

# Audit Committee

## Minutes (AC(2)-03-05)

**Meeting date: Thursday 3 March 2005**

**Meeting time: 9.30am – 12.45pm**

**Meeting venue: Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea**

### Assembly Members in Attendance

<b>Assembly Member</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
Janet Davies (Chair)	South Wales West
Leighton Andrews	Rhondda
Mick Bates	Montgomeryshire
Alun Cairns	South Wales West
Jocelyn Davies	South Wales East
Irene James	Islwyn
Mark Isherwood (until 11.00am)	North Wales
Carl Sargeant (until 11.00am)	Alyn and Deeside
Catherine Thomas (until 11.00am)	Llanelli

### Others in Attendance

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing (if applicable)</b>	<b>Agenda item(s)</b>
Bernadine Rees	Chief Executive, Pembrokeshire Local Health Board	2

Geoff Lang	Chief Executive, Wrexham Local Health Board	2
Jane Perrin	Chief Executive, Swansea NHS Trust	2
Paul Williams	Chief Executive, Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust	2
Hugh Ross	Chief Executive, Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust	2

## Officials in Attendance

Name	Job title
Sir John Bourn	Auditor General for Wales
Gillian Body	National Audit Office
Rob Powell	National Audit Office
Mike Usher	National Audit Office
Janice Lawler	National Audit Office
David Powell	Assembly Compliance Officer

## Committee Service

Name	Job title
Kathryn Jenkins	Committee Clerk
Ruth Hatton	(Acting) Deputy Committee Clerk

## Item 1: Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public and noted that the Committee was meeting in Swansea in order to increase awareness of and access to the work of the Committee.

1.2 As this was the his last Audit Committee meeting, the Chair thanked Sir John Bourn for his distinguished service to the National Assembly for Wales, noting his signal contribution in establishing a culture of thorough audit in Wales' devolved administration.

1.3 Apologies had been received from Denise Idris Jones. There were no substitutions.

1.4 There were no declarations of interest.

## **Item 2: NHS Waiting Times in Wales**

**Paper: AC(2)-01-05(p.1)**

2.1 The Committee took evidence from Bernadine Rees, Chief Executive, Pembrokeshire Local Health Board; Geoff Lang, Chief Executive Wrexham Local Health Board; Jane Perrin, Chief Executive Swansea NHS Trust; Paul Williams, Chief Executive Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust and Hugh Ross, Chief Executive Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust.

2.2 Carl Sargent made a declaration of interest as a Non-Executive board member of Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

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

## **Item 3: Welsh Assembly Government response to the Audit Committee Report, 'General Report of the Auditor General for Wales 2004'.**

**Papers: AC(2)-03-05(p.2) AC(2)-03-05(p.3)**

3.1 Sir John Bourn advised that all 15 recommendations had been fully accepted by the Welsh Assembly Government.

3.2 Members were content.

## **Item 4: Welsh Assembly Government response to the Audit Committee Report, 'European Union Structural Funding: Progress on Securing the Benefits for Wales'.**

**Papers: AC(2)-03-05(p.4) AC(2)-03-05(p.5)**

4.1 Sir John Bourn advised that all nine recommendations had been fully accepted by the Welsh Assembly Government, with one partially accepted.

4.2 Members were content.

## **Item 5: Minutes of the previous meeting**

5.1 The Committee ratified the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 February 2005.

The Committee resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 8.24 (vi).

## **Private Session**

**Item 6: To consider the draft Committee report "Procurement in the Higher Education Sector in Wales"**

**Paper: AC(2)-01-05(p.6)**

6.1 The Committee approved its report 'Procurement in the Higher Education Sector in Wales'.