



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Hywel Dda
University Health Board

Ein cyf/Our ref: C428
Gofynnwch am/Please ask for: Rachel Davies
Rhif Ffôn /Telephone: 01267 239866
Dyddiad/Date: 13th January 2020

Swyddfeydd Corfforaethol, Adeilad Ystwyth
Hafan Derwen, Parc Dewi Sant, Heol Ffynnon Job
Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 3BB

Corporate Offices, Ystwyth Building
Hafan Derwen, St David's Park, Job's Well Road,
Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3BB

Committee Clerk
Finance Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

13 January 2020

Dear Committee Member

Many thanks for the opportunity to respond to the consultation document on the Draft Public Audit (Amendment) (Wales) Bill.

Following my attendance at the Finance Committee on 11 July 2019, I am pleased to have received your consultation document and note my responses on behalf of Hywel Dda University Health Board below.

Question 1: We agree with the proposal, recognising it is important to demonstrate that the provision of the WAO's services as a whole needs to demonstrate value for money in undertaking its duties. While we as a Health Board have not needed to escalate any decisions on fee setting arrangements, an escalation or dispute process on fees may be a prudent additional requirement.

Question 2: Yes, but consideration may need to be given to the response to Question 1.

Question 3: Agreed, again cognisant of the response to Question 1.

Question 4: Agreed, again please see the response to Question 1.

Question 5: Agreed.

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Cadeirydd /Chair
Miss Maria Battle

Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive
Mr Steve Moore

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda yw enw gweithredol Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Hywel Dda
Hywel Dda University Health Board is the operational name of Hywel Dda University Local Health Board

Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda yn amgylchedd di-fwg Hywel Dda University Health Board operates a smoke free environment



Question 6: We believe that the question is inconsistent with the proposal in the draft Bill. It is important that all Executive members be allowed to vote in a Board meeting. For instance, it would be improper if the Director of Finance of the WAO were not allowed to vote.

Question 7: Section 13 may require further guidance to be provided on the means by which an employee member is asked to excuse themselves from voting. While this may be usually non-contentious, there may be instances where the selection of an employee member who is asked not to vote could be itself challenging.

Question 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15: We have no issues to raise in relation to these questions.

Question 16 and 17: It may be prudent to provide guidance on who is required to assess acceptable performance for Board members and the Chair.

Question 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23: We have no issues to raise in relation to these questions.

Question 24: The questions relating to assessing central government bodies and overlapping laying requirements are not applicable to the NHS, and consequently we do not have an issue to raise. We do not have sufficient information to respond to the question on Welsh data matching powers and how these compare with those of other UK nations.

Question 25: We believe that the financial implications of these proposals for us as an audited entity will be marginal.

Question 26: We have no further observations to make.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to respond to your consultation document. Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely

Huw Thomas

Director of Finance