Instructions with the proposed changes highlighted in red / track changes.

3.1 Changes

The main changes to the Standing Orders relate to;

1. Correct references to the Cabinet Minister for Health and Care.
2. Correct references to Non-executive Directors
3. Correct minor typographical errors

4. Update links to documents referenced within the SOs
5. Clarification of RemCom delegations

The main changes to the Standing Financial Instructions relate to;

1. Correct references to government department names
2. Correct references to the Cabinet Minister for Health and Care

3.2 Deviations from the Model Standing Orders

Public Health Wales has not made any deviations from the Model Standing Orders of note.

3.3 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This work has been put together following the five ways of working, as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act, in the following ways:

Hirdymor		Long Term	The Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers provide the organisation with a long-term framework within which it operates
Atal		Prevention	The Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers provide staff with guidance to prevent non-compliance
Integreiddio		Integration	The Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers ensure decision making is integrated across the organisation
Cydweithio		Collaboration	The Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers are based on the model standing orders issued by Welsh Government, which were reviewed and developed on a collaborative basis.
Cynnwys		Involvement	The Standing Orders and Reservation and Delegation of Powers are based on the model standing orders issued by Welsh Government, which were reviewed and developed in conjunction and consultation with relevant stakeholders.

4. Recommendation

ACGC is asked to:

- **Consider** the proposed revisions to Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instructions and Reservations and Delegations of Powers.
- **Recommend** the proposed changes to the Board for adoption.