



Agenda Item
6.2.1

Joint Commissioning Committee

Quality Safety and Outcomes Sub-Committee Highlight Report

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod / Date of Meeting	20/05/2025
Statws Cyhoeddi / Publication Status	Open/ Public
	Not Applicable
Awdur yr Adroddiad / Report Author	Maxine Evans, Interim Corporate Governance Officer
Cyflwynydd yr Adroddiad / Report Presenter	Mandy Rayani, Lay Member
Noddwr yr Adroddiad / Report Sponsor	Carole Bell, Director of Nursing and Quality

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad / Report Purpose	For Noting Choose an item.
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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 had been prepared to provide a summary of the key issues considered by the Joint Commissioning Committee Quality, Safety and Outcomes sub-committee at its meeting on 31 March 2025.

Key highlights from the meeting are reported in Section 3.

2. PURPOSE

The Purpose and Role of the Joint Committee and the sub-committees are set out in Paragraphs 2.18 and 2.20 of the JCC [Standing Orders](#).

The Quality and Safety Outcomes Committee Terms of Reference can be found [here](#).

3. HIGHLIGHT REPORT

RAG Rating	Highlight
Alert / Escalate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members commented on the importance of developing a video tour for the Mother and Baby Unit and agreed to highlight this in the Chairs report, and to provide feedback to the HB that provides this service.
Advise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members were advised that further work was being undertaken on the Quality Newsletter to align it with the JCC communications strategy. This was close to being completed and will be referred to as a Quality Bulletin. Members received an update on the escalation status of the Paediatric Critical Care Unit (PCCU) and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICCU) at the Children’s Hospital for Wales. The following points were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements in the governance structure including key appointments and regular meetings to ensure clearer oversight and accountability. Introduction of a dashboard to accurately capture activity and cot availability. Key improvements demonstrated in neonatal mortality and national benchmarking in areas such as retinopathy, prematurity screening and infection rates. Positive feedback from patient and families highlighting the improvements in care and the importance of ongoing work to maintain these improvements. Clear expectations and requirements for de-escalation improved understanding of what was being asked and once established the service was able to provide the necessary information and assurance. Members received the Welsh Kidney Network (WKN) report which provided a briefing on the current Quality and Patient Safety issues within the WKN commissioned services. The following points were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxa 48 e-coli infection identified on a kidney ward and the challenges related to this outbreak. Although this primarily affects kidney patients, it may become a broader infection control concern. It was noted that the environment had been a contributing factor. An

RAG Rating	Highlight
	<p>infection prevention and control meeting is arranged to discuss and agree a consistent approach across Wales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The WKN meetings with the three providers of BCUHB, CVUHB and SBUHB and how the wider JCC will be made aware and kept informed of this issue. This would be highlighted in the QSO Chairs report to the JCC. ○ The diversity of dialysis providers and whether this poses any challenges in terms of applying a uniform approach to protocols and standards. It was confirmed that the renal community work very closely, sharing clinical input and that infection prevention and control issues are driven by the clinical teams within the renal centres. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Director of Commissioning for Specialised Services provided updates on various specialist services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The continued challenges in engagement with Salford Royal Hospital obesity services. This will continue to be escalated. Meanwhile, additional capacity has been secured in South Wales. ○ Improvements in plastic surgery waiting times, the data for March 2025 was still pending, but the target of 104 weeks is likely to be achieved. There was insufficient capacity to make any significant in-roads into achieving 52 weeks targets. ○ Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA) due to the ongoing production challenges with Positron Emission Tomography Imaging Centre (PETIC) in CVUHB. A clinical update was provided advising that undertaking clinical revalidation with all the PMSA PET requests has been agreed with a view to shared decision making, noting that these scans were not mandated according to NICE guidance, therefore, the suggested triage involves categorising patients into high, intermediate, and lower risk groups. This positive progress was welcomed. ○ South Wales Specialist Auditory Implant Device Service and the continued lack of progress. This will form part of a broader conversation however there was an action plan in place and the requirements were more visible. ● A report for the Commissioning for Ambulance and 111 services was received. The quality and safety dashboard, which includes high-level reports on quality domains was highlighted. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The establishment of a new clinically led 'National Ambulance Patient Handover Improvement Implementation Group.' The work of this group will be

