

Agenda Item

4.1

Joint Commissioning Committee

Corporate Governance Report

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	21/07/2026
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
	Not Applicable
Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author	Aaron Fowler Committee Secretary, NWJCC
Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter	Aaron Fowler Committee Secretary, NWJCC
Noddwr Gweithredol yr Adroddiad / Report Executive Sponsor	Georgina Galletly, Director of Corporate Planning and Strategy, NWJCC

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	
IPFR	Individual Patient Funding Request
JC	Joint Commissioning Committee
NWJCC	NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee
WG	Welsh Government
WHC	Welsh Health Circular

1. SITUATION/BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on corporate governance matters relating to the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) that have arisen since the previous Joint Committee (JC) 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 NWJCC. This report encompasses all such issues as one agenda item.

2. SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL

2.1 NWJCC Internal Audit Programme

2.1.1 25/26 Outstanding Audits

- Q4 Budget Management
- Q4 High Cost Drugs

Both audits have now completed and will be reported to the Cwm Taf Morganwg Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee for approval on the 4th August 2026. Compliance with the recommendations made within each of these audits will continue to be shared with the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee until satisfactorily closed.

2.1.2 The internal audit programme for the NWJCC for 2026-27 includes:

- Strategic Planning – Delayed from 2025/26 – Scheduled to start in Q3.
- Risk Management – To start in Q3.
- Clinical Escalation – Start date TBC
- Contract Monitoring – Start Date TBC

2.2 Hosting Arrangements

In accordance with the Hosting Agreement between the NWJCC and CTMUHB ("the Hosting Agreement"), a review of hosting arrangements between the two organisations is underway.

The basis of this review is being informed by performance over the last year and will be guided by the recent Welsh Government review of the NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership Accountability and Governance Arrangements (<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2025-12/review-of-the-nhs-wales-shared-services-partnership.pdf>), including recommendations to ensure that there are practical arrangements in place for both organisations to discharge their governance and accountability responsibilities to each other and adjust them as necessary to ensure effective implementation of the Hosting Agreement.

Whilst initial information gathering has taken place, work to refine proposed updates have been delayed due to competing work pressures. An update on the

outcome of ongoing work between the NWJCC and CTMUHB will be shared with the JC at its September 2026 meeting.

2.3 The Governance Framework

The Governance Framework for the NWJCC contains several key components which, when combined, set out the legislative framework, constitution and ways of working for the NWJCC in its operations and handling of business. These documents are an integral part of the wider governance framework of Local Health Boards (LHBs) and have been developed within that context.

At the May 2026 JCC meeting key elements of the Governance Framework, notably the NWJCC Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instructions, Handling of Interests Procedure and Sub-Committee Terms of Reference, were endorsed for HB approval. These updates have been approved by all seven HBs and the updated documents are now available on the NWJCC website ([here](#)).

2.4 The Annual Accountability Report, to support CTMUHB's Annual Report and Accounts preparation 2025/2026

Chapter 3 of the HM Treasury Financial Reporting Manual (FREM) stipulates that statutory NHS bodies are required to publish, as a single document, a three-part annual report and accounts which includes a Performance Report, an Accountability Report (including an Annual Governance Statement (AGS)) and Financial Statements.

As a hosted body the JC does not have a statutory duty to produce an AGS or an Annual report but prepares an Accountability Report, as a matter of good governance and to provide assurance to Health Boards, in particular CTMUHB as the host organisation, in relation to the NWJCC's governance and accountability arrangements. Additionally, the NWJCC Standing Orders (SO 9.2) state that the NWJCC shall provide a written, annual report to CTMUHB in support of its Annual Governance Statement.

The AGS is a key feature of an organisation's Annual Report and Accounts and demonstrates publicly the management and control of resources and the extent to which the body complies with its own governance requirements, including how they have monitored and evaluated the effectiveness of their governance arrangements. It is intended that the NWJCC Accountability Report will bring together in one place, all disclosures relating to governance, risk and control.

The Accountability Report was presented to the NWJCC Sub-Committees in April 2026 for Lay Members to provide comments and feedback. A draft was presented to the CTMUHB Audit & Risk Committee (ARAC) on the 19th May 2026. The final draft was approved at the May 2026 JCC meeting. This was presented to ARAC on the 29 June 2026 for recommendation to the CTMUHB Board for Approval on the same day. The Accountability Report was approved and submitted to Audit Wales and Welsh Government on the 29 June 2026 and presented to the CTMUHB Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 30 June 2026. The Accountability Report is

available online [here](#).

2.5 NWJCC Annual updates to Health Boards (HBs)

Section 9.1 of the NWJCC SOs stipulate that the Committee Chair shall report formally, regularly and on a timely basis to the LHB Boards on the Committee's activities. This includes written submission of highlight reports after each Joint Committee meeting to HBs and an attendance at every HB, annually with Board Members. The purpose of these meetings are to bring to the specific attention of Health Boards any significant matters under consideration by the NWJCC.

A schedule of annual updates with HBs has now been agreed and will take place between July – December 2026.

2.6 Welsh Health Circulars (WHCs)

Welsh Government (WG) issue WHCs to provide official guidance and mandates to health and care organisations in Wales to ensure compliance with new policies, standards, and procedures. Such updates typically communicate important information, such as updates to national programs, new codes of practice, and policy frameworks.

To ensure that NWJCC colleagues remain aware of the changing policies, procedures or standards set out within WHCs the Corporate Governance team share published WHCs with commissioning and clinical leads for action, as necessary.

Since the May 2026 meeting of the JC the following WHCs have been received and shared with relevant commissioning and clinical leads:

- Reminder of statutory duties under the Notification of Infectious Diseases regulations (Wales) (WHC/2026/018)
- NHS Wales National Clinical Audit and outcome review plan 2026 to 2027 (WHC/2026/014)
- Regulations 28: prevention of future deaths report on alarm "latching" in acute monitored environments (WHC/2026/024)
- Meningococcal B (MenB) vaccination programme: urgent time-limited response to recent outbreaks (WHC/2026/026)
- Update on RSV vaccination programme 2026 (WHC/2026/020)
- The national COVID-19 vaccination programme autumn 2026 (WHC/2026/009)
- The national influenza immunisation programme 2026 to 2027 (WHC/2026/010)

All WHCs are available via the WG website ([Health circulars: 2024 to 2027 | GOV.WALES](#)) for further detail and an overview of the requirements, risks and governance issues associated with each.

3. ASSESSMENT

Objectives / Strategy	
Dolen I Amcan (au) Strategol CBC Link to JCC Strategic Objectives(s)	Ensure Quality
Dolen i Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaetha'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: ☐	No: ☒
	Outcome:	If no, please include rationale below: N/A
Cydraddoldeb <i>Ydych chi wedi ymgymryd â Sgrinio Asesiad "r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb? /</i> Equality	Yes: ☐	No: ☒
	Outcome:	If no, please include rationale below: N/A

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment Screening?		
Cyfreithiol / Legal	Yes (Include further detail below)	
	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.	
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 (Pobl / Ariannol) / Resource Impact (People / Financial)	There is no direct impact on resources as a result of the activity outlined in this report.	
	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.	

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The members of the Joint Commissioning Committee are asked to:

- **Note** the report, and updates shared, acknowledging the assurance provided.