

Minutes

Date: 17 June 2004
Time: 9.30am to 12.38pm
Venue: Committee Room 2, Cardiff Bay

Members

Janet Davies (*Chair*)
 Leighton Andrews
 Mick Bates
 Alun Cairns
 Christine Gwyther
 Denise Idris-Jones
 Dai Lloyd
 Val Lloyd
 David Melding
 Carl Sargeant

Attendance

South Wales West
 Rhondda
 Montgomeryshire
 South Wales West
 Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
 Conwy
 South Wales West
 Swansea East
 South Wales Central
 Alyn and Deeside

Witnesses

Ann Lloyd Director, NHS Directorate, National Assembly for Wales
 Dr Christine Daws Director, Resource Directorate, National Assembly for Wales
 Sir Jon Shortridge Permanent Secretary, National Assembly for Wales
 Laurie Pavelin Head of Finance Division, National Assembly for Wales
 David Richards Principal Finance Officer, National Assembly for Wales

Officials

Sir John Bourn Auditor General for Wales
 Ian Summers National Audit Office
 Mike Usher National Audit Office
 Ceri Thomas Assembly Compliance Office

Secretariat

Siwan Davies Committee Clerk
 Liz Wilkinson Deputy Committee Clerk

Item 1: Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest.

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members, witnesses and members of the public to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies were received from Jocelyn Davies and Mark Isherwood for whom Dai Lloyd and David

Melding were substituting.

Item 2: Finances of NHS Wales 2004

2.1 The Committee took evidence from Ann Lloyd, Director, NHS Directorate, National Assembly for Wales and Dr Christine Daws, Director, Resource Directorate, National Assembly for Wales.

2.2 A verbatim transcript will be attached as Annex 1 to these minutes.

Action

Ann Lloyd agreed to provide a note to the Committee on the pattern of claims for clinical negligence and personal injury against NHS Wales between 2001-02 and 2002-03.

Ann Lloyd agreed to provide a note to the Committee on the breakdown of fraud cases across NHS Wales.

The Committee adjourned from 10.58am until 11.15am

Item 3: General Report of the Auditor General for Wales 2004

3.1 The Committee took evidence from Sir Jon Shortridge, Permanent Secretary, National Assembly for Wales, David Richards, Principal Finance Officer, National Assembly for Wales and Laurie Pavelin, Head of Finance Division, National Assembly for Wales.

3.2 A verbatim transcript will be attached as Annex 2 to these minutes.

Action point

Sir Jon Shortridge agreed to provide a note to the Committee on the operation of ASPB audit committees, highlighting instances where audit committees had raised concerns about the failure of ASPB staff to take action in response to audit recommendations.

Sir Jon Shortridge agreed to provide a note to the Committee outlining his priorities for financial management over the coming year.

The Chair agreed that further consideration of the 1994-1999 European Structural Fund programmes would be included in the Committee's work programme following the conclusions of the European Commission's review into the quality of closure audits.

Item 4: Minutes of the previous meeting

4.1 The Committee approved the Minutes of the 6 May meeting.

The Committee resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 8.21(vi).

PRIVATE SESSION

Item 5: To consider the Committee's Annual Report to Plenary

5.1 The Committee approved its Annual Report to Plenary 2003-04, which would be debated on 29 June.