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<p style="background-color: yellow; margin: 0; padding: 5px;">Assure</p>	<p>a key enabler in supporting the JCC in reducing its emergency ambulance services associated risks around utilisation of capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The new ambulance performance framework and introduction of new categories was noted which included a purple category for incidents of cardiac and respiratory arrest. ○ High rate of 111 call abandonments and whether the service can cope with demand. The JCC has yet to assess whether it provides sufficient or effective call handling and clinical capacity as a formal strategic demand and capacity review of the 111 system has not yet been conducted. A detailed analysis of the GDPR breaches within the Ambulance and 111 report was requested to understand the causes. ○ A deep dive on Ambulance services, including a patient story, was scheduled for June 2025 where several issues can be addressed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Director for Mental Health and Vulnerable Groups report was presented. The following points were highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improvements in High Secure services through the introduction of positive interaction program (PIP) at Ashworth, reducing long-term segregation numbers, noting that Broadmoor and Rampton were implementing similar strategies. ○ Environmental issues at Caswell Medium Secure Unit and Ty Llewellyn, including lack of seclusion facilities. SBUHB has appointed an independent assessor to undertake an independent review of their mental health services. The JCC needs to stay cited on the work of this review to help with informing strategic commissioning decisions. ○ Inpatient numbers have risen within eating disorder services. Noting ongoing discussions to enhance gatekeeping processes. ○ Plans for two newly commissioned perinatal beds for North Wales patients located in Chester, by October 2025.
<p style="background-color: lightgreen; margin: 0; padding: 5px;">Assure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members heard a story from a patient's specific experience of the Tonna Mother and Baby Unit stating the challenges she faced as a mother with physical health disabilities. It was noted that the Unit worked hard to address the environment and accessibility issues and the staff's willingness to listen and adapt. To minimise anxiety for patients, the Unit is now planning to produce booklets with

RAG Rating	Highlight
	<p>photographs of the unit and to introduce phone calls between staff and patients prior to admission to discuss and prepare for their stay. A video tour was also planned, however due to resources this has not been possible. The Chair thanked her for her sharing her personal story and wished her well for the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members received the risk register as at 31 January 2025, highlighting the risks relating to the Quality Safety and Outcomes assigned for monitoring and scrutiny purposes. The following areas were highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cardiac Device Services, the Chair inquired whether this risk was specific to North Wales or if it represented a broader issue concerning engagement within the service. It was clarified that the service was safe, and the engagement issues relate to the provider. The risk was likely to be resolved by the next meeting. ○ Paediatric Intensive Care Beds and Neonatal Infection Control which had been covered in the earlier presentation. Whilst these remain on the Risk Register as risks scoring 20, these should also be updated by the time of the next meeting. It was noted however there appeared to be some underlying issues that could be related to the environment. The infections rates appeared to be higher than national averages despite good compliance with infection control measures. ○ Neurosurgery Sustainability, noting that this risk had been de-escalated from 16 to 8. It was queried if this was premature as the funding had been allocated but the overall sustainability of the service was dependent on successful recruitment. The matter around when a risk is mitigated from a commissioner perspective and becomes a provider risk/issue was discussed. It was suggested that this topic could be addressed in a JCC strategy session since the JCC still needed to conclude their discussions around risk appetite. ○ C&VUHB Neurosciences Staffing issues/level was queried as the description around the risk being addressed by the rehabilitation strategy was due for consideration by the JCC in Quarter three 2024/2025 but this has now passed. It was agreed to review this outside of the meeting and provide an update at the next meeting.
Inform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The forward plan of business for the next twelve months was presented noting that it was a work in progress and would be used to support Agenda planning for future meetings.

RAG Rating	Highlight
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report outlining recent incidents and concerns reported to the JCC from provider and commissioned services covering the period January 2025 – February 2025 was received. An update on the Regulator Report (Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) / Care Quality Commission (CQC) regulatory activity was provided noting the ongoing collaboration with HIW to improve reporting and assurance processes.
Appendices	None

4. ASSESSMENT

Objectives / Strategy	
Dolen i Amcan (au) Strategol CBC Link to JCC Strategic Objectives(s)	Improve Equity and Population Health
	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 More Equal Wales
Dolen i Hwyluswyr Ansawdd <i>(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Enablers of Quality</i> (Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	Whole-systems Perspective
	If more than one applies please list below:
Dolen i Feysydd Ansawdd <i>(Canllawiau Statudol Dyletswydd Ansawdd (llyw.cymru)) / Link to Domains of Quality</i>	Person Centred
	If more than one applies please list below: Equitable

(Duty of Quality Statutory Guidance (gov.wales))	
Effaith Amgylcheddol/ Cynaliadwyedd (5R) / Environmental /Sustainability Impact (5Rs)	No - Not Applicable
	If more than one applies please list below:

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 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: N/A
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 (Pobl /Ariannol) / Resource Impact (People / Financial)	There is no direct impact on resources as a result of the activity outlined in this report.	

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Joint Committee is asked to:

- **Note** the highlights outlined in Section 3 of this report.