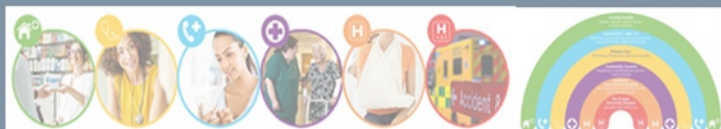


DATE OF MEETING	17 June 2025 09.30-12.30
VENUE	Microsoft Teams

PRESENT	Richard Clark, Chair Iwan Jones, Independent Member Neil Patrick, Independent Member Helen Sweetland, Independent Member Dafydd Vaughan Independent Member
IN ATTENDANCE	Robert Holcombe, Director of Finance and Procurement Hannah Evans, Director of Strategy, Planning and Partnerships Peter Carr, Director of Allied Health Professionals and Health Science Robert Jones, Assistant Director of Finance Caroline Hobbs, Head of Management Accounting Janice Jenkins, Assistant Director of Digital Programmes Lucy Windsor, Head of Corporate Risk and Assurance Sara Utley, Audit Wales Naomi Murtagh, Board Business Manager Gavin Thomas, Governance Support Officer (Secretariat)
Apologies	Paul Solloway, Director of Digital Rani Dash, Director of Governance

Preliminary Items	
FPC/1706/01	Welcome and Apologies Richard Clark (RC), Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
FPC/1706/02	Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence to be noted.
FPC/1706/03	Declarations of Interest



	There were no Declarations of Interest to record.
FPC/1706/04	<p>Draft Minutes of the last Meeting held on 17th February 2025</p> <p>The Committee reviewed the previous minutes and these were AGREED as a true and accurate record of the meeting subject to some minor corrections.</p>
FPC/0617170605	<p>Committee Action Log</p> <p>The Committee received the action log and were content with the progress made in relation to the completed actions. Richard Clark (RC), Chair, noted that there were no outstanding actions.</p>
ITEMS FOR APPROVAL/RATIFICATION/DECISION	
	There were no items for discussion.
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	
FPC/1706/06	<p>Committee Risk Report</p> <p>Lucy Windsor (LW), Head of Corporate Risk and Assurance, provided the Committee with a detailed overview of the current strategic risks delegated to it by the Board, including an overview of their status, mitigating actions, and associated assurance mechanisms. LW advised that there had been no changes to the Risk register.</p> <p>Iwan Jones (IJ), Independent Member, queried the risk score attributed to SRR 001G: Financial Stability, highlighting that the IMTP reflected a balanced financial plan and queried whether the 'likelihood' score be more positive reflecting the intended financial position. Rob Holcombe (RH), Director of Finance and Procurement, acknowledged that at the time the risk was assessed, a likelihood score of 3 (resulting in an overall score of 12) would have been more appropriate given the financial position at that point. However, RH clarified that if the risk were to be scored based on the current position, including the forecast for month ending May 2025 the likelihood would return to 4, bringing the overall score back to 16.</p> <p>Following discussion, the Committee agreed that the risk score would not be amended retrospectively. Instead, it was agreed that the minute would formally record the</p>



	<p>context and rationale discussed, acknowledging the fluctuation in risk scoring.</p> <p>The Committee NOTED the report, and in addition NOTED the delegated Committee risks as detailed within the Strategic Risk Register, ensuring alignment with the Board's Strategic Objectives.</p>
<p>FPC/1706/07</p>	<p>Development of Committee Annual Programme of Business 2025/26</p> <p>Lucy Windsor (LW), Head of Corporate Risk and Assurance, presented the Committee Annual Programme of Business to the Committee and explained that the plan had been developed with due regard to recommendations from the Committee Self-Assessment 2024/25, to enable the Committee to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fulfil its Terms of Reference; ▪ Seek assurance and provide scrutiny on behalf of the Board, in relation to those items identified within the Committees terms of reference, and, ▪ Seek assurance that governance, risk, and assurance arrangements are in place and working well. <p>Hannah Evans (HE), Director of Strategy, Planning and Partnerships, queried if the annual programme allowed for flexibility with additional items being added throughout the year and LW confirmed there was flexibility within the programme.</p> <p>The Committee NOTED and APPROVED the Annual Programme of Business.</p>
<p>ASSURANCE IN RESPECT OF ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT</p>	
<p>FPC/1706/08</p>	<p>Performance Management & Escalation Report</p> <p>Hannah Evans (HE), Director of Strategy, Planning and Partnerships, presented the report to provide feedback to the Committee regarding escalation levels and to provide an update on the progress of the Performance Management Framework (PMF) review. HE noted that the</p>



