

**Confirmed Minutes of the
NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee Extraordinary Meeting
held in public on
Tuesday 16 December 2025 at 9:00am.
Via Microsoft Teams**

Members:

Ian Green (Chair)	(IG)	Independent Chair, NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee
Susan Elsmore	(SE)	Lay Member
Philip Kloer	(PK)	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Hywel Dda University Health Board
Paul Mears	(PM)	CEO, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
Shameem Nawaz	(SN)	Lay Member
Nicola Prygodzicz	(NP)	CEO, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Mandy Rayani	(MR)	Lay Member
Nia Roberts	(NR)	Lay Member
Carol Shillabeer	(CS)	CEO, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Paul Worthington	(PW)	Lay Member

Deputies:

Nicola Johnson	(NJ)	Executive Director of Planning, Performance and Commissioning, Powys Teaching Health Board
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Associate Member:

Huw George	(HG)	Interim Chief Commissioner
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In Attendance:

Carole Bell	(CB)	Director of Nursing and Quality
Adrian Clarke	(AC)	Director for Commissioning for Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Vulnerable Groups
Iolo Doull	(ID)	Medical Director
Aaron Fowler	(AF)	Committee Secretary and Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Georgina Galletly	(GG)	Director of Corporate Planning and Strategy
Stacey Taylor	(ST)	Deputy Chief Commissioner and Director of Finance and Value
Melanie Wilkey	(MW)	Director of Commissioning for Specialised Services
Ross Whitehead	(RW)	Director of Commissioning for Ambulance Services and 111

Guests

Matthew Edwards	(ME)	Interim Assistant Committee Secretary
Robert Mahoney	(RM)	Deputy Director of Finance, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Observers:

Emma Wood	(EW)	Chief Executive Officer, Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust
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Apologies:

Abigail Harris	(AH)	CEO, Swansea Bay University Health Board
Angela Mutlow	(AM)	Director of Operations, Llais
Suzanne Rankin	(SR)	CEO, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Min Ref	Agenda Item
	1. Preliminary Matters
JCC25/099	1.1 Welcome and Introductions The Chair welcomed Members and attendees to the Extraordinary Joint Commissioning Committee (JC) meeting held in public and introductions were made.

