

**Minutes of the Public Finance & Performance Committee Meeting
19 February 2025
Via MS Teams**

To view a recording of this meeting, please click [here](#).

Chair:		
John Union	JU	Independent Member – Finance / Committee Chair
Present:		
Ceri Phillips	CP	CAV UHB Vice Chair
Charles Janczewski	CJ	CAV UHB Chair
David Edwards	DE	Independent Member - Digital
Sara Moseley	SM	Independent Member – Third Sector
Steve Riley	SR	Independent Member – University
Rachna Upadhya	RU	Independent Member - General
Mike Jones	MJ	Independent Member – Trade Union
In Attendance:		
Andrew Gough	AG	Deputy Director of Finance (Strategic)
Robert Mahoney	RM	Deputy Director of Finance (Operational)
Matt Phillips	MP	Director of Corporate Governance
Paul Bostock	PB	Chief Operating Officer
Suzanne Rankin	SR	Chief Executive
Secretariat:		
Nikki Regan	NR	Corporate Governance Officer
Apologies:		
Catherine Phillips	CP	Executive Director of Finance
Rhian Thomas	RT	Independent Member – Capital & Estates
Akmal Hanuk	AH	Independent Member – Local Community

Ref:	Agenda Item:	Action:
FPC 19/02/001	Welcome & Introduction (click to view) The Committee Chair (CC) welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
FPC 19/02/002	Apologies for Absence (click to view) Apologies for Absence were noted. The Finance and Performance Committee resolved that: a) Apologies for Absence were noted.	
FPC 19/02/003	Declarations of Interest (click to view) No Declarations of Interest were noted.	
FPC 19/02/004	Minutes of the Finance and Performance Meeting held on 21st January 2025 (click to view) The minutes of the meeting held on 21 st January 2025 were received and confirmed as a true and accurate record. The Finance Committee resolved that: a) The minutes of the Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 21 st January 2025 were held as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
FPC 19/02/005	Actions following the Finance & Performance Meeting on 21st January 2025 The Action log had no actions outstanding. The Finance and Performance Committee resolved that:	

