



Ein cyf/Our ref:	KM/kjm	Hafan Derwen, Parc Dewi Sant Heol Jobswell, Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 3BB
Gofynnwch am/Please ask for:	Karen Miles	
Rhif Ffôn /Telephone::	01267 239698	
E-bost/E-mail:	Karenj.morris@wales.nhs.uk	Hafan Derwen St David's Park Jobs Well Road Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire SA31 3BB
Date:	17 September 2012	

Sarah Sargent, Deputy Clerk
Public Accounts Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Dear Ms Sargent

Consultation on the Public Audit (Wales) Bill

I am writing to make comments on the above Bill which is designed to strengthen and improve the accountability and governance arrangements relating to the Auditor General for Wales (AGW) and the Wales Audit Office (WAO).

Hywel Dda LHB supports the content of the Bill, in particular schedule 1 which sets out details of the incorporation of the Wales Audit Office and the appointment of non executive members to form a Board. It is noted, however, that:-

- **Board Membership** – There are no executive board members except for the Auditor General. This means that non executive members are effectively relying on the views of one individual from WAO. Is this what was intended? Other WAO staff with responsibility for standards and performance should also be a part of the board
- **Transparency** – In order to restore confidence in both the post of Auditor General and in the operation of the WAO, there should be a requirement for Board meetings to be held in public

Yours sincerely

Karen Miles
Director of Finance & Economic Reform