

<b>Meeting of:</b>	<b>GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>21 MAY 2026</b>
<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>REGULATORY TRACKER UPDATE</b>
<b>Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>CORPORATE DIRECTOR – FINANCE AND TRANSFORMATION</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>KATE PASK POLICY AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER</b>
<b>Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:</b>	<b>The regulatory tracker forms part of the Council’s Performance Management Framework.</b>
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p><b>The regulatory tracker has been updated to the end of quarter 4 of 2025-26. As at the end of quarter 4 –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>• 11 inspections are included on the tracker</b></li> <li><b>• 62 recommendations are on the tracker</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Since the last report (quarter 2 2025-26) -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>• 3 new inspections have been added</b></li> <li><b>• 2 inspections have been removed</b></li> <li><b>• 11 recommendations have been closed</b></li> </ul>

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Governance and Audit Committee on the Regulatory Tracker updated to the end of quarter 4 (Q4) of 2025-26, and recommendations which have been closed since the last report to the Committee in October 2025 (quarter 2 (Q2) 2025-26).

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 A report to the Governance and Audit Committee (GAC) on 10 November 2022 proposed that a ‘regulatory tracker’ be created to monitor progress against recommendations from all inspections/audits completed by key regulators of local government services, including Audit Wales, Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW), and Estyn. An updated ‘regulatory tracker’ is considered at GAC twice yearly. This report covers the period up to the end of quarter 4 of 2025-26.

2.2 The performance judgements for recommendations within the regulatory tracker are awarded by applying the following key as prescribed within the Performance Management Framework, which provides clear definitions for the Blue, Red, Amber, Yellow, Green (BRAYG) statuses.

	What does this Status mean?		
	How are we doing	Commitments, projects or regulatory improvements	Performance Indicators
<b>COMPLETE (BLUE)</b>	Not applicable	Project is completed	Not applicable
<b>EXCELLENT (GREEN)</b>	Very strong, sustained performance and practice	As planned - within timescales, on budget, achieving outcomes	On target AND performance has improved / is at maximum
<b>GOOD (YELLOW)</b>	Strong features, minor aspects may need improvement	Minor issues. One of the following applies – deadlines show slippage, project is going over budget or risk score increases	On target
<b>ADEQUATE (AMBER)</b>	Needs improvement. Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects need improvement	Issues – More than one of the following applies - deadlines show slippage, project is going over budget or risk score increases	Off target (within 10% of target)
<b>UNSATISFACTORY (RED)</b>	Needs urgent improvement. Weaknesses outweigh strengths	Significant issues – deadlines breached, project over budget, risk score up to critical or worse	Off target (target missed by 10%+)

### 3. Current situation / proposal

3.1 Paragraphs 3.3 to 3.8 below summarise details of the full Regulatory Tracker document at Q4, and changes since the last report to this Committee in October 2025 for Q2 of 2025-26.

3.2 **Appendix 1** is an extract of the full tracker document showing red and amber recommendations only, and **Appendix 2** is a summary of recommendations closed in the previous period (since the last report produced for Q2 2025-26).

3.3 There are currently 62 regulator recommendations for the Council included on the full tracker report from 11 Audits/Inspections. As the Performance Team is no longer reporting the entire tracker to the Governance and Audit Committee, these are summarised in the following table –

<b>Audit/Inspection</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
Audit Wales, Review of Risk Management	<b>3</b>
Audit Wales, Planning and Development Service	<b>4</b>
Audit Wales, Arrangements for Commissioning Services (June 2025)	<b>3</b>
Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Improvement Check Children's Social Care Services (June 2025)	<b>16</b>
CIW Inspection Report on Foster Wales Bridgend (June 2025)	<b>5</b>
Audit Wales, Setting of Well-being Objectives	<b>3</b>
CIW Inspection of Golygfa'r Dolydd (September 2024)	<b>5</b>
Audit Wales, Digital Strategy Review	<b>3</b>
CIW Improvement Check Visit to Children's Social Care Services (November 2022)	<b>10</b>
Transformational Leadership Programme Board, Baseline Governance Review Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board	<b>7</b>
Audit Wales, Review of Arrangements to Become a 'Digital Council'	<b>3</b>

3.4 Since the previous report to the Governance and Audit Committee on 30 October 2025, 3 new audit/inspections have been added to the tracker:

- Estyn enhanced local authority link inspector (LALI) visit Bridgend 2025 (focused on attendance and Welsh in Education Strategic plan) – 5 areas for consideration
- Audit Wales, Planning and Development Service – 4 recommendations
- Audit Wales, Review of Risk Management – 3 recommendations

3.5 Since the previous report 11 recommendations have been closed. Final commentary is included in **Appendix 2**. They are –

- Audit Wales, Use of Service User Perspective and Outcomes (1 remaining recommendation closed)
- Estyn LALI visit Bridgend 2025 (all 5 areas for consideration closed)
- Transformational Leadership Programme Board, Baseline Governance Review Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board (1 recommendation closed, 3 remain open)
- CIW Inspection of Golygfa'r Dolydd September 2024 (2 recommendations closed, 1 remains open)
- CIW Improvement Check Children's Social Care Services (June 2025) (2 recommendations closed, 14 remain open)