timings of committee meetings did not always align for reporting periods.

HE advised that the IMTP was agreed at the end of March and accountability letters were currently with the Chief Executive for sign off.

HE informed that the escalation levels remained the same with several divisions in enhanced monitoring for finance. In response to this, it was noted that several divisional budget meetings had taken place with a number of actions in place as a result.

HE also noted that Urgent Care and Mental Health & Learning Disabilities, were under Enhanced Monitoring, due to concerns related to Quality and Safety as well as Operational Delivery.

The Committee noted that both the recent JET and NHS Executive meetings were positive with recognition of the Health Boards actions, whilst noting that there was still work to do in some areas.

The Committee further noted that the revised performance framework would be shared at the September Board.

Iwan Jones (IJ), Independent Member, suggested that Committee needed to understand what actions had been taken by divisions which were under enhanced monitoring and asked for this to be included within future reports.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

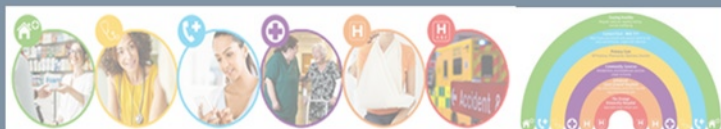
FPC/1706/09

Integrated Performance Report

Hannah Evans (HE), Director of Strategy, Planning and Partnerships, presented the report to the Committee to provide an overview of operational performance against the 25/26 IMTP Key Performance Metrics.

The Committee noted that this was the first report for 2025/26 using the new template with updated metrics.

HE acknowledged that some metrics were still missing from the template and confirmed these would be included in the next iteration.



HE also advised that certain metrics could not be reported monthly due to data availability constraints.

HE recognised that while progress had been made in several areas over time, further work remained necessary.

The Committee noted positive improvements in Urgent Care during April and May, although June had presented challenges.

The Committee acknowledged that the Health Board was on track to meet its target for Planned Care of having no patients waiting over 104 weeks.

Additionally, HE informed the Committee that Welsh Government were developing plans to procure an insourcing solution for outpatient activity.

HE also highlighted that theatre data indicated the need for further analysis and proposed a deep dive to be brought to a future Committee meeting.

The Committee supported this proposal and formally requested that a Deep Dive into Theatres performance is undertaken and presented at a subsequent meeting.

Action: Chief Operating Officer/Director of Strategy, Planning and Partnerships

Neil Patrick (NP), Independent Member, shared concerns regarding the Welsh Government's outsourcing solution for Outpatients and queried the associated financial model. The Committee noted that a board briefing on planned care was due to be held to discuss this in more detail.

The Committee **NOTED** the report

FPC/1706/10

Stroke Improvement Plan Update Report

Peter Carr (PC), Director of Allied Health Professionals and Health Science, presented the report to provide an update on the progress of the Stroke Service Action Plan.

PC explained that the report also references other reviews that have been undertaken including, the 2021 Therapy Review, the 2023 HIW Patient Flow Review and the 2024 Welsh Government Recommendations on Improving Stroke Services in Wales and acts as a Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) Stroke Improvement Plan.



PC informed the Committee, that a Regional Stroke Network had been established which provided strategic oversight of the Health Boards Stroke improvement plan.

The Committee heard that the medium-term strategic principles for ABUHB included building on the established model which is centralised at the Grange University Hospital.

