

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 21 November 2018
Report Subject	Annual Improvement Report 2017/18 of the Auditor General for Wales
Report Author	Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Improvement Report (AIR) summarises the audit and regulatory work undertaken at the Council by the Wales Audit Office since the last report was published in September 2017.

Overall the Auditor General for Wales has reached a positive conclusion. *“The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement”*.

No formal recommendations have been made during the year.

There are four new voluntary proposals for improvement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To be assured by the Auditor General for Wales’ Annual Improvement Plan for 2017/18.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	The Annual Improvement Report
1.01	The Auditor General under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Measure) undertakes and publishes an annual improvement report for all Welsh Councils, Fire and Rescue Authorities and National Park Authorities.

1.02	This is the eighth Annual Improvement Report for Flintshire. The format for this and the previous year's report is different from previous years in that it is a summary of the audit, regulatory and inspection work carried out in 2017/18.
1.03	Overall the Auditor General has concluded that: <i>"The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement"</i> .
1.04	The Auditor General has not made any statutory recommendations with which the Council must comply.
1.05	There are four new voluntary proposals for improvement in the review of "Overview and Scrutiny – Fit for the Future?" report. This report has been considered by the Council's Group Leaders (September), the Constitution and Democratic Services Committee (October) and the Audit and Scrutiny Liaison Committee (November).

2.0	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific resource implications as part of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Audit Committee will be receiving a future report relating to all external regulatory work as part of their Forward Work programme.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Findings from the Wales Audit Office are risk managed as part of regular monitoring.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1: Annual Improvement Report September 2018

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Contact Officer: Karen Armstrong, Corporate Business and Communications Executive Officer Telephone: 01352 702740 E-mail: karen.armstrong@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Annual Improvement Report: 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 input of other inspectorates such as Estyn and the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW), a summary of the regulatory work of the past year.
7.02	Wales Audit Office: works to support the Auditor General as the public sector watchdog for Wales. They aim to ensure that the people of Wales know whether public money is being managed wisely and that public bodies in Wales understand how to improve outcomes.