

Wales Audit Office Improvement Assessment Letter 2013

Cabinet Response

A: Formal Recommendations

There were no statutory formal recommendations made in the letter.

B: Proposals for Improvement

The Council has the discretion to adopt the proposals made in the letter.

Ref	Proposal for Improvement	Response
P1	Improvement Planning Within the context of its medium-term corporate planning, the Council should define a set of annual Improvement Objectives that encapsulates its ambitions for the year and communicate them in a form that enables the public to hold the Council to account for its performance	The Council will be publishing its Improvement Plan 2013-2017 early in the new financial year of 2013/14. Within the Plan the Council will highlight the priorities of greatest importance for the year. This will meet the proposal to improve public accountability. A public summary will be published on the Council's website and distributed to partners and stakeholders.
P2	Improvement Planning Ensure that the Improvement Plan available to the public on the Council's website reflects any changes resulting from reviews during the year, and that any revised Plan includes a record of any such changes.	Progress against the Improvement Plan is reported to Cabinet on a twice yearly frequency. The Plan, where amended in year, will be refreshed on the website with a 'log' of any in-year changes.
P3	Improvement Reporting Increase the use of relevant data to support the Council's evaluation of outcomes in relation to its Improvement Objectives.	The Council will continue to develop its data set to inform reporting against its priorities (Improvement Objectives). This is work in progress. The Council will review how it uses this data and other information/evidence to provide a comprehensive and balanced narrative. The Wales Audit Office is invited to contribute to improving the internal business model.
P4	Improvement Reporting Improve the balance of the narrative supporting each assessment, drawing out the lessons learned from particularly successful work and from work that has not gone as well as intended.	