PC explained that the Health Board had commissioned the Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) programme to review its stroke services. The Committee noted that the review resulted in approximately 20 recommendations, informed by best practices from high-performing units such as one in London.

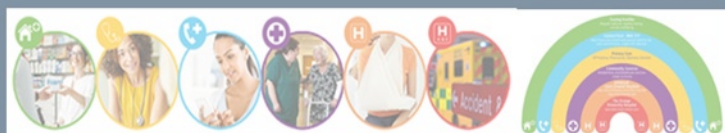
These recommendations were combined with those from Health Inspectorate Wales (HIW) and Welsh Government to form a single, comprehensive action plan encompassing all identified areas for improvement. PC confirmed that there was a plan to complete a business case for national funding to address the gaps in service which had been identified through the review.

The Committee noted that in terms of reporting data via SNAP, there had been no data captured since October owing to changes made to the tool so all reporting is having to be done manually.

Helen Sweetland (HS), Independent Member, explained that speed was key in terms of determining outcomes when it comes to stroke and queried that the paper implied that the stroke beds are not ringfenced. PC advised that the beds were ringfenced following agreement to do so at Executive Committee and there were steps to be taken to ensure that the beds are kept free.

HS noted the transfer of patients from Cwm Taff Morgannwg Health Board and the impact that this was having and queried if the Health Board knew how long this would continue. HE confirmed that whilst nothing has been formally agreed yet, she believes that the arrangement would continue for 12 months.

Iwan Jones (IJ), Independent Member, acknowledged the progress made and the actions in place. However, he expressed concern about the lack of clarity regarding the



high-level actions being taken to deliver outcomes, noting that some assurance gaps remained - particularly where updates on the logs had not been refreshed for over 12 months.

PC noted the comments of IJ and provided clarity on the steps being taken to address the areas which are red. PC acknowledged that further work was needed in respect of making sure the actions were SMART and would include this in future reporting.

The report was **NOTED** by the committee.

FPC/1706/11

Information Governance Report

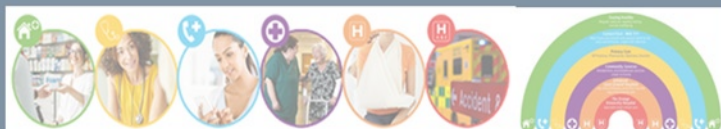
Janice Jenkins (JJ), Assistant Director of Digital programmes, presented the report to provide assurance of the Information Governance, Cyber Security, and clinical coding arrangements for the Health Board with an update on recent activity.

The Committee noted that during the period January to April there had been 37 DPIAs completed. In terms of IG Training and compliance, 75% of staff had completed the training compared to a target of 85%.

The Committee noted that there had been 202 Information Governance incidents investigated during the period January to April 2025 with 77 of these related to confidentiality, 73 related to integrity of data and 52 related to availability of data.

The Committee noted that the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) undertook a voluntary audit in September 2023 which looked at a number of key areas, namely Information Security, Requests for Access, and Information Risk. The Committee heard how the audit took place over a period of 10 days and included onsite visits as well as discussions with staff across several areas of the organisation. The outcome of the audit was that the Health Board had reasonable assurance in respect of the 3 scope areas and made recommendations for improvement.

The Committee further noted that during a follow up Audit in February 2025, it was acknowledged by the ICO that Health Board was making progress towards the



completion of the recommendations, with 41 (65%) marked as completed and 22 (45%) marked as in progress.

In relation to Cyber Security, the Committee noted that 80% of desktop devices, 99.02% of managed servers, and 92.16% of third-party servers were fully patched.

The Committee noted that some of the patches which were waiting to be applied were reliant on Digital Health Care Wales (DHCW).

Dafydd Vaughan (DV), Independent Member, noted that it may be necessary to highlight at the next Cyber Security review that input from DHCW was still awaited.

In addition, DV requested that the Committee receive a breakdown of themes in respect of the IG incidents and asked that these be shared with the next report.

