

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

16 OCTOBER 2013

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain Council's approval for the Annual Report 2012-13, which consists of Appendix A and Appendix B (attached).

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The Annual Report evaluates the Council's performance against the priorities set in the Corporate Plan 2010-13. It also reiterates the Council's improvement objectives (priorities for 2013-17).

3. Background

- 3.1 Under section 15 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and in accordance with the related statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government, the authority must publish its assessment of performance for the previous financial year before 31 October.
- 3.2 The Council' Corporate Plan 2010-13, reviewed and published in June 2012, set out nine improvement objectives as follows:
1. To build safe and inclusive communities
 2. To develop and support sustainable and affordable housing solutions for those who are homeless or in need
 3. To work in collaboration with partners to meet the different needs of all children and young people and provide them with the best start in life
 4. To help all children and young people achieve higher attainment by improving learning opportunities and making them more accessible
 5. To improve physical and emotional wellbeing by promoting and supporting active lifestyles, participation and learning
 6. To implement effective integrated health and social care services to support independence, health and wellbeing
 7. To support and invest in our communities to promote economic growth, physical renewal and sustainability
 8. To manage and promote our natural and historic environment
 9. To improve the way we work to ensure effective and efficient use of our financial, technological, physical and human assets
- 3.3 These improvement objectives were organised under the following priority themes:

- Strong Communities
- Young Voices
- Healthy Living
- New Opportunities
- Proud Past
- Green Spaces

3.4 The Annual Report is prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and the statutory guidance, Wales Programme for Improvement. Once approved, it will be published on the Council's website and shared with stakeholders. A summary of the report will be prepared that highlights for citizens key points in the Council's performance, in an engaging and accessible format.

4. Current situation / proposal

4.1 The Annual Report provides:

- an assessment of the progress made in the 2012-13 financial year against the key priorities under each improvement objective developed for the period 2012-13;
- an overview of the Council's performance in 2012-13 against national performance indicators;
- an overview of the Council's financial performance in terms of the budget;
- examples of the Council's key collaborative arrangements for 2012-13;
- a summary of key consultation and engagement activities and citizen feedback in 2012-13;
- a summary of the regulator's findings; and
- a summary of the improvement objectives (improvement priorities the Council will take into 2013-14 and beyond).

4.2 This is an important document as it provides citizens and stakeholders with details of the Council's performance as measured against the nine improvement objectives. It also compares this information with that of all 22 Welsh local authorities across a range of services and highlights year on year trends.

4.3 The report provides the following key points in the Council's performance in 2012-13:

- It demonstrates the progress the Council made in delivering its key priorities, focusing on key outputs and outcomes for citizens. It also highlights areas where further improvement is needed and the Council's responses to those challenges.
- It provides a comparison of key performance indicators, including statutory indicators, with the Council's performance in 2011-12, regional performance for 2012-13 wherever comparable data are available, and the all-Wales average for 2012-13.
- The summary of financial performance sets out actual revenue expenditure, capital expenditure, grants and efficiency savings. Wherever possible, financial information is linked to our improvement objectives.

- The citizen feedback section summarises service users' perceptions of some key services the Council delivers for the public and their view of what the County Borough area needs.
- The section "What Did Our Regulator Say about Us?" summarises the regulator's conclusions about how well the Council planned for improvement and delivered services in 2012-13. The overall conclusion of the report is positive.
- The report concludes with a reiteration of the Council's improvement objectives (priorities) for 2013-14 and beyond.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

5.1 The Annual Report provides an assessment of progress on the Corporate Plan 2010-13 which forms part of the corporate policy framework.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 The Annual Report provides information on the Council's performance and has no negative equality implications.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 The Annual Report has no financial implications.

8. Recommendation

8.1 That Council approves the Annual Report 2012-13 (Appendix A and Appendix B).

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Chief Executive

1 October 2013

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Background documents (not attached)

- Corporate Plan 2010-13
- Improvement Objectives 2012-13
- Statutory Performance Indicators 2012-13
- The Auditor General's Annual Improvement Report (May 2013)
- Corporate Plan 2013-17