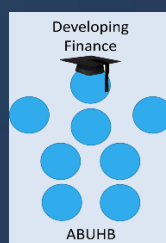




# ANEURIN BEVAN UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

## FINANCE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



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GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Aneurin Bevan  
University Health Board

## RECRUITMENT TIMETABLE

Programme	How to Apply	Recruiting from	Target Start Date
Internal Finance Apprentice	Via NHS Jobs	September	Following August
Network 75 Sponsored Degree Programme	USW website	September	Following September
University Placement Programme	University Careers webpages	September	Following July
NHS Wales Finance Academy Graduate Financial Management Programme	Via NHS Jobs	September	Following September

## CONTACT DETAILS

For further information about working for ABUHB Finance or about any of our training programmes, please contact the Finance Staff Development Team:

Email: [ABB.FinanceStaffDevelopment@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:ABB.FinanceStaffDevelopment@wales.nhs.uk)

Phone: **01633 623860**



## WORKING FOR ABUHB

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) is a multi-award-winning NHS organisation with a passion for caring. The Health Board provides an exceptional workplace where you can feel trusted and valued. Whatever your speciality or stage in your career, we have opportunities for everyone to start, grow and build your career. The health board provides integrated acute, primary, and community care, serving a population of 650,000 and employing over 16,000 staff. We offer a fantastic benefits package and extensive training and development opportunities with paid mandatory training, excellent in-house programmes, opportunities to complete recognised qualifications and professional career pathways, including a range of management development programmes. We offer flexible working and promote a healthy work-life balance, provide occupational health support and an ambitious plan for a Wellbeing Centre of Excellence to support you at work.

Our Clinical Futures strategy continues to enhance and promote care closer to home, as well as high-quality hospital care when needed. This includes the Grange University Hospital, which provides specialist and critical care and is the newest addition to the clinical futures strategy (opened in November 2020). ABUHB offers the opportunity to be part of a journey that pioneers new ways of working and delivers a world-class healthcare service fit for the future.



## FINANCE STAFF DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Rob started his career in the NHS in 1990 with South Glamorgan Health Authority and has spent most of his career in South Wales.

Rob has managed senior financial portfolios across health, defence and the private sector, including the role of Finance Director for an acute hospital in Saudi Arabia. He was the Finance Director for Blaenau Gwent Local Health Board before being appointed to Director of Finance for Procurement and Value for ABUHB.

Rob is a fellow of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants and holds a master's degree in Management Accounting. Rob attended Harvard Business School to study Value Based Healthcare, has undertaken international healthcare research visits and is the Welsh representative on the Health Financial Management Association National Policy & Research committee.

Rob is a keen advocate of improving patient outcomes through the Value-Based care approach and developing the finance team to understand the business of health beyond the financial ledger.



**Robert Holcombe**

Director of Finance,  
Procurement & Value



**Chris Commins**

Assistant Director of  
Finance, Out of Hospital  
Services & Partnerships

Chris commenced his career in the NHS in 1992 as a Trainee Accountant at the South & West Regional Health Authority after completing a degree in Accounting and Finance at Bristol Polytechnic. Chris qualified as an Accountant in 1999 (ACCA) and took on a Management Accounting role at the NHS Executive (South & West) before joining Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust in 2003.

Chris has significant experience as a Finance Business Partner within Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, and in December 2018 became the Assistant Director of Finance covering Out of Hospital Services & Partnerships. Chris is responsible for Finance Staff Development which covers both existing staff and the recruitment of new employees into the organisation through a variety of programmes.

Chris completed the Finance Academy "Aspiring Senior Finance Leaders" course in 2021 and looks back on this as a fantastic networking opportunity and encourages anyone who is interested to apply for similar relevant courses as part of their own personal development.

Having benefitted from excellent development support throughout his career, Chris recognises the importance of providing learning and development opportunities for all members of the Finance community.



## FINANCE STAFF DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Alex joined the NHS as a financial management trainee in 1991 and achieved chartered accountant status with CIPFA.

Alex has since enjoyed many years working in the NHS across south Wales and has benefitted from the breadth and variety of roles that a career in NHS finance offers.

Early in his career Alex project managed the all-Wales procurement of a financial ledger and payroll solution before moving to senior financial leadership roles in service management teams. Success in these roles came from a desire to learn about the service and to look for opportunities to support changes that help teams manage their resources better.

Part of Alex's current portfolio is managing the Health Board's Finance Staff Development programme and his experience, enthusiasm, and willingness to introduce new approaches is key to the future development of our finance team.



**Alex Thomas**  
Finance Business Partner



**Alexis Jones**  
Decision Support Accountant

Alexis began her career in NHS Wales Finance in 2015 when she joined the Central Management Accounts team after spending several years working in the Informatics Division. Alexis has since worked in Financial Planning and Performance and Finance Business Partner teams to develop her knowledge and experience.

During these roles Alexis studied for her professional qualification and became a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) in 2021.

As a newly qualified accountant, Alexis is keen to develop and encourage those who are looking to study and already studying by offering support, advice, and encouragement.

