

Joint Commissioning Committee

Highlight Report from the Hosted Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	26/05/2026
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
	Not Applicable
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Noddwr yr Adroddiad / Report Sponsor	Huw George, Chief Commissioner, NWJCC

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

1. SITUATION/BACKGROUND

This report has been prepared to provide Health Board (HB) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Members of the Joint Commissioning Committee (JC) with a summary of the key issues considered by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board's Hosted Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee (the Committee) at its public meeting on 19 May 2026.

Key highlights from the meeting are reported in Section 2.

2. HIGHLIGHT REPORT

(Reports shared with the Committee can be found [here](#)).

2.1 NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) Update

An NWJCC Update was shared with the Committee highlighting progress in the following areas:

2.1.1 Annual Plan 2026/27

The Committee received an update on the NWJCC Annual Plan for 2026/27 which was approved by Joint Committee members on 30 March 2026 via Chair's Action and submitted to Welsh Government the same day. The Plan is set within a three-year strategic context, with a primary focus on value, quality, efficiency and sustainability.

Strategic Focus

It was noted that delivery of the Annual Plan 2026/27 will be centred on eight strategic priorities:

- **Deep Dives**
 - Renal & kidney services
 - Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR)
 - Thrombectomy service provision

- **Strategic Reviews**
 - Cardiac services (South Wales)
 - Neonatal services
 - Mental health (strategy refresh)
 - Ambulance services commissioning

- **Enabling Programme**
 - Pathways & referral management transformation

In addition, the Committee was updated on the governance framework for delivery of the Annual Plan which sets out the following arrangements for each priority:

- **CEO Sponsor** – Each priority will have a nominated CEO sponsor with overall leadership for the programme of work and will provide assurance to the Joint Committee.
- **NWJCC Director (SRO)** – operational delivery responsibility for each priority will sit with an appointed NWJCC Director.
- **Health Board Executive Leads** – clinical, financial, informatics and planning input will be provided by appointed executive leads.
- **Lay Members** will act as critical friends, with roles agreed locally for each priority.

Progress reports will be presented at each formal Joint Committee meeting, with additional scrutiny via the NWJCC's Sub-Committees and the Collaborative Commissioning Leadership Group.

System leadership and commissioning expertise will be provided by the NWJCC, focusing on:

- Population need and demand analysis
- Identification of best practice
- Reducing duplication and inefficiencies
- Improving value for money and population outcomes
- Informing optimal service configuration across Wales

All outputs and recommendations will be subject to quality and equality impact assessment prior to implementation.

Key milestones:

- **May 2026** – Specifications for each priority
- **September 2026** – Mid-year progress reports
- **January 2027** – Final recommendations and decision points

2.1.2 NWJCC Year End Financial Position

The NWJCC Month 12 financial position was reported to the Committee. The update shared an overspend of £6.3m, which represented a significant mitigation of the initial £20m financial risk reported during Q1 of 2026/27.

It was noted that at the session of the Joint Committee in December 2025, Members received a paper for consideration with options, including mitigating actions to manage the financial position for 2025/26 downwards.

The Committee acknowledged that approved mitigating activity, in addition to robust financial management in year, resulted in movement between Months 11 and 12 resulting in an improvement of £456k in the predicted year-end financial position.

2.1.3 NHS 111 Operational Update

As requested, Committee Members received a brief NHS 111 operational update.

It was noted that NHS 111 Wales commissioning responsibility transferred to the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) on 1 April 2024, with interim commissioning and governance arrangements in place for the first year. During this period, NHS 111 performance has been subject to sustained pressure, primarily driven by a misalignment between commissioned capacity and demand, compounded by limitations in the current digital infrastructure.

The Committee acknowledged that WAST and the JCC are actively managing operational risk through a range of mitigations and assurance arrangements and that a full re rostering review was underway to better align workforce capacity

with demand in Q1 2026/27. This work would take place alongside a targeted sickness absence action plan within WAST's integrated care and coordination environment.

The Committee received reassurance that Ambulance and 111 performance would be considered as part of the NWJCC's Strategic Review of Commissioned Ambulance Services and it was agreed that an update would be shared at the next Committee meeting to confirm where assurance regarding performance management fed into the NWJCC and Health Boards.

