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Ms Janet Davies AM
Chair of the Audit Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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Date 30th May 2006
Our reference JC/0279/fgb
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AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT ON PROTECTING NHS STAFF FROM VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSION

The Clerk's letter of 8th May 2006 requested my advice on the Welsh Assembly Government's response to the recommendations made by the Audit Committee in its report *Protecting NHS Staff from Violence and Aggression*.

The response of the Welsh Assembly Government is a positive one where all six recommendations have been accepted in full. I note that four of the recommendations – on raising levels of incident reporting (recommendation 1), covering violence in exit interviews with staff (recommendation 2), the impact of delayed transfers in care (recommendation 5) and increasing prosecutions (recommendation 6) – will be taken forward by the All Wales Steering Group for the Management of Violence and Aggression who will develop appropriate advice to be added to the All Wales Violence and Aggression Training Passport and Information Scheme for implementation by NHS Trusts in Wales.

Recommendation 3 on recording violence-related sickness absence will be taken forward by the All Wales Sickness and Absence Steering Group and the Electronic Staff Record Project Team.

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The Government's response indicates a timescale of twelve months to implement each of the Committee's six recommendations. The Wales Audit Office will continue to monitor the progress made in implementing these recommendations and will draw to the Committee's attention any areas where we consider that further action by the Committee is merited.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Colman

Jeremy Colman
Auditor General for Wales