

DATE OF MEETING	Monday 15 th December 2025
VENUE	Microsoft Teams

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board –Finance and Performance Committee: Meeting Summary

Committee Papers: [Agenda and Papers](#)

Committee Members:

Neil Patrick, Chair
Iwan Jones, Vice Chair
Akmal Hanuk, Independent Member
Dafydd Vaughan, Independent Member

- **Meeting Administration & Attendance:** The meeting was opened with no apologies noted and attendance confirmed.
- **Review of Previous Minutes and Action Log:** Previous minutes were discussed and approved. The Committee noted that there were no outstanding actions on the Action Log.
- **Finance, Performance & Committee Risk Overview:** The current risk register was reviewed, noting stable but ongoing strategic risks in areas of financial sustainability, performance, digital, and carbon reduction.
- **Performance Management and Escalation:**
 - The Health Boards escalation status had been reviewed, with recent de-escalation in some areas but ongoing enhanced monitoring for Urgent and Emergency care. The Committee discussed the criteria for further de-escalation and the impact of not submitting a balanced IMTP (Integrated Medium-Term Plan).
 - Winter pressures, particularly early and severe flu and respiratory illness, were significant challenges impacting Urgent and Emergency care and overall performance of the Health Board.
 - Progress had been reported in reducing long waits for planned care, with additional funding supporting reductions in 104-week and 52-week waits. However, this has led to increased pressure on diagnostic waiting times.



- **Finance Update:** The Committee reviewed the current financial position, noting a year-to-date deficit and a revised year-end forecast that reflects recent positive developments. Key financial risks had been managed for this year, but ongoing pressures from winter demand and medicine costs remain.
- **Medicines Management Deep Dive:** The Committee received a detailed review of medicines expenditure, which highlighted significant cost growth driven by new NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) approved drugs, especially in Cancer and Ophthalmology. The Committee discussed the complexity of forecasting medicines costs, the impact of national and international pricing, and the importance of rapid adoption of biosimilars and generics to achieve savings. Assurance processes and new digital tools for monitoring high-cost drugs were outlined, with ongoing work to improve divisional accountability and reduce wastage.
- **Digital Transformation:** Updates were provided on major digital projects, including the implementation of new electronic patient record systems, digital ward communications, and the NHS Wales app. Both progress and risks were noted, particularly with delays in the LIMS pathology system rollout and the need for improved cyber security and benefits realisation tracking.
- **Public Accountability & Governance:** The Committee reflected on a recent public accountability meeting, noting positive preparation and performance. Key priorities identified by Welsh Government include financial management, urgent and emergency care, and planned care.

