

Dr Andrew Goodall
Chief Executive – NHS Wales
Health and Social Services Group
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

16 October 2017

Hospital Catering and Patient Nutrition

Dear Andrew,

At its meeting on 9 October 2017 the Public Accounts Committee considered the Welsh Government's latest update on its progress on the implementation of recommendations 4 and 9 from the Public Accounts Committee Hospital Catering And Patient Nutrition Report (March 2017).

Having considered the update the Committee has a number of concerns including:

- The overall lack of urgency apportioned to making progress implementing the Committees recommendations;
- A lack of clarity on the timescale for completing work on the standardisation of nursing documentation, and implementation of an electronic prescribing system;
- The vagueness of language used such as “agreement in principle” to development of an IT catering solution.

The Committee questions whether the Welsh Government is demonstrating strong enough system leadership, noting that the way forward on the standardisation and digitisation of nursing documentation seems to be devolved to the all Wales Group of Executive Nursing Directors of NHS bodies.



We also noted from the update that it was only on 13 September that a supporting paper was submitted to the NWIS board and that a software developer has only recently been appointed at NWIS to support the development of nursing documents once the way forward has been determined by the nurse directors.

The Committee's concerns throughout its consideration of these matters, over the last several years, has been a lack of urgency and the occurrence of various systemic problems and no apparent action to address these.

In light of these concerns the Committee requested that you attend a short evidence session in early December to discuss these issues further. I am aware the Clerk has arranged for you to attend Committee on 4 December.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Ramsay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Nick Ramsay AM
Chair