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	There were no objections to the meeting being recorded which would be available on the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) website following the meeting. It was noted that a quorum had been achieved.
JCC25/100	<p>1.2 Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were noted as above.</p>
JCC25/101	<p>1.3 Declarations of Interest There were no additional declarations of interest relating to the items for discussion on the agenda.</p>
2. Items for Approval	
JCC25/102	<p>2.1 Care Home Framework Report The Care Home Framework Report was received. Members noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paper provided additional information to members on the benefits, both financial and non-financial, of investment into the proposed Option 4 which would require additional NWJCC staffing resource. • The previous discussions had regarding NWJCC resource which has historically supported the Framework. • The cost avoidance already achieved and that further cost avoidance opportunities would likely be in excess of the investment requested. • How the Framework had grown in terms of volume over recent years. • The need to make a decision due to the end of the current Framework. • The next steps which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NWJCC working with NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP) to gain an "extension at risk" of the current Framework Agreement. ○ NWJCC/NWSSP working in partnership with Health Board commissioning teams to develop a new Care Home Framework Agreement in time for an April 2027 launch. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The range of options and their benefits. • The current responsibilities of the NWJCC for the quality of the services and Health Boards for the care coordination of their population. • The changing NHS Wales landscape in terms of funding and procurement regulations since previous historical decisions were made. • The difference in terms of the Hospital Framework and Care Home Framework in terms of review, audit processes and clinical standards. • The risk of different Health Boards placing patients at different prices should the Framework not be used beyond March (as was previously the case). • The support for a sustainable, once for Wales solution on behalf of all Health Boards, maximising economies of scale and reducing duplication. • The need for a conversation around Continuing Health Care and Funded Nursing Care to ensure that a coordinated approach across the NWJCC and around opportunities for Health Board staff to work with the NWJCC team to support these processes. • That assurance would need to be provided regarding the improvement in outcomes, the ambition to generate savings and contain costs to be delivered by Option 4. Noting that funding for Option 4 would need to be provided at risk, it was agreed that the NWJCC would monitor savings to ensure that the benefits derived from a funded Option 4 exceeded the funding to be provided. • Use of the Finance Working Group to validate the work and the Collaborative Commissioning Leadership Group (CCLG) to ensure Executive oversight of the delivery of Option 4 with progress to be reported through the JC.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans would be developed setting out the required improvement in outcomes, how financial savings will be generated and monitored, and how costs will be contained for review by the CCLG and subsequent reporting to the JC <p>The Joint Commissioning Committee resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the benefits of the investment within the Care Home Framework. Approve the release of funding to support delivery of Option 4 as a spend to save opportunity noting the risks associated with not approving the recommendation.
JCC25/103	<p>2.2 2025-26 Specialised Commissioning Financial Recovery - Managing Activity</p> <p>The 2025-26 Specialised Commissioning Financial Recovery - Managing Activity Report was received. Members noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following discussions at the JC meeting held on 25 November, the paper provided further financial detail, detail of risks and a plan of action for the three areas identified for the capping of activity, these were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricting elective activity through the management of activity for English provider contracts during Quarter 4. Early cessation of the Salford Obesity Surgery Contract. Health Boards pass through cost efficiency opportunities. High level risks and impacts had been considered in detail. Delays for elective patients, re-securing capacity in future. A Quality Impact Assessment of undertaking the actions was included and would continue to be refined subject to the approval of proposals. If approved, next steps include urgent negotiations with providers. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The work undertaken by the team to develop this report The potential impact of the proposals over remaining months of the financial year and into 2026/27 and beyond for delayed activity. The significant financial challenge and risk for Health Board colleagues that had influenced proposals. Correspondence with Welsh Government in relation to the NWJCC's financial position. An offer from Poys Teaching Health Board to share learning form similar activity they had undertaken during the year. The need to start developing an action plan for the 2026-27 financial year including demand management to target potential areas for financial saving at the outset of the year, as opposed to during. Discussions regarding NWJCC Commissioning Intentions would be scheduled prior to year end, Members acknowledging that some options may require Welsh Government involvement. That whilst proposals were supported there was a need to cautious about the likely success of delivering these prior to year end given the time constraints. <p>Action: NWJCC Finance and Commissioning leads to bring back a detailed action plan to manage financial risk within the IMTP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to continue the work relating to referral management and equity of access to service, it being acknowledged that there was a need to expedite this would where possible. That the current NWJCC approach to referral management would be more aligned to traditional contract management than commissioning. Working with Welsh Government to discuss the approach for undertaking commissioning conversations and arbitration with NHS England.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to consider the pathway for Mersey and West Lancashire (plastic surgery provider for North Wales) and the implications for HBs. • The Quality Impact Assessment undertaken and the need to be clear about the impact of the proposals, acknowledging that the assessment would be refined following further conversations with providers to agree delivery plans. • The responsibility of the JC to make difficult decisions, with the decision to be reached setting a precedent for the next financial year. • That proposals did not present a decision that was easy to make, recognising the associated clinical risk. It was noted that the proposals had sought to minimise clinical risk through the development of key exclusions which would be applied to reduce the overall impact on patient outcomes including continuing to prioritise cancer, paediatrics and urgent care cases. • The need to move forward with the workplan as requested in the report. • That delivery of proposed plans would be discussed further at the Planning, Performance and Finance Sub-Committee on 18 December. • That progress reports would be reported through the JC. <p><i>[The Chair left the meeting at 10:11am, PW assumed responsibility as Chair to close the meeting]</i></p> <p>Action: Progress reports to be shared at future JC meetings.</p> <p>The Joint Commissioning Committee resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the additional financial and service information provided. • Review the workplan set out within the paper. • Consider each element of the plan. • Provide Approval to move forward with the proposed workplan.
3. Concluding Business	
JCC25/104	3.1 Any Other Business There was no other business to report.
JCC25/105	3.2 Review of Meeting No review of the meeting was given during the meeting.
JCC25/106	3.3 Date of Next Meeting The next routine meeting was scheduled for 27 January 2026.

The meeting concluded at 10.16.