Iwan Jones (IJ), Independent Member noted that the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee was clear that records management, both electronic and physical along with storage was a concern, noting that it did not appear in the report and asked that it be included in future reports to the Committee.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

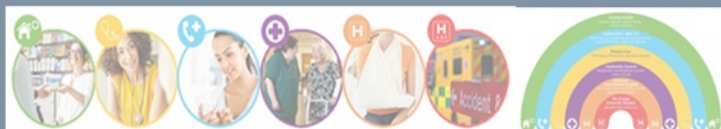
FPC/1706/12

Assurance Reports from the Digital, Data and Technology Group

Janice Jenkins (JJ), Assistant Director of Digital Programmes, presented the report which provided an update on the Directorates progress of Digital Transformation and Programmes.

JJ explained that these programmes are directly aligned with the Health Board's Digital Annual Operational Plan, which outlines both the expected deliverables and the strategic initiatives required to:

- Maintain safe, secure, reliable, and compliant digital services.
- Meet the growing demand for digital transformation across the organisation



JJ presented the report and explained that there were a number of programmes and projects currently within the digital portfolio.

JJ highlighted that the Health Board had taken the lead and instigated a regional digital project board to support the implementation of OpenEyes. The focus was now on readiness activities and the development of a robust plan.

The Committee also noted that due to the lack of clarity over the national position of Electronic Referral System the Health Board would support an interim solution using Microsoft 365 and E-mails to support the additional planned care activity.

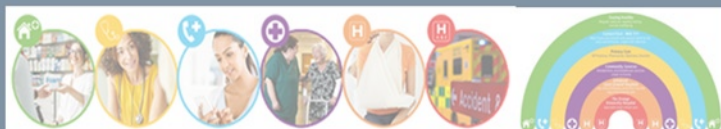
The Committee noted that the implementation of Badgernet in Maternity had been completed and that the service was transitioning into delivery with future integration requirements being assessed.

JJ advised the committee that in terms of the Health Boards ICT Programme as a whole, there was a large programme of work in place, which included new builds and refurbishments across the Health Board. JJ noted that key pieces of work within the programme were:

- Wi-Fi remediation at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr completed
- Mamhilad Data Centre move completed, and site vacated
- Firewall replacements underway (key dependency for Radiology Information Systems Programme (RISP))

JJ explained that following approval of the Business Case earlier in the year in respect of electronic prescribing, Medicines Administration Programme (ePMA) a number of key milestones had now been met, these included:

- Recruitment completed for all key posts
- Equipment pilots on wards underway
- Governance and Senior Responsible Owner in place
- Readiness activities commenced
- Communications and engagements underway (roadshows completed across several Health Board sites)
- Funding for 2025/2026 confirmed from Welsh Government



	<p>JJ further advised that the next stage would focus on detailed scoping work.</p> <p>The Committee noted that the issues remained with LIMS and also Welsh Intensive Care Information System (WICIS) and Dafydd Vaughan (DV), Independent Member, asked for a paper to be brought to next Committee meeting with an update on progress made and the mitigations of LIMS going end of life.</p> <p>Action: Committee Secretariat</p> <p>JJ provided an update on progress made in respect of digital patient and provided background to the project. It was noted that the Civica experience text messaging had gone live in the Emergency Department.</p> <p>The Committee NOTED the report.</p>
<p>FPC/1706/13</p>	<p>Corporate Information Report</p> <p>Lucy Windsor (LW), Head of Corporate Risk and Assurance, presented the report which outlined the Health Boards responses and disclosures to requests for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and enquiries received from Members of the Senedd and Parliament.</p> <p>The Committee NOTED the report.</p>
<p>ASSURANCE IN RESPECT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & PERFORMANCE</p>	
<p>FPC/1706/14</p>	<p>Monthly Finance Report and Monitoring Returns</p> <p>Robert Holcombe (RH), Director of Finance and Procurement, presented the month 1 report and explained that the report sets out the financial performance of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, as at the 30th April 2025 (Month 01) for the financial year 2025/26.</p> <p>RH explained that the plan stated £1.7m at this stage, but the Health Board was currently running at £2.5m, with a holding position of break even and in terms of capital is on track to break even.</p>



RH explained that there were risks associated with the plan following the pay awards and the National Insurance uplifts.

