

## Schedule 3.8

### BOARD COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS

This Schedule forms part of, and shall have effect as if incorporated in the University Health Board Standing Orders

## QUALITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

### TERMS OF REFERENCE & OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS

*[Review January 2023](#)*

## INTRODUCTION

The Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) standing orders provide that "The Board may and, where directed by the Welsh Government must, appoint Committees of the UHB either to undertake specific functions on the Board's behalf or to provide advice and assurance to the Board in the exercise of its functions. The Board's commitment to openness and transparency in the conduct of all its business extends equally to the work carried out on its behalf by Committees".

In accordance with Standing Orders (and the CTMUHB scheme of delegation), the Board shall nominate annually a committee to be known as the **Quality and Safety Committee**. The detailed terms of reference and operating arrangements set by the Board in respect of this committee are set out below.

## CONSTITUTION & PURPOSE

The purpose of the Quality and Safety Committee "the Committee" is to provide assurance to the Board on the provision of workplace health & safety and safe and high quality care to the population we serve, including prevention through public health, primary and secondary care. The Committee embraces the values of the Health Board and the objectives outlined within its Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP) which are:

- To **improve** quality, safety and patient experience.
- To **protect** and **improve** population health.
- To **ensure** that the services provided are accessible and sustainable into the future.
- To **provide** strong governance and assurance.
- To **ensure** good value based care and treatment for our patients in line with the resources made available to the Health Board.

The Committee will:

- Put the needs of patients, carers and the public at the centre of all its business.
- Ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to support workplace health & safety.
- Provide evidence based and timely advice to the Board, based on local need, to assist in discharging its functions and meeting its responsibilities.
- Provide assurance to the Board in relation to the CTMUHB's arrangements for safeguarding the public and continuously improving the quality and safety of the services we provide.

- Ensure that care is delivered in accordance with the Health & Care Standards for Health Services in Wales.

## **SCOPE AND DUTIES**

### **SCOPE:**

In order to deliver its stated aims the Committee will, in respect of its provision of advice to the Board:

- Oversee the development of the CTMUHB's strategies and plans for the development and delivery of high quality, staff safety, patient safety and public health, consistent with the Board's overall strategic direction.
- Provide strategic direction and scrutiny for the development of the UHB's corporate strategies and plans for those of its stakeholders and partners.
- To receive high level reports and recommendations from external bodies and ensure robust action is taken, monitored and fully implemented.

The Committee will seek assurances from the sub groups established by the Quality and Safety Committee (Appendix 1) that arrangements are appropriately designed and operating effectively, to ensure the provision of high quality, safe and effective healthcare and workplace health & safety across the whole of the CTMUHB's primary, community and secondary care activities.

### **DUTIES:**

To deliver its aims, the Committee's programme of work will be structured as follows:

#### **Strategy**

- Oversee and monitor the development and implementation of the UHB's Strategies for patient quality and safety and staff workplace health & safety:
  - **Patient Quality and Safety**
    - Provide assurance to Board on implementation of the Quality aspects within the Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP) for CTMUHB
    - Provide assurance to the Board in relation to the Quality Governance Framework.
    - Contribute to and oversee the development of the Health Board's Annual Quality Statement
    - Monitor quality via the Quality Dashboard
    - Approve the content of the CTMUHB Annual Quality Statement which relates to the committees work programme
  - **Workplace Health & Safety**

- Provide assurance to Board on the development of related strategies and operating practices to ensure arrangements for staff workplace health & safety are safe and in compliance with associated legislation.
- Monitor and receive reports on the organisation's progress with embedding and implementing the Health & Care Standards
- Scrutinise Quality and Safety arrangements for the Independent Contractor Professions
- Ensure that the organisation, at all levels, has the right systems and processes in place to deliver - from a patient's perspective - efficient, effective, timely and safe services
- Ensure arrangements are in place to undertake, review and act on Clinical Audit activity which responds to National and Local priorities
- Receive recommendations made by internal and external review bodies, ensuring where appropriate, that action is taken in response;
- Receive assurance that the organisation protects the health of the population, by promoting delivery and uptake of screening and immunisation programmes
- Receive assurance that the organisation has robust infection, prevention and control measures in place.

### **Hosted Bodies**

The Committee will also consider issues in respect of the roles and responsibilities of Committees hosted by the UHB namely, Emergency Ambulance Services Committee, Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee and the National Imaging Academy, as appropriate. The Committee will consider any quality and safety issues associated with services commissioned for Cwm Taf Morgannwg residents and those services provided by Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB.

### **Organisational Risk**

- Monitor the arrangements in place to assess, control and minimise risk and
  - Regularly review the high and extreme risks included on the organisational Risk Register and assigned to the Committee by the Board;

### **Policies and Procedures**

- Approve appropriate Policies (once reviewed and endorsed by the appropriate sub group) and where appropriate any related Procedures.