	a) The Action Log for the Finance and Performance Committee was noted.	
FPC 19/02/006	<p>Chairs Action since previous meeting (click to view)</p> <p>There were no Chair's Actions taken since the last meeting</p>	
FPC 19/02/007	<p>Financial Report – Month 10 Position & Savings Plan Progress (including Savings Tracker) – (click to view)</p> <p>The DDFO gave an update on the Financial Report for Month 10 and highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAV UHB reached £27.5m overspend as of month 10 (end of January 2025), against a revised forecast year-end position of £27.7m. This marked an improvement in trajectory with only a £50k decline in the month. • The initial forecast deficit was £15.9m. CAV UHB received £6.8m from Welsh Government, which expected a reduction in the forecast deficit to £9.1m. However, CAV UHB failed to achieve £11m in savings against the target set for the year. • The main areas of increased spend included the number of beds kept open due to demand, overspend on planned care initiatives, and underachievement of savings targets. • Enhanced controls were put in place in response to the month 9 position, including a programme management office meeting twice a day and an executive group meeting daily. These controls have contributed to the improved performance. <p>The UHB Chair requested that any movement away from the projected target should receive immediate action and be reported at the next public meeting. He emphasized the importance of learning lessons from the current year's expenditure management and taking proactive stances earlier in the year.</p> <p>The DDFO continued to highlight the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The financial risk register showed reduced risk scores around managing budget pressures and achieving the cost improvement programme, though these remain high-risk areas. • The health board set a target of £47m in savings for the year but achieved £36m, falling short by £11m • The underlying deficit is assessed to be around £57.1m, which will be the starting point for planning assumptions for the next financial year. • There were significant concerns about cash flow, with an initial shortfall of £129m in unconfirmed cash at month 9. This has been reduced to around £20-30m due to recent confirmations of pay award funding and other allocations. • CAV UHB public sector payment compliance remained above the 95% target, though there may be a slight decline due to cash management measures, but the UHB is confident we can manage through to March 31st • CAV UHB was actively managing capital deployment to ensure full utilization of the capital resource limit by year-end. • CAV UHB approximately pays £80-£85m via payroll each month • The financial plans are based on a planned deficit recognized by WG of £9.1m, with the current overspend being £27.553m. Enhanced controls were established to support meeting the revised year-end forecast. <p>The Finance and Performance Committee resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Welsh Government control total of a planned deficit of £9.100m was noted; b) The month 10 operational overspend of £27.553m comprising an operational deficit of £9.561m, a savings gap of £10.409m and a planned deficit for the year to date of £7.583m was noted; c) The forecast out-turn deficit for 2024-25 of £27.7m was noted d) The delivery of the forecast is predicated on the confirmation of all expected income streams including Welsh Government anticipated allocations and LTA performance income was noted. 	
FPC 19/02/008	<p>Operational Performance Update</p> <p>The COO presented and highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter challenges were ongoing, with the winter ward opened to manage the situation. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average ambulance handover times for the year were 45 minutes, compared to the Welsh average of two hours. • Plans to de-escalate winter capacity towards Easter, focusing on 60-minute holds and 12-hour waits in the Emergency Unit. • Number of delayed patients has reduced, but lost bed days have increased due to patient complexity. • Adult social care has increased support to reduce assessment delays. • Focus on reducing length of stay, which is currently about a day and a half above the peer average. • 16% increase in demand for the single cancer pathway this year, with performance holding in the mid-60s and occasionally reaching 70%. • Detailed demand and capacity analysis ongoing for Cancer Care, with a summit planned in March to develop plans for achieving a 75% standard from Q2 onwards. • Approximately 2000 patients are expected to be waiting over two years by the end of March, above the target of 1320 for a planned care appointment. • Ophthalmology displayed significant capacity issues, with 50% of the long-waiting patients in this specialty. • Plans for Q1 of next year were being developed to address the increased cohort of patients. • Improvements in endoscopy, with the number of overdue surveillance procedures reduced from 2000 to 500, aiming to clear the backlog by the end of March. • Non-obstetric ultrasound backlog is reducing, with a trajectory to clear by March 2026. • Endoscopy remains a significant challenge, with a gap of about 37 sessions per week. • Adult mental health performance expected to improve in Q4 with additional staff. • Children’s mental health consistently delivering on standards since September. • Contract for 2024-2025 agreed, with a 6% settlement and £23 million of non-recurrent support for GPs across Wales. • Positive feedback from GPs on the funding solution • Community nurses looked after approximately 3600 patients monthly, equivalent to the capacity of 6 Llandough hospitals or 4 UHWs <p>The UHB Chair discussed the health board being an outlier for Endoscopy during the meeting. He mentioned that the health board accounts for almost 40% of the backlog across Wales, highlighting the challenging position they are in.</p> <p>The COO acknowledged the significant backlog in endoscopy and noted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAV UHB accounted for almost 40% of the backlog across Wales. He mentioned that while progress is being made, a complete solution is not expected this year or next year. The 156-week waits indicated that the committee and board need a clear timeline for when these will be resolved. He also highlighted the challenge of managing the 104-week waits, with a 30% increase in the cohort of patients expected next year without additional funding. • He suggested that the board development meeting next week would be an opportunity to discuss these issues further and determine a realistic plan for addressing the waiting lists. <p>The Committee resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The year-to-date position against key organisational performance indicators for 2024-25 and the update against the Operational Plan programmes was noted. 	
<p>FPC 19/02/009</p>	<p>Monthly Monitoring Return – Month 9</p> <p>The monthly monitoring return was noted.</p> <p>The Finance and Performance Committee resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The extracts from the UHBs Monthly Financial Monitoring Returns for Month 9 was noted 	
<p>FPC 19/02/010</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p>	

	No further business was raised.	
FPC 19/02/011	To note the date, time and venue of the next Committee meeting: Wednesday 19th March 2025 via MS Teams	