## ABUHB FINANCE

ABUHB Finance sits within the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) Finance and Procurement Division. It comprises over 100 colleagues working in teams and strives to lead, enable, and support the organisation to achieve service and financial excellence.

ABUHB Finance is structured through Centres of Excellence and Finance Business Partner teams to provide efficient, effective, and timely advice and information:

- Financial Systems & Services
  - Finance Business Systems & Governance, Financial Services & Financial Accounting, Central Management Accounts & Costing and Counter Fraud
- Financial Strategy, Planning & Commissioning
  - Financial Planning & Performance, Capital Finance, Strategic Finance & Innovation and Commissioning & Contracting
- Financial Business Partner Teams & Business Intelligence & Value Team
  - Support the Continuing Health Care Division, Corporate Divisions, Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Division, Primary Care & Community Services Division and In-Hospital Secondary Care Divisions. Their roles include cross-organisational work in areas such as Urgent Care, Surgical Specialties and Paediatrics as well as being the finance input into care pathway development.

ABUHB finance staff play key roles in the costing of business cases with recent examples being the Grange University Hospital (GUH) in Cwmbran and the Health and Wellbeing Centres in Newport and Tredegar.

ABUHB Finance staff also carry out the financial modelling of staffing plans at new health facilities like the Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr Unified Breast Care Unit and the Cancer Unit at Nevill Hall Hospital in Abergavenny.

ABUHB Finance staff use business intelligence to monitor and forecast the cost of medicines issued by GPs and in hospitals and are also leading the rollout of a digital barcode-based equipment tracking system.

All ABUHB staff support the delivery of finance training for non-finance managers and support work placements for our finance staff training programmes.



## INTERNAL FINANCE APPRENTICE

This apprenticeship is a unique opportunity to gain knowledge of the NHS and achieve an Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) Level 2 and Level 3 qualification. On completion of AAT Level 3, apprentices are offered the opportunity to remain on the scheme to pursue AAT Level 4.

Each apprentice will receive a comprehensive induction, formal training and be provided with the support and guidance needed to achieve success.

Our Internal Finance Apprentices benefit from: -

- Earning a salary while studying
- Regular pastoral support and personal development reviews
- Gaining knowledge of finance processes in the Health Board
- Providing finance support across varying teams and services
- Receiving training and gaining knowledge of NHS electronic systems
- Gaining experience of the NHS to understand the different services delivered to our local community.

Apprentices need to be committed to completing the AAT qualification and have an interest in the NHS. Upon completion of the apprenticeship, opportunities may present to remain working in ABUHB Finance and to apply to be supported with a further study package to become a fully qualified accountant.



## NETWORK 75 SPONSORED DEGREE PROGRAMME

The Network 75 Sponsored Degree programme is run by the University of South Wales (USW) and combines work placements and part-time study of a degree in Accounting & Finance.

The programme is a 5-year scheme designed for participants to secure a degree in Accounting & Finance and benefit from a tailored programme of work placements across the wide range of departments within ABUHB Finance.

During term time, Network 75 apprentices attend university 2 days a week and their work placement 3 days a week. Outside of term time, Network 75 apprentices attend their work placement 5 days a week.

When Network 75 apprentices are in work placements, they adopt the same terms and conditions as our employed staff. Network 75 apprentices are supported financially through a bursary scheme administered by USW.

Network 75 apprentices apply the accounting concepts they learn as part of their degree course as soon as they learn them. This allows them to build practical experience as well as theoretical knowledge across the time of their apprenticeship.

Upon completion of the programme, opportunities may present to remain working in ABUHB Finance and to apply to be supported with a further study package to become a fully qualified accountant.

For further information about this programme please visit the [University of South Wales website](#).



## UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT PROGRAMME

This scheme is designed for university students who have completed year 2 of their Finance related degree and are looking to complete a year in employment as part of a 4-year course.

It is an excellent opportunity for university students to gain invaluable experience of NHS Wales Finance before completing their degree and embarking on their chosen career path.

Participants receive a comprehensive induction, formal training and are given guidance and support to quickly integrate into our finance department.

To date, placements have been with our Finance Business Partner teams where participants learn all aspects of Finance Business Partnering and experience working alongside Health Board clinical staff and operational service managers.

We have established relationships with the universities listed below to promote our programme and advertise our opportunities.

- Cardiff University
- Swansea University
- University of South Wales
- University of Bath
- University of Bristol

Placement durations are a minimum of 9 months and can extend up to 12 months.



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## NHS WALES FINANCE ACADEMY GRADUATE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

The NHS Wales Finance Academy Graduate Financial Management Programme is a 3-year scheme which provides the opportunity to develop Financial Management and Leadership Skills whilst studying for a professional accountancy qualification.

The scheme provides a comprehensive study package alongside a work-based learning programme designed to introduce participants to the demands of operational finance in the NHS.

The entry criteria for the programme is a 2:2 degree (in any subject) secured by September of the year of entry alongside eligibility to work in the UK.

Upon completion of the programme, opportunities may present to remain working in ABUHB Finance.

For further information on the scheme please visit the [Finance Academy website](#).





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