

## Audit Wales Work Programme and Timetable – Carmarthenshire County Council

Quarterly Update: 31 December 2021

### Annual Audit Summary

Description	Timetable	Status
A report summarising completed audit work since the last Annual Audit Summary, which was issued in January 2021.	February 2022	Being drafted

### Financial Audit work

Description	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>Audit of the Council's 2020-21 statement of accounts</b>	The Council's draft statement of accounts for 2020-21 were received on 2nd July 2021.	January 2021 to September 2021	Audit complete. Statement of Accounts signed by AGW 27 September 2021
<b>Audit of the Pension Council's 2020-21 statement of accounts</b>	The Pension Fund's draft statement of accounts for 2020-21 were received on 30th July 2021.	January 2021 to October 2021	Audit complete. Statement of Accounts signed by AGW 19 October 2021

Description	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>2020-21 Grant Claim Audit Work</b>	<p>We have been requested to undertake certification work on the following Council grant claims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Benefit Subsidy</li> <li>• NHS Pooled Budget return</li> <li>• NHS Money Transfers</li> <li>• National Domestic Rates return</li> <li>• Teacher's Pensions return</li> </ul>	October 2021 to January 2022	In progress

## Performance Audit work

2020-21 Performance Audit Work	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>Financial Sustainability</b>	A project common to all local councils that will assess financial sustainability in light of current and anticipated future challenges building on work undertaken during 2019-20.	<p><u>Local report published November 2021</u></p> <p><u>National Summary Report published September 2021</u></p>	Complete
<b>Review of Waste Services</b>	To reviewed whether the Council has in place proper arrangements to plan and deliver its waste services sustainably.	<u>Final report published July 2021</u>	Complete

2021-22 Performance audit work	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>Well-being of Future Generations Act</b>	We will seek to integrate the delivery of our WFG examinations	N/A	N/A

<b>(Wales) 2015 (WFG Act) examinations</b>	of steps to deliver well-being objectives with our other audit work. We will discuss this with the Council as we scope and deliver the audit projects listed in this plan.		
<b>Improvement reporting audit</b>	Audit of discharge of duty to publish an assessment of performance.	November 2021	Complete
<b>Assurance and Risk Assessment</b>	<p>Project to identify the level of audit assurance and/or where further audit work may be required in future years in relation to risks to the Council putting in place proper arrangements to secure value for money in the use of resources.</p> <p>At Carmarthenshire County Council the project is likely to focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• financial position</li> <li>• self-assessment arrangements</li> <li>• recovery planning</li> <li>• implications of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act</li> <li>• carbon reduction plans</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>We will also follow up on some of the proposals for improvement issued in earlier Audit Wales' reports.</p>	April 2021- March 2022	Ongoing
<b>Springing Forward – Examining the building blocks for a sustainable future</b>	As the world moves forward, learning from the global pandemic, this review looks at how effectively councils are strengthening their ability to transform, adapt and maintain the delivery of services, including those delivered in partnership with key stakeholders and communities.	October 2021 – April 2022	In progress

## Local government national studies planned / in progress

Study	Scope	Timetable	Status	Fieldwork planned at Carmarthenshire County Council
<b>Direct Payments</b>	Review of how local authorities manage and promote the use of Direct payments	Publication Winter 2021-22	Drawing conclusions mid October, drafting and publication early 2022	No – work being delivered via Direct Payment Forum and a selection of follow up interviews
<b>Emergency Services</b>	Review of how well emergency services (blue light) collaborate	Publication winter 2021-22	Clearance with publication end of January 2022	N / A
<b>Follow up on People Sleeping Rough</b>	Review of how local authorities responded to the needs of people sleeping rough during the pandemic following up on the AGWs report of July 2020	N/A	N/A	This work is not progressing in 2021-22
<b>Poverty</b>	Understanding how local authorities ensure they deliver their services to minimise or reduce poverty.	Autumn 2021 - Autumn 2022	Fieldwork	Yes - interview with nominated officer at the Council

Study	Scope	Timetable	Status	Fieldwork planned at Carmarthenshire County Council
<b>Social Enterprises</b>	Review of how local authorities are supporting and utilising social enterprises to deliver services	Autumn 2021 - Autumn 2022	Fieldwork	Yes - interview with nominated officer at the Council
<b>Community Resilience</b>	Review of how local authorities can build greater resilience in communities	Autumn 2021 - Autumn 2022	Fieldwork	Yes - interview with nominated officer at the Council

## Estyn

Estyn planned work 2021-22	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>Local Government Education Services Inspections</b>	Estyn have worked closely with Directors of Education to review their inspection guidance for local government education services to reflect the experiences of the pandemic. The updated guidance (published on 1 July) will be piloted on the first inspection and feedback will be sought on whether any further refinements need to be made.	LGES inspections to resume from <b>late</b> Autumn term	N/A
<b>Curriculum Reform thematic review</b>	Regional consortia and local authority support for curriculum reform.	Evidence collecting in Sept/Oct - publish in early February	N/A

## Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW)

CIW planned work 2021-22	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>National Assurance Check 2020-21</b>	CIW has now published all assurance check letters CIW has published its national assurance check report highlighting key findings and recommendations	Published	Complete
<b>Programme 2022-23</b>	CIW will run an annual programme of assurance checks, performance evaluation inspections and risk based inspections	April 2022- March 2023	Planning
<b>National review</b>	Support for disabled children and their families.	Published	Complete
<b>Follow-up</b>	CIW will be following up on areas for improvement identified in the Assurance Checks or through risk based inspection activity with individual local authorities where necessary.	ongoing	One follow up risk based inspection has occurred and due to be published.  Two further follow up assurance checks have occurred and due to be published in due course
<b>Inspection</b>	Risk based inspection activity will continue where required.	As required	No inspections are scheduled at this time (up until April 2022)

CIW planned work 2021-22	Scope	Timetable	Status
<b>Development</b>	CIW will continue to develop its approach to inspection and review of local authorities	April 2022	In progress
<b>Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Annual Monitoring Report for Health and Social Care 2020-21</b>	Annual monitoring report in draft format currently – this is a joint report with Health Inspectorate Wales	December 2021	In progress
<b>Annual meeting with Statutory Directors of Social Services</b>	CIW will meet with all Directors of Social Services	Dec 2021 and Jan 2022	In progress

## Audit Wales national reports and other outputs published since 1 April 2021

Report title	Publication date and link to report
<b>Care Home Commissioning for Older People</b>	<a href="#"><u>December 2021</u></a>
<b>The Welsh Government's Warm Homes Programme</b>	<a href="#"><u>November 2021</u></a>
<b>Taking Care of the Carers? How NHS bodies supported staff wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic</b>	<a href="#"><u>October 2021</u></a>
<b>Financial Sustainability of Local Government</b>	<a href="#"><u>September 2021</u></a>
<b>NHS summarised accounts infographic</b>	<a href="#"><u>September 2021</u></a>

<b>Report title</b>	<b>Publication date and link to report</b>
<b>Picture of Public Services<sup>1</sup></b>	<a href="#"><u>September 2021</u></a>
<b>Town Centre Regeneration</b>	<a href="#"><u>September 2021</u></a>
<b>Student finances</b>	<a href="#"><u>August 2021</u></a>
<b>NHS finances data-tool 2020-21</b>	<a href="#"><u>June 2021</u></a>
<b>Rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Wales</b>	<a href="#"><u>June 2021</u></a>
<b>Quality governance arrangements at Cwm Taf UHB – follow up</b>	<a href="#"><u>May 2021</u></a>
<b>Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee governance arrangements</b>	<a href="#"><u>May 2021</u></a>
<b>At your Discretion - Local Government Discretionary Services</b>	<a href="#"><u>April 2021</u></a>
<b>Procuring and Supplying PPE for the COVID-19 Pandemic</b>	<a href="#"><u>April 2021</u></a>

<sup>1</sup> Main report published 15 September. Over the following six weeks we published five short sector commentaries: [A picture of local government](#), [A picture of healthcare](#), [A picture of social care](#), [A picture of schools](#), [A picture of higher and further education](#).



## Audit Wales national reports and other outputs due to be published during 2021-22 (and other work in progress/planned)<sup>2</sup>

Title	Anticipated publication date
Welsh Government accounts commentary	February 2022
Welsh Government setting of well-being objectives	February 2022
Unscheduled care – data tool and commentary	February/March 2022
Collaborative arrangements for managing local public health resources	February 2022
COVID response & recovery / Welsh Government grants management – third sector support	February 2022
NHS waiting times data-tool and planned care commentary	March 2022
Welsh Government workforce	February/March 2022
Orthopaedic services	March 2022
Curriculum reform	Spring 2022
Equality impact assessment	Spring 2022
Climate change – baseline review	Spring/summer 2022

<sup>2</sup> We will continue to keep our plans under constant review, taking account of the evolving external environment, our audit priorities, the context of our own resourcing and the capacity of audited bodies to engage with us. This includes maintaining some flexibility so that we can respond to developments in Welsh Government policy and areas of possible interest for the new Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Anticipated publication date</b>
<b>COVID response &amp; recovery / Welsh Government grants management - other</b>	TBC
<b>Affordable housing</b>	TBC
<b>Broadband infrastructure</b>	TBC
<b>Flood risk management</b>	TBC

### **Forthcoming Good Practice Exchange events and publications**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Anticipated publication/event date</b>
<b>Post event resources including session recordings for the Springing Forward event on organisational resilience held on 9/12/21</b>	Late January 2022
<b>Direct Payments Event (title TBC)</b>	March 30 2022

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