

**Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol/
Prif Weithredwr GIG Cymru
Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol**

**Director General Health and Social Services/
NHS Wales Chief Executive
Health and Social Services Group**



**Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government**

Mark Isherwood MS
Chair
Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee
Welsh Parliament

Our Ref: JP/PV/LC

3 March 2022

Dear Chair,

Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) Governance

Further to my letter of 31st January I would like to update you on progress being made in relation to Recommendation 5 of the Auditor General for Wales's report of May 2021 into Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) Governance arrangements. This recommendation relates specifically to the recruitment of Independent Members to WHSSC.

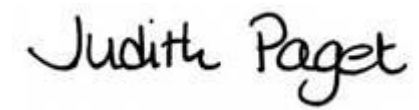
I am pleased to say that at its meeting on 18 January, the Joint Committee agreed to all the proposed arrangements including:

- A recruitment process which will seek written expressions of interest from health board independent members via their Chairs. A concise candidates pack and selection panel process will be developed to support this arrangement and to assist candidates;
- The WHSSC independent member who leads on audit and financial issues may be drawn from any of the health boards, not just the host body as is currently the case;
- Existing WHSSC members will be remunerated from 1 April 2022;
- Health Boards will meet the costs of the additional remuneration;
- The transition to the selection process for new members will start in June 2022 with the appointment of the audit lead first (from autumn 2022) and the remaining two members from April 2023 to align with the tenure of the existing WHSSC independent members

I believe this action from the Audit Wales report can now be considered as being completed.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Auditor General for Wales.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith Paget". The script is cursive and fluid.

Judith Paget CBE

cc:

Minister for Health and Social Services

Deputy Minister for Social Services

Nick Wood

Chris Jones

Pat Vernon