- Oversee the register of policies, ensuring that it is maintained, and that all assigned policies are subject to review at least every three years.

### **Research & Development**

- ~~Receive reports on progress with Research & Development activity within the organisation. These will:
 
  - Take into account the national objectives published by Health and Care Research Wales.
  - Focus on the outcomes for patients and compliance with Research Risk Governance arrangements.~~

**Commented [CH(U-CG1):** Research & Development activity will now be reported via the Population Health & Partnerships Committee and has been included within their Terms of Reference.

### **Quality Improvement activities**

The Quality Governance Framework provides the framework for quality improvement projects. The Quality and Safety Committee will:

- Receive regular reports on progress with delivery of its priorities relating to quality improvement.
- Receive at each meeting a Quality Report and Quality and Performance Dashboard – Receive, scrutinise and triangulate quality information to ensure appropriate prioritisation for improvement.

### **Patient Experience**

- Receive and review progress reports relating to the requirements identified in the UHB Patient Experience Plan.
- Receive and review reports on the progress relating to the implementation of the Citizen Engagement Plan.

### **Concerns**

- Receive as presented within the quarterly quality report, reports on Concerns (reported patient safety incidents, complaints, compliments, clinical negligence claims and inquests) reporting trends, with particular emphasis on ensuring that lessons are learnt, and to inform the Annual Quality Delivery Plan
- Receive assurance of effective and timely management of concerns across the University Health Board
- Receive, review and approve the Annual [Concerns- Putting Things Right](#) Report on behalf of the UHB.

### **Staff Experience**

- Receive assurance that there are appropriate systems in place to support workplace health & safety and to listen to staff views, embracing the principles of the Listening Organisation, in order to promote effective team working

and staff satisfaction to provide the best possible outcomes for patients.

- Receive assurance that the workforce is appropriately selected, trained and responsive to the needs of the service, and that professional standards and registration/revalidation requirements are maintained.

## **DELEGATED POWERS**

Although the Board has delegated authority to the Committee for the exercise of certain functions as set out within these terms of reference, it retains overall responsibility and accountability for ensuring the quality and safety of healthcare for its citizens through the effective governance of its organisation.

## **AUTHORITY**

The Committee is authorised by the Board to:

- Investigate or have investigated any activity within its terms of reference. It may seek relevant information from any:
  - employee (and all employees are directed to cooperate with any legitimate request made by the Committee), and
  - Any other committee, or group set up by the Board to assist in the delivery of its functions.
- obtain outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of outsiders with relevant experience and expertise if it considers it necessary, in accordance with the Board's procurement, budgetary and other requirements
- approve policies relevant to the business of the Committee as delegated by the Board.

### **Sub Committees**

The Committee may, subject to the approval of the Health Board, establish sub Committees or task and finish groups to carry out on its behalf specific aspects of Committee business.

The Quality & Safety Committee has established the following sub-committee:

- Health, Safety and Fire Sub Committee

This Sub Committee supports the Health Boards statutory obligation by virtue of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Section two sub-section seven) to establish and maintain a Health and Safety

Committee: "it shall be the duty of every employer to establish in accordance with Regulations (i) a safety committee having the function of keeping under review measures taken to ensure the health and safety of his employees and such other functions as prescribed".

## ACCESS

The Chair of the Committee shall have reasonable access to Executive Directors and other relevant senior staff.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Members:

A minimum of **(6)** members, comprising

Chair	Independent Member of the Board
Vice Chair	Independent Member of the Board
Members	Four Independent Members of the Board

### Attendees

- Executive Nurse Director
- **Executive** Medical Director
- **Executive** Director of Public Health
- **Executive** Director of Therapies and Health Sciences
- Executive Director for People
- **Chief Operating Officer**
- Director of **Corporate** Governance / Board Secretary
- **Deputy Executive Director of Nursing**
- **Assistant Director of Governance & Risk**
- **Assistant Director of Quality & Safety**
- **Care Group Nurse Director / Medical Director**
- Community Health Council Representative
- Staff side representative
- ~~Staff side safety chair or vice chair~~

Notwithstanding the requirement to maintain quorum, Directors may on occasion nominate a suitably senior deputy to attend the Committee on their behalf, but should ensure that they are fully aware and briefed on the issues to be discussed.

### By Invitation:

**Commented [CH(U-CG2)]:** Staff Side Safety Chair/Vice Chair is a member of the Health, Safety & Fire Sub Committee so not required for attendance at the Quality & Safety Committee.

- Other Directors / Health Board Officers may be invited to attend when the Committee is discussing areas of risk or operation that are the responsibility of that Director.
- The Committee may also co-opt additional independent external members from outside the organisation to provide specialist skills, knowledge and experience.

### **Secretariat**

The Director of [Corporate](#) Governance / Board Secretary will determine the secretarial and support arrangements for the Committee.

