



Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB)
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in public on 29th September 2022
at Venue Cymru, Llandudno

Present:

Mark Polin	Chair
Molly Marcu	Board Secretary
Nicky Callow	Independent Member - University
Cheryl Carlisle	Independent Member
Richard Micklewright	Independent Member
Gareth Evans	Associate Member ~ Director of Social Services Chair of Healthcare Professionals Forum
Gill Harris	Deputy CEO
Jackie Hughes	Associate Independent Member
Medwyn Hughes	Independent Member
John Gallanders	Independent Member
Teresa Owen	Executive Director of Public Health
Lucy Reid	Vice Chair
Chris Stockport	Executive Director Transformation, Strategic Planning, And Commissioning
Linda Tomos	Independent Member
Fon Roberts	Associate Independent Member
Jane Wild	Chair of Health Care Professionals Forum
Angela Wood	Executive Director of Nursing & Midwifery
Nick Lyons	Executive Medical Director

In Attendance:

David Seabrooke	Interim Director of Corporate Affairs (<i>for minutes</i>)
Philip Orwin	Interim Director of Regional Delivery
Helen Stevens-Jones	Director of Partnerships, Communications and Engagement
Matthew Edwards	Audit Wales
Dylan Roberts	Chief Digital and Information Officer
Claire Wilkinson	Deputy Director - Operational Workforce

Agenda Item Discussed
A22.1 Welcome and Introduction
A22.1.1 The Chair welcomed all attendees to the Annual General Meeting of the Health Board.
A22.1.2 Apologies had been received from Jo Whitehead, Sue Green, John Cunliffe and Sue Hill.
A22.2 Annual Report and Accounts 2021/22

A22.2.1 Annual Report 2021/22

A22.2.1.1 The Deputy Chief Executive presented slides reviewing 2021/22

A22.2.1.2 She acknowledged the continuing commitment and dedication shown by staff during the pandemic. She commended the vaccination programme which had successfully been delivered as a result of excellent partnership working.

Referral to treatment times and waiting lists remained a challenge; the organisation had increased capacity to address this.

Quality performance had included work to better understand patient feedback through engagement, patient stories and 100 Experience champions. Other points highlighted:

- Urology - improvement plan being implemented representatives. Royal College of Surgeons Review commissioned.
- Falls and Pressure Ulcers– remains our highest incidents of harm: Policies have been updated and an improvement project refined with strategic oversight
- Patient Safety Programme – overarching programme being developed

On concerns around the vascular service, she highlighted:

- Rapid response to Royal College findings
- Improvement plan and oversight group in place
- Clinical support to MDT working from RLUHT
- Quality/harm review panel with independent chair established with ongoing feedback
- Close oversight via the Executive Medical Director with regular Board review and Ministerial updates

In the year ahead, there were challenges on recruitment and retention to address. Establishment of the network of Urgent Primary Care Centres. Other initiatives included

- Transformation of services to improve access and create capacity
- Continue improvement activity across mental health services for children and adults
- Commence the design and development the first of our planned Regional Treatment Centres
- Primary care academy – continued development and the implementation of a recruitment and retention strategy for primary care in north Wales.

A22.2.2 Annual Financial Accounts

A22.2.2.1 The Deputy Chief Executive reiterated the apologies previously given by the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Finance for the failings in relation to the annual accounts.

A22.2.2.2 On behalf of the Executive Director of Finance, the Finance Director – Operational informed the meeting as follows:

The Health Board's financial duties were

- To break-even against allocations across three years
- Produce a three year IMTP (duty previously suspended during Covid)
- Close cash balances within guidelines (achieved)
- Meet the target for prompt payment of invoices (achieved)

The Health Board did not achieve the first duty as there was an overspend in 2019/20 of £38m. It had missed the 15 June deadline for submitting the accounts for which he apologised, although this was recognised by Audit Wales as an administrative deadline – the statutory deadline of 28 August had been met. The Health Board has put in place an action plan to deliver the recommendations detailed in the Audit Wales Audit of Accounts report.

There had been a growth in agency spend of £48.7m. Capital expenditure was £46m.

A22.2.2.3 The Chairman invited Matthew Edwards from Audit Wales to comment on the audit position. The Health Board had received a qualified opinion on its accounts. The auditor had issued a limitation of scope on the true and fair judgement as there was not sufficient evidence to conclude this.

The Auditor General had recommended that the Health Board:

1. undertakes a review to understand why these issues occurred and to strengthen its controls accordingly
2. undertakes a comprehensive exercise to identify, and correct for, the errors in its accounting records
3. identifies the corrections it needs to make to ensure that its 2022-23 accounts give a true and fair view

A22.2.2.4 The Chairman confirmed that an independent review had been commissioned and that the Health Board was taking these recommendations very seriously.

A22.3 Public Questions

A22.3.1 The Chair stated that advance questions had been invited from members of the public, which would also be responded to in writing as detailed in the Schedule to the minutes.

A22.4 Concluding Remarks

A22.4.1 The Chair extended his thanks to everyone involved in today's meeting for their work and the delivery of the presentations to the AGM.

Schedule – Public questions and responses (A22.3)