In terms of workforce, RH explained that the Health Board spent £72.5m in April on workforce. RH explained that operational pressures including Enhanced Care, sickness and vacant posts continued to cause pressure on the Health Board's position.

In terms of the All-Wales position, RH explained that NHS Wales as a whole was reporting £187m deficit, however there were emerging risks in terms of savings being identified. RH explained that Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board and Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board were the only Health Boards who were predicting a balanced position.

Iwan Jones (IJ), Independent Member, noted that the sickness categories within the report were for Nursing staff, but queried if they were available for other staff too. RH committed to looking into this for future reporting.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

FPC/1706/15

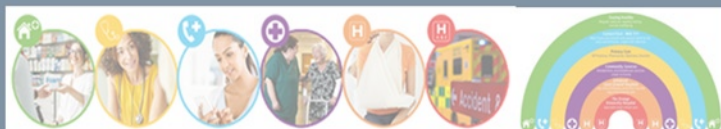
Value and Sustainability Assurance Reporting

Robert Holcombe (RH), Director of Finance and Procurement, presented the report and explained that the Health Board has established a Value & Sustainability Board (V&SB) in order to improve the financial and operational sustainability for Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.

RH informed the Committee of the actions and achievements for the reporting period. RH explained that as at month 11 the savings position had been reported as £45.5m (green and amber), £5.0m above target levels.

Helen Sweetland (HS), Independent Member, queried if there had been any pushback or resistance from people on the process.

RH explained that there had been some resistance, but overall people were engaging in the process especially where they could see savings are identifiable.



	<p>RH explained that the focus now needed to be on new opportunities to save.</p> <p>The Committee NOTED the report.</p>
<p>FPC/1706/16</p>	<p>Opportunities identified through costing return analysis for ABUHB</p> <p>Caroline Hobbs (CH), Head of Management Accounting, and Robert Jones (RJ), Assistant Director of Finance, were welcomed to the meeting and CH presented the report via a presentation.</p> <p>CH outlined to the Committee that the data which is captured is used both in the Health Board and also Welsh Government, and explained the importance to get buy in from services for the information to really make a difference.</p> <p>Robert Holcombe (RH), Director of Finance and Procurement, advised that the slides had been disseminated to the Committee and that there were several opportunities to be explored.</p> <p>Iwan Jones (IJ), Independent Member, queried the level of confidence in the data relating to coding and job plans. RH acknowledged that while there were recognised gaps in the coding, there were plans in place to improve this over the coming year.</p> <p>RH confirmed that the current data was considered satisfactory and provided valuable opportunities for further analysis and insight</p> <p>The Committee NOTED the report.</p>
<p>ITEMS FOR INFORMATION</p>	
<p>FPC/1706/17</p>	<p>External Audit Review of Cost Savings Arrangements</p> <p>The Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the External Audit Review of Cost Savings Arrangements.</p>
<p>FPC/1706/18</p>	<p>NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee - Planning, Performance and Finance Sub-Committee Highlight Report</p>



	The Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee - Planning, Performance and Finance Sub-Committee Highlight Report.
FPC/1706/19	Committee Annual Report 2024/25 The Committee received the Annual Report, which was duly NOTED and APPROVED .
FPC/1706/20	Annual Review of Committee Terms of Reference The Committee received the Terms of Reference for 2025/26 and these were APPROVED
FPC/1706/21	Project Brief – Digital Transformation Review – Aneurin Bevan University Health Board The Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Project Brief – Digital Transformation Review.
OTHER MATTERS	
FPC/1706/22	Items to be Brought to the Attention of the Board and Other Committees There were no items to be brought to the attention of the Board or other Committees.
FPC/1706/23	Any Other Urgent Business There was no other Urgent Business.
FPC/1706/24	Date of the Next Meeting 31 July 2025