### **Member Appointments**

The membership of the Committee shall be determined by the Chair of the Board, taking account of the balance of skills and expertise necessary to deliver the Committee's remit and subject to any specific requirements or directions made by the Welsh Government.

Members shall be appointed for a maximum of 3 consecutive years before formally reviewing their role on the Committee. During this time a member may resign or be removed by the Board.

The Board shall ensure succession planning arrangements are in place.

### **Support to Committee Members**

The Director of [Corporate](#) Governance / Board Secretary, on behalf of the Committee Chair, shall:

- Arrange the provision of advice and support to committee members on any aspect related to the conduct of their role, and
- Co-ordinate the provision of a programme of organisational development for committee members as part of the overall Health Board's Organisational Development programme developed by the Executive Director of [Workforce & Organisational Development for People](#).

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

### **Quorum**

A quorum shall be at least three Independent Members (one of which must be the Committee Chair or Vice Chair).



For effective governance, at least two Executive Directors, one of which must be a Clinical Executive Director should be in attendance at the meeting.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

Meetings shall meet no less than ~~on a~~ 6 times a year, and otherwise as the Chair of the Committee deems necessary.

The Committee will arrange meetings and align with key statutory requirements during the year consistent with the CTMUHB's annual plan of Board Business.

### **Withdrawal of individuals in attendance**

The Committee may ask any or all of those who normally attend but who are not members to withdraw to facilitate open and frank discussion of particular matters.

### **Circulation of Papers**

The Director of [Corporate](#) Governance / Board Secretary will ensure that all papers are distributed at least 7 calendar days ~~5 working days~~ in advance of the meeting.

## **REPORTING AND ASSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

The Committee Chair shall:

- Report formally, regularly and on a timely basis to the Board on the Committee's activities. This includes:
  - oral updates on activity
  - submission of written highlight reports throughout the year;
  - to receive annual reports, which will incorporate key information from ~~Research & Development~~, progress report on the Annual Quality Delivery Plan, [Concerns Putting Things Right](#), Safeguarding, Infection Prevention & Control, Clinical Audit ~~& Effectiveness~~ and Medicines Management
- Bring the Board's specific attention to any significant matters under consideration by the Committee
- Ensure appropriate escalation arrangements are in place to alert the UHB Chair, Chief Executive or Chairs of other relevant Board Committees of any urgent/critical matters that may affect the operation and/or reputation of the UHB.

The Committee shall provide a written, annual report to the Board on its work in support of the Annual Governance Statement specifically commenting on the adequacy of the assurance arrangement, the extent to which risk management is comprehensively embedded throughout the organisation, the integration of governance arrangements and the appropriateness of self-assessment activity against relevant standards. The report will also record the results of the Committee's self-assessment and evaluation.

The Board may also require the Committee Chair to report upon the activities at public meetings or to community partners and other stakeholders, where this is considered appropriate e.g. where the Committee's assurance role relates to a joint or shared responsibility.

The Director of [Corporate](#) Governance / Board Secretary, on behalf of the Board, shall oversee a process of regular and rigorous self-assessment and evaluation of the Committee's performance and operation.

#### **RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES / GROUPS**

Although the Board has delegated authority to the Committee for the exercise of certain functions as set out within these terms of reference, it retains overall responsibility and accountability for ensuring the quality and safety of healthcare for its citizens through the effective governance of its organisation.

The Committee is directly accountable to the Board for its performance in exercising the functions set out in these Terms of Reference.

The Committee, through the Committee Chair and members, shall work closely with the Board's other Committees including joint committees/Advisory Groups to provide advice and assurance to the Board through the:

- joint planning and co-ordination of Board and Committee business; and
- sharing of information

In doing so, contributing to the integration of good governance across the organisation, ensuring that all sources of assurance are incorporated into the Board's overall risk and assurance arrangements.

The Committee shall embed the organisational values and strategic objectives through the conduct of its business, and in doing and transacting its business shall seek assurance that adequate consideration has been given to the sustainable development principle and in meeting the requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

#### **APPLICABILITY OF STANDING ORDERS TO COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

The requirements for the conduct of business as set out in the CTMUHB Standing Orders are equally applicable to the operation of the Committee, except in the area relating to the Quorum.

#### **CHAIR'S ACTION ON URGENT MATTERS**

There may, occasionally, be circumstances where decisions which normally be made by the Committee need to be taken between scheduled meetings. In these circumstances, the Committee Chair, supported by the Director of Corporate Governance as appropriate, may deal with the matter on behalf of the Board, after first consulting with one other Independent Member of the Committee. The Director of Corporate Governance must ensure that any such action is formally recorded and reported to the next meeting of the Committee for consideration and ratification.

Chair's urgent action may not be taken where the Chair has a personal or business interest in the urgent matter requiring decision.

#### **REVIEW**

These Terms of Reference shall be adopted by the Committee at its first meeting and subject to review at least on an annual basis thereafter, with approval ratified by the Health Board.