

Agenda Item

5.1

Joint Commissioning Committee

Corporate Governance Report

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	15/07/2025
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
	Not Applicable
Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author	Helen Tyler, Head of Governance and Risk
Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter	Matthew Edwards, Interim Deputy Committee Secretary
Noddwr Gweithredol yr Adroddiad / Report Executive Sponsor	Matthew Edwards, Interim Deputy Committee Secretary

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad / Report Purpose	For Noting
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Engagement (internal/external) undertaken to date (including receipt /consideration at Committee/Group)		
Committee / Group / Individuals	Date	Outcome
N/A	Click or tap to enter a date.	Choose an item.

Acronyms / Glossary of Terms	
AO	Accountable Officer
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AGS	Annual Governance Statement
ARAC	CTMUHB Audit and Risk Committee
CTMUHB	Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board
HB	Health Board

JC	Joint Committee
JCC	NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee
SO	Standing Orders
WG	Welsh Government
WHC	Welsh Health Circular

1. SITUATION/BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on corporate governance matters that have arisen since the previous meeting.

There are several corporate governance matters that need to be reported as a regular item in-line with the governance and accountability framework for the Joint Committee (JC). This report encompasses all such issues as one agenda item.

2. SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL

2.1 Welsh Health Circulars (WHCs)

Welsh Government (WG) issue WHCs around specific topic areas. The following WHCs have been received and are available via the WG website, where further details as to the risks and governance issues are available:

- WHC/2024/004 - NHS Wales financial monitoring return guidance: 2025 to 2026
- WHC/2025/016 - Update on RSW vaccination programme 2025
- WHC/2025/018 - Tirzepatide (Mounjaro ®) for the management of obesity and overweight
- WHC/2025/017 - Tranexamic acid use: recommendation 7a of the Infected Blood Inquiry
- WHC/2025/006 - Recording of mental health outcome measures
- WHC/2025/019 - Changes to routine childhood and selective neonatal hepatitis B vaccinations
- WHC/2025/020 - The national influenza immunisation programme 2025 to 2026
- WHC/2025/021 - Introduction of routine vaccinations for mpox and gonorrhoea
- WHC/2025/023 - PPE stockpile volumes in Wales
- WHC/2025/012 - Interim changes to NHS model standing financial instructions
- WHC/2025/022 - The national COVID-19 vaccination programme autumn 2025
- WHC/2025/008 - Licensing scheme for special procedures in Wales.

2.2 Accountability Report 2024-2025 (Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2024-2025)

The NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) is hosted by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) and there are two different sets

of Accountable Officer (AO) responsibilities governing CTMUHB and the NWJCC. Advice received from Audit Wales stipulates that a two part Accountability Report (Annual Governance Statement) is required from CTMUHB to provide assurance and each part will be signed off by the respective AOs. The part 2 Accountability Report provides assurance on the work of the NWJCC during 2024-2025.

The Accountability Report was presented to the CTMUHB Audit and Risk Committee (ARAC) on 25 June 2025 and was approved by the CTMUHB Board on 26 June 2025 prior to being submitted to Audit Wales and WG. The final document will be presented to the CTMUHB Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 31 July 2025 and be published on the NWJCC website.

2.3 Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey Results

In accordance with section 9.2 of the NWJCC Standing Orders:

"The Committee Secretary shall oversee a process of regular and thorough self-assessment and evaluation of the Committee's performance and operation on behalf of the Joint Committee".

For the JC Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey (2024-2025), a questionnaire was disseminated to members to complete on 8 April 2025. The survey questions were derived from best practice guidance, including the NHS Audit Handbook, and adhered to the following principles:

- The requirement for a committee structure that strengthens the role of the JC in strategic decision making and supports the role of Lay Members in challenging management actions
- Maximising the value of the input from Lay Members, given their limited time commitment
- Supporting the JC in fulfilling its role, given the nature and magnitude of the NWJCC agenda.

The survey findings are presented at **Appendix 1**. Overall, the survey received a positive response, and the findings and feedback have been reviewed with a view to developing the NWJCC development programme and focussing on the following key areas during 2025-2026:

- **Develop the JC Strategy/Development Programme** – to promote JC engagement, relationships and collaboration and increase the opportunity for members to gain a greater understanding of their core responsibilities, to develop the skills of the collective JC, to work together effectively in developing strategy, strengthening oversight and delivering the collective accountabilities of the NWJCC. Topics for JC development are predominantly suggested by Director Leads or via referrals from JC / Sub-Committee meetings
- **Continuing to develop the Risk Register and a Joint Assurance Framework (JAF)** – ensure Risk Register and JAF differentiate risk between the NWJCC and Health Boards
- **Ensure the NWJCC Strategy has a focus on population-based needs**

- **Strengthen report-writing and quality of papers** – a report-writing training workshop developed following feedback from 1 to 1s with Lay Members, the feedback received from the JC meeting on 20 May 2025 and the findings of the committee effectiveness survey results was held on 11 June 2025 led by the Committee Secretary and guidance on report-writing and meeting etiquette was shared with staff. Further training sessions will be held in 2025-2026 and a report-writing standard operating procedure has also been developed.

2.4 Forward Plan of Committee Business 2025-2026

The Forward Plan of committee business is presented at **Appendix 2** for information.

3. ASSESSMENT

Objectives / Strategy	
Dolen i Amcan (au) Strategol CBC Link to JCC Strategic Objectives(s)	Ensure Quality
Dolen i Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol – Nodau Llesiant / Link to Wellbeing of Future Generations Act – Wellbeing Goals 150623-guide-to-the-fg-act-en.pdf (futuregenerations.wales)	A Healthier Wales
Dolen i Hwyluswyr Ansawdd (Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Enablers of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance gov.wales)	Leadership
Dolen i Feysydd Ansawdd (Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Domains of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance gov.wales)	Effective
Effaith Amgylcheddol/ Cynaliadwyedd (5R) / Environmental /Sustainability Impact (5Rs)	No - Not Applicable

Impact Assessment		
Ansawdd <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Ansawdd? /</i> Quality <i>Have you undertaken a Quality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome:	If no, please include rationale below: N/A
Cydraddoldeb <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb? /</i> Equality <i>Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome:	If no, please include rationale below: N/A
Cyfreithiol / Legal	Yes (Include further detail below)	
	<p>The NWJCC's Standing Orders were issued by Welsh Ministers to Local Health Boards (LHBs) using powers of direction provided in section 12 (3) of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006. Each Local Health Board in Wales must agree the Standing Orders for the regulation of the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee's proceedings and business to form part of each LHBs Standing Orders.</p>	
Enw da / Reputational	There is no direct impact on the reputation of the Joint Committee as a result of the activity outlined in this report.	
Effaith Adnoddau <i>(Pobl / Ariannol) /</i> Resource Impact <i>(People / Financial)</i>	There is no direct impact on resources as a result of the activity outlined in this report.	
	<p>A sound system of financial control enacts robust financial control, safeguards public funds and the NWJCC's assets and resources. Robust governance arrangements underpinning financial management contribute towards internal control and value for money being achieved.</p>	

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Joint Committee is asked to:

- **Note** the report; and
- **Note** the results of the NWJCC's Annual Committee Effectiveness Survey for 2024-2025 and the key areas for development in 2025-2026.