

Audit Committee
30th September 2016

Audit enquiries to those charged with governance and management – Carmarthenshire County Council

Recommendations / key decisions required:

1. To approve the responses to the requests made of both management and the Audit Committee as detailed in the report.

Reasons:

To give the Welsh Audit Office assurance on a number of governance areas that impact on their audit of the financial statements.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: N/A

Exec Board Decision Required : NO

Council Decision Required : NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. David Jenkins

Directorate : Corporate Services

Name of Head of Service:

Mr O Bowen

Designations:

Head of Financial Services

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Audit Committee

30th September 2016

Audit enquiries to those charged with governance and management – Carmarthenshire County Council

The Welsh Audit Office is required to conduct their financial audit in accordance with the requirements set out in International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). As part of the requirements of the ISAs they are required to formally seek the Authority's documented consideration and understanding on a number of governance areas that impact on the audit of the financial statements. These considerations are relevant to both the Council's management and 'those charged with governance' (the Audit Committee).

The areas of governance on which they are seeking views:

1. Management processes in relation to:

- undertaking an assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated due to fraud;
- identifying and responding to risks of fraud in the organisation;
- communication to employees of views on business practice and ethical behaviour; and
- communication to those charged with governance the processes for identifying and responding to fraud.

2. Management's awareness of any actual or alleged instances of fraud.

3. How management gain assurance that all relevant laws and regulations have been complied with.

4. Whether there is any potential litigation or claims that would affect the financial statements.

5. Management processes to identify, authorise, approve, account for and disclose related party transactions and relationships.

The information provided informs their understanding of the Council and its business processes and supports their work in providing an audit opinion on the 2015-16 financial statements.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: **O Bowen**

Head of : **Financial Services**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities NONE	Legal NONE	Finance NONE	ICT NONE	Risk Management Issues NONE	Staffing Implications NONE	Physical Assets NONE
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CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **O Bowen**

Interim Head of : **Financial Services**

1. Scrutiny Committee – N/A
2. Local Member(s) – N/A
3. Community / Town Council – N/A
4. Relevant Partners – N/A
5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

2014/15 accounts closure working papers

Corporate and HR Policies

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2014/15 accounts working papers		County Hall, Carmarthen