

**Draft Notes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14 July 2026
Held in The Conference Room, The Optic Centre, St Asaph
and Livestreamed on the Internet**

Present:		
Pippa Britton	(PB)	Chair of the Board
Tracey Cooper	(TC)	Chief Executive
Sumina Azam	(SA)	National Director of Policy, and International Health
Iain Bell	(IB)	National Director for Public Health Knowledge and Research
Huw David	(HD)	Non-Executive Director (Local Authority)
Clare Jenkins	(CJ)	Vice Chair of the Board, Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee
Meng Khaw	(MK)	National Director Health Protection and Screening Services, Executive Medical Director
Zoe Pietrzak	(ZP)	Executive Director of Strategy, Finance and Performance
In Attendance:		
Liz Blayney	(LB)	Deputy Board Secretary and Deputy Head of the Board Business Unit
Angela Cook	(AC)	Assistant Director Quality and Nursing
Stephanie Humphries	(SH)	Board Support Officer
Neil Lewis	(NL)	Director of People and Organisational Development
Paul Veysey	(PV)	Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit
Apologies:		
Claire Birchall	(CB)	Executive Director of Nursing, Quality and Integrated Governance
Nick Elliott	(NE)	Non-Executive Director (Data and Digital)
Elizabeth Evans	(EE)	Staff Side Representative
Sian Griffiths	(SG)	Non-Executive Director (Public Health) and Chair of the Knowledge, Research and Information Committee
Jim McManus	(JM)	National Director of Health and Wellbeing
Catherine Purcell	(CP)	Non-Executive Director (Universities)
Tamsin Ramasut	(TR)	Non-Executive Director (Equality and Diversity) and Chair of the People and Organisational Development Committee
Claire Sullivan	(CS)	Staff Side Representative
Kate Young	(KY)	Non-Executive Director (Third Sector) and Chair of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee

The meeting commenced at 12:10



AGM 2026.07.14/1	Welcome and Apologies and Introductions
PB welcomed everyone to the meeting, extending a warm welcome to those observing the proceedings in person and online. She noted that the purpose of this Annual General Meeting of the Board was to review the achievements of the year 2025/26 including the Financial position, discuss the opportunities and challenges ahead, as well as an opportunity to and engage with the public and staff. PB summarised the changes to the Board in year, including farewells to Angela Williams who had retired in March, and welcomed Zoe Pietrzak to the role of Executive Director of Strategy, Finance and Performance. PB also noted that this would be her final Annual General Meeting as Chair, ahead of her retirement in October 2026. She thanked Board colleagues for their support and reflected positively on her experience as Chair. She also welcomed Catherine Purcell to the Board as the University Non Executive Director, and welcomed back Huw David, Non Executive Director (Local Authority), who had joined the Board in May 2025 and returned in May 2026 following a short period away from the Board from December 2025. The Board noted apologies as listed above.	
AGM 2026.07.14/2	Financial Statements 2025/26
ZP presented the financial position of Public Health Wales for 2025/26, highlighting that the organisation had met all financial targets and statutory duties, and maintained a strong financial footing. She emphasised the following key points: • Public Health Wales met all financial targets and statutory duties in 2025/26, achieving an effective break even position and securing an unqualified audit opinion with no recommendations for action. • The organisation maintained strong financial stewardship, meeting its statutory financial duties and prompt payment targets. • Expenditure increased by 5% compared with the previous year, primarily due to pay awards, National Insurance changes and workforce growth, with workforce costs accounting for 64% of total expenditure. • Public Health Wales delivered £1.3 million in savings during the year, demonstrating a continued focus on efficiency and value for money.	
AGM 2026.07.14/3	Summary of Activity – Annual Report 2025/26
TC provided an overview of the achievements set out in the Public Health Wales Annual Report 2025/26, highlighting progress against the organisation's strategic priorities. She emphasised that improving healthy life expectancy and reducing health inequalities remained the overarching focus of the organisation's work. • Influencing Wider Determinants of Health: Progress included influencing the Welsh Government's policy agenda through public health evidence and advice, alongside work to support healthy places, housing, warm homes and action to address child poverty.	



- **Promoting Mental and Social Wellbeing:** Key achievements included work to support early years development, mental wellbeing in schools, the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Support Hub, trauma informed approaches and programmes to support wellbeing in workplaces and communities.
- **Promoting Healthy Behaviours:** Activity focused on smoking cessation, healthy weight, physical activity and the Designed to Smile programme, supporting people across Wales to make healthier choices and reduce preventable illness.
- **Supporting a Sustainable Health and Care System:** Significant work was undertaken to promote prevention focused services, including the All Wales Diabetes Prevention Programme, which demonstrated positive outcomes in reducing progression to diabetes, and support for strengthening community based health and care services.
- **Delivering Excellent Public Health Services:** The organisation continued to deliver high quality screening, microbiology, genomics and health protection services, including inviting over one million people to participate in screening programmes and processing more than two million laboratory tests during the year.
- **Tackling the Public Health Effects of Climate Change:** Progress included providing evidence and advice to support climate action across Wales, alongside initiatives to reduce the organisation's own environmental impact, including the work of Green Lab Champions to reduce waste and increase recycling.
- **Enabling the Successful Delivery of our Plan:** Achievements included designation as a World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Digital Health Equity, the establishment of an AI Design Authority, implementation of a refreshed People Strategy, continued investment in culture and leadership, and strengthening governance and assurance arrangements across the organisation.

TC thanked Public Health Wales staff for their commitment and dedication, noting that the organisation's achievements over the previous 12 months had been made possible through the efforts of its people and their shared commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of the population of Wales.

AGM 2026.07.14/4

Public Health Wales Careers

NL provided an overview of careers within Public Health Wales, highlighting the wide range of professional opportunities available across public health, corporate services, digital, analytical and support functions. He emphasised the organisation's commitment to developing future talent through apprenticeships and partnerships with schools, colleges and universities, and encouraged attendees to explore the diverse career pathways available within Public Health Wales and the wider public sector.

AGM 2026.07.14/5

Question and Answer Session

CJ introduced the item and welcomed questions from the Public that had been received in advance, as well as questions from those present at the meeting.

A written summary of the questions and the responses provided is available on the website.

AGM 2026.07.14/6

Summary and Close

PB closed the meeting and thanked all for their contributions.

The Meeting closed at 13:10