

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE 2nd February 2012

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE - PERFORMANCE

AUDIT COMMITTEE – FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 2011-12

1. Purpose of Report.

1. To present to Members the updated 2011 – 2012 Forward Work Programme for the Audit Committee.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities.

- 2.1. Internal Audit's work impacts on all of the Corporate Improvement Objectives /other corporate priorities.

3. Background

- 3.1. The core functions of an effective Audit Committee are:-

- To consider the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and corruption arrangements.
- Seek assurance that action is being taken on risk-related issues identified by auditors and inspectors.
- Be satisfied that the Council's assurance statements properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it.
- Oversee the work of internal audit (including the annual plan and strategy) and monitor performance.
- Review summary internal audit reports and the main issues arising, and seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary.
- Receive the annual report of the Chief Internal Auditor.
- Consider the reports of external audit and inspection agencies, where applicable.
- Ensure that there are effective relationships between external and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies, and that the value of the audit process is actively promoted.
- Review the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to Members, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.

- 3.2 Effective audit committees help raise the profile of internal control, risk management and financial reporting issues within an organisation, as well as providing a forum for the discussion of issues raised by internal and external auditors. They enhance public trust and confidence in the financial governance of an authority.

4. Current situation / proposal

4.1. In order to assist the Audit Committee in ensuring that due consideration has been given by the Committee to all aspects of their core functions an updated forward work programme is attached at Appendix A.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework& Procedure Rules.

5.1. None

6. Equality Impact Assessment.

6.1. There are no equality issues.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1. None

8. Recommendation.

8.1. That Members give due consideration to the updated 2011- 12 forward work programme to ensure that all aspects of their core functions are being adequately reported.

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17th January 2012

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Background Documents

None