

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2014**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT: **IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT LETTER FROM THE**
 AUDITOR GENERAL FOR WALES

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To advise Members of the Council's recent Improvement Assessment Letter from the Auditor General for Wales for noting and to agree an Executive response.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Auditor General is required by the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the 'Measure') to report any audit and assessment work which informs judgement as to whether a Council has discharged its duties and met the requirements of the Measure.

2.02 This is the second letter that the Council has received; the first one reported October summarised the Auditor General's views on whether the Council had discharged its duties for improvement planning; complied with requirements to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement; updated to the Wales Audit Office work plan and timetable for Improvement Assessment work. There were no further recommendations or proposals for improvement.

2.03 This second complimentary letter covers an assessment of the Council's Annual Performance Report.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The letter summarises the Auditor General's views on whether the Council has discharged its statutory duties for improvement reporting. The letter is attached at Appendix 1.

3.02 The Auditor General has made no new statutory recommendations or proposals for improvement.

3.03 As good practice the Council always makes a full response to issues raised within the letter. The response is attached at Appendix 2.

3.04 Both the letter and the Council's response have been received by the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee and both will be presented to the Audit Committee meeting later this month.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 To advise Members of the Council's Improvement Assessment letter received from the Auditor General for Wales.

4.02 Members to note the report and agree the Council's Executive response.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None required.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Senior officers have had input into this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1: The Auditor General's Improvement Assessment Letter (December 2013)

Appendix 2: The Council's response to the Auditor General's Improvement Assessment Letter (January 2014)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

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