

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, 12 JUNE 2013**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT: **WAO ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To update Members on the Council's Annual Improvement Report 2012 published by the Auditor General for Wales and to note the Council's response.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Auditor General is required by the Local Government (Wales) Measure to report on how well Welsh Councils, fire and rescue services and national parks are planning for improvement and delivering their services.

2.02 This is the third Annual Improvement Report for Flintshire which also contains the Appointed Auditor's Annual Audit Letter as previously reported to Audit Committee in March 2013.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Annual Improvement Report is publicised by the Wales Audit Office (WAO) on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales. It brings together, with the co-ordination of other inspectorates such as Estyn and the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW) a picture of what the Council is trying to achieve and how it is going about it.

3.02 The report builds on the work of the relevant Welsh inspectorates, as well as work undertaken by the Wales Audit Office over the last year. The report is in three main sections, which cover the Council's delivery and evaluation of services in relation to 2011/12, and it's planning of improvement for 2012/13.

3.03 The Auditor General is making no formal recommendations or proposals for improvement.

3.04 The Council, as is practice, makes a formal public response to any findings within the report. The Council's response to the Annual

Improvement Report (AIR), which has been shared and endorsed by Cabinet , is included at Appendix 2.

- 3.05 The Annual Improvement Report has been developed and improved with input from senior officers at the Council to ensure accuracy, fairness and validity.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 Members are asked to receive and note the Wales Audit Office Annual Improvement Report and the Council's response.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 This report will refer to the financial resourcing of the Council's priorities.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 This report will refer to how the council is helping to reduce poverty.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 This report will refer to how the council is improving the environment.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 Safe and supportive communities will be referred to within the report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.01 The People Strategy will be referred to in the report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

- 10.01 None required at this stage.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

- 11.01 Senior officers have had input into the report. The Annual Audit Letter was presented to the council's Audit Committee in March 2012. The Annual Improvement Report 2012 and the Council's response was considered by Cabinet on 21 May.

12.00 APPENDICES

- 12.01 Appendix 1: WAO Annual Improvement Report 2012
Appendix 2: Council's response to Annual Improvement Report 2012

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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