

Edition Five

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**GIG
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WALES**

Iechyd a Gofal
Digidol Cymru
Digital Health
and Care Wales

BOARD INSIGHTS

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 Chief Executive Officer,
Helen Thomas.

Annwyl gyfeillion/ Dear colleagues,

I want to share with you what the Board has been engaged with, since the last Board Insights edition from our Independent Member, Grace Quantock in February. It's been a particularly busy time for us as a Board, as we come to the end of our first financial year as a Special Health Authority.

Firstly, I am pleased to say that our 3 newest executive team

members have joined DHCW, Ifan Evans, Executive Director of Strategy, Gareth Davis, Interim Executive Director of Operations and Sarah-Jane Taylor, Director of People and Organisational Development. Ifan, Gareth and Sarah-Jane joined their first DHCW Board meeting in May and it was great to have their contribution around the virtual table.

In terms of Board recruitment, the interviews for our Independent Member were held on 7th June and we are in the process of recruiting for the Director of Primary, Community and Mental Health Digital Services post. We are looking forward to keeping you updated on these posts in the coming weeks.

We are pleased to have approved our IMTP 2022-25 and this has been submitted to Welsh Government and we are awaiting feedback on these.

Another significant milestone for us as a Board is that we approved our Board Assurance Framework in May, this was a key milestone for us outlined in the Board Assurance Framework Strategy which was first approved by the Board as we established as a Special Health Authority back in 2021.

Work is continuing on this to articulate our risk tolerance and appetite for our 5 strategic objectives:

1. Enabling Digital Transformation supporting joined up consistent care
2. Delivering high quality technology, data products and services to support efficiencies and improvements in care processes
3. Expanding the content, availability and functionality of the digital health and care record so that care and treatment quality is improved

4. Driving value and innovation for better outcomes and Value-Based care

5. Becoming the trusted strategic partner and a high performing, inclusive, ambitious organisation supporting our workforce and stakeholders

A Board Development session is scheduled for the 30 June to finalise these and it is then the intention to take them to the Public Board meeting in July for approval.

During our Board meeting in May, we received a fantastic presentation from Sally Pritchard, Principal Project Manager on Electronic Test Requesting and the uptake across NHS Wales. This was a great demonstration on how DHCW are creating a “Digital First” approach for Clinicians. This was our first Board meeting where several agenda items and presentations were delivered through the Welsh Language, this was hugely positive and very encouraging to see as a bilingual organisation.

The meeting also had strong themes around user centre design, sustainable strategic funding models and keeping data safe.

You can [watch the recording of the meeting on our website](#).

We have also had a Board Briefing with NHS Digital which looked at sharing lessons that we could learn from each other.

The agenda focused on Citizen Engagement, Sustainable Funding, Benefits Realisation, Operation Delivery Models and the separation of Strategy & Delivery. The session was really useful, and it was great to share knowledge on key topics and work collaboratively with NHS Digital.

The All-Wales IM Digital Network has met on a few occasions now since being established in January 2022 and as a Board it's positive to see Independent Members across NHS Wales sharing best practice and learning. At the last meeting a presentation on Cyber Security was shared, along with the draft Welsh Government Health and Care Strategy.

Work has just begun on our Structured Assessment with Audit Wales - this is the first Structured Assessment for us since becoming a Special Health Authority and builds on the Baseline Governance Review that was undertaken during 2021/22 which focused on assessing DHCW's progress in establishing good governance arrangements for the new Special Health Authority. This work will take place over the coming months with a final report from Audit Wales expected in November 2022.

Lastly, we are holding our first Annual General Meeting on 28th July and it would be great for you all to join to see the presentation of our Annual Report and Annual Accounts for 2021/22. [The event will be live streamed from 4pm, you can access via the website.](#) We welcome all questions in advance and request that these are sent to r fw-corp services@wales.nhs.uk by 30 June 2022. Questions will be incorporated into our Q&A section after our presentation.

We look forward to the next Board Meeting, Annual General Meeting and continuing our work in 2022.

Helen Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

