

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2014**

REPORT BY: **CORPORATE FINANCE MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **CERTIFICATION OF GRANT CLAIMS AND RETURNS**
2012/13

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 The purpose of the report is to inform Members of the grant claim certification for the year ended 31st March 2013.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Council's external auditors, the Wales Audit Office (WAO) are required to report annually on the certification of grant claims and returns and the annual report for 2012/13 is appended to this report. WAO will be in attendance at the meeting to present the report and respond to members comments and questions in relation to their audit findings. Council officers will be able to respond in relation to matters raised in the audit and the actions being taken to address them.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Corporate Finance Management Team has considered the report in detail, and where appropriate, actions have been put in place in conjunction with the managers of relevant services to address the findings and recommendations included in the report.

3.02 In relation to the overall grants total of £190m, the net adjustment to claims of £0.066m is relatively small proportionate to the total. However, the report is welcomed and its findings and recommendations accepted.

3.03 As referred to in last year's report the WAO did deliver two interactive training sessions in August and September last year which was mandatory for all officers responsible for dealing with grants. This was well received and led to WAO giving individual feedback to relevant officers on each particular grant claim. A check list detailing steps to be completed was also issued to ensure completeness and consistency of approach.

3.04 As some grant claims would already have been submitted prior to this training it is anticipated that the full positive effect of this training will be seen in the grant claim certification for 2013/14.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Members are requested to note the content of the Grant Claim Certification for 2012/13.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 As detailed in the Audit report.

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

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 WAO report.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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