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# BOARD INSIGHTS

IGDC • DHCW



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Iechyd a Gofal  
Digidol Cymru  
Digital Health  
and Care Wales

**Welcome to Board Insights**, as members of the SHA Board, we all feel it's important to keep you updated with some of the work we are undertaking across the organisation and NHS Wales. This edition comes from our Independent Member, **David Selway**

## Annwyl gyfeillion/ Dear colleagues,

I was delighted to be asked to share the Board Insights reflection with you all this month. It is timely as we've just held our January Board meeting, had a meeting of the, All-Wales independent Member Digital Network and I've just been asked to take over as Chair of the new Programmes Delivery Committee.

### January Board Meeting

We have a regular shared listening and learning spot on the agenda and this month we received an update from Rachael Powell, Associate Director of Information, Intelligence and Research on **Research & Innovation**. The team have made significant progress over the past year, promoting R&I opportunities to groups and national networks, showcasing our achievements and best practice to colleagues across our networks. Rachael also highlighted what we have learnt over the past year and our plans for the coming months.

With the significant investment that is being made in the **National Data Resource programme** we have great opportunity to **"drive better value and outcomes through innovation"** which is one of our strategic missions.

We received an update on the draft **DHCW long term strategy** from Ifan Evans, Executive Director of Strategy. The DHCW long-term strategy sets out the role we will play in the health and care system in Wales over the coming six years.

It builds on our missions, the central pillars around which our IMTP is structured, describing our objectives and the transformational impact we expect to have on the delivery of health and care services.

We had a lively discussion during the Board meeting and the team will take onboard the feedback they received and will now be going out for a period of consultation with Stakeholders, prior to the final strategy being brought back to the SHA Board in March. We also received an update on our **IMTP** which was well received.

As per usual business, we received a comprehensive **finance report** from Claire Osmundsen-Little, Executive Director of Finance. It's fair to say that we have several challenges this financial year as an organisation, but we received assurance that we can address these. I'm always impressed by Claire's ability to present a complex financial situation in a clear and concise manner as well as drawing our attention to the key issues.

As an organisation we are committed to openness and transparency, and we make a live stream available to members of the public who are welcome to attend and observe our Board meetings, you can catch up on the recording of the meeting via the website too.

## New Programmes Delivery Committee

During 2023-24 the DHCW, with the support of Welsh Government commissioned an independent review into Programme Governance Arrangements. The main recommendation from the report was to simplify governance arrangements to include streamlining lines of accountability, ensure greater clarity on roles and responsibilities, allowing DHCW hosted programmes to operate in an open and transparent manner.

The DHCW Chair and Chief Executive Officer agreed to establish a sub-committee of the DHCW Board, the Programmes Delivery Committee, to provide assurance and scrutiny on the delivery of major DHCW hosted programmes in an open and transparent manner.

The purpose of the committee is to: -

- Assure the Board and the Chief Executive (who is the Accountable Officer) that effective arrangements are in place around delivery of DHCW major programmes.
- Advise the Board and the Chief Executive on the development and implementation of the SHA's major programmes and key delivery plans.
- Advise where appropriate the Board and the Chief Executive on where, and how its major programmes may be strengthened and developed further.

The first the Programmes Delivery Committee took place on 9 November 2023, followed by a Committee Development Session which took place on 18 January 2024. The next Committee meeting will take place on 6 February 2024. Simon Jones, DHCW Chair, has asked me to take over as Chair of this committee, which I was delighted to accept.

### All Wales Independent Member Digital Network

The All-Wales Independent Member Digital Network also met in January. The Network is open to Independent Members from all parts of the NHS Wales who have some oversight for digital in their organisation. Three DHCW independent members (Ruth Glazzard, Rowan Gardner & I) also attend, and our governance team provide support for this meeting.

The Network has established a community that is keen to learn from each other's experience and share best board practise. At the January meeting we had 3 excellent presentations from the Health boards: -

- Swansea Bay University Health Board Electronic Patient Record for kidney patients
- Velindre University NHS Trust's participation in the National Data Resource programme
- Value Based Healthcare at Hywel Dda University Health Board

The Network was only established in January 2023 and forms part of our engagement strategy with wider Wales NHS organisations.

**Diolch yn fawr!**

David Selway

Gan ein Haelod Annibynnol  
Independent Member



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