2.1.4 NWJCC Governance Arrangements and Updates

An overview of the NWJCC's year-end governance arrangements was shared with the Committee, which acknowledged that:

- Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instructions and Sub-Committee Terms of Reference will be shared with the Joint Committee and Health Board, Boards, for approval at their respective meetings in May.
- A review of Hosting Agreement arrangements had commenced, with an update on progress to be shared at future Committee meetings.

2.2 Organisational Risk Register Update

The Committee considered the NWJCC Operational Risk Register (ORR), which details those risks scoring 15 (out of 25) or above and/or those that cannot be managed locally across the NWJCC.

Whilst the Committee took assurance that each of the high/extreme risks recorded within the ORR were assigned to one of the NWJCC sub-committees (Quality, Safety and Outcomes (QSO) Sub-Committee and the Planning, Performance and Finance (PPF) Sub-Committee for scrutiny, prior to JC review, the Committee highlighted its expectation that work would be undertaken to reflect the risks for 2026/27 and beyond in light of the prevailing financial climate within NHS Wales, and to reflect the risks that arise from the Annual Plan 2026/27.

The Committee highlighted CEO attendance and representation at the sub-committees and whether additional support was required. It was advised that this is being picked up through the sub-committee effectiveness surveys, recognising that more resilience is needed and being planned for.

The Committee acknowledged ongoing work to enhance NWJCC risk management processes, including the development of a Joint Committee Assurance Framework which would be shared for approval at the July 2026 Joint Committee meeting.

2.3 Internal Audit Recommendation Tracker

An overview of the NWJCC Internal Audit Tracker was received. The Committee noted that 7 Internal Audit recommendations remained outstanding, one linked to Single Tender Actions and the remaining 6 linked to the Traumatic Stress Wales

Audit Report and the transfer of that service to Public Health Wales. Progress updates were received for all outstanding actions.

Noting stagnated progress against Traumatic Stress Wales Recommendations, the Committee requested that a more detailed update on progress be shared within the NWJCC Strategic Update at the next Committee meeting.

Updates for the following 3 Internal Audits scheduled for 2025-26 were also shared:

- Strategic Planning – Deferred to 2026-27
- High-Cost Drugs – Field work scheduled to complete in May 2026 with a report shared with Committee in August 2026.
- Budget Management – Draft report finalised – Management comments to be finalised and report shared at the August 2026 Committee meeting.

2.4 In Committee Update

An additional, In-Committee Meeting of the Committee also took place on the 19th May 2026 to review the draft CTMUHB Annual Report and Account, including the NWJCC Accountability Report. The draft NWJCC Accountability Report is shared with the Joint Committee as an Appendix to the Corporate Governance Report for approval.

3. ASSESSMENT

Objectives / Strategy	
Dolen i Amcan (au) Strategol CBC Link to JCC Strategic Objectives(s)	Maximise Value
	Ensure Quality; Reduce Duplication; Improve Equity & Population Health; Facilitate Integration
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 Resilient 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
	Culture and Valuing People; Learning, Improvement and Research; Whole-systems Perspective
Dolen i Feysydd Ansawdd (Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Domains of Quality (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	Effective
	Efficient; Equitable; Person-centred; Timely; Safe

Effaith Amgylcheddol/ Cynaliadwyedd (5R) / Environmental /Sustainability Impact (5Rs)	No - Not Applicable

Impact Assessment		
Ansawdd <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Aseiad 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: This is a summary of the latest Committee meeting for the JCC
Cydraddoldeb <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Aseiad o'r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb? /</i> Equality <i>Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment Screening?</i>	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Outcome for Equality (delete as appropriate): POSITIVE/NEUTRAL/NEGATIVE Outcome for Welsh Language (delete as appropriate): POSITIVE/NEUTRAL/NEGATIVE	If no, please include rationale below: This is a summary of the latest Committee meeting for the JCC
Cyfreithiol / Legal	There are no specific legal implications related to the activity outlined in this report.	
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.	

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Health Board is asked to:

- **Note** the highlights outlined in Section 2 of this report.
- **Receive** the **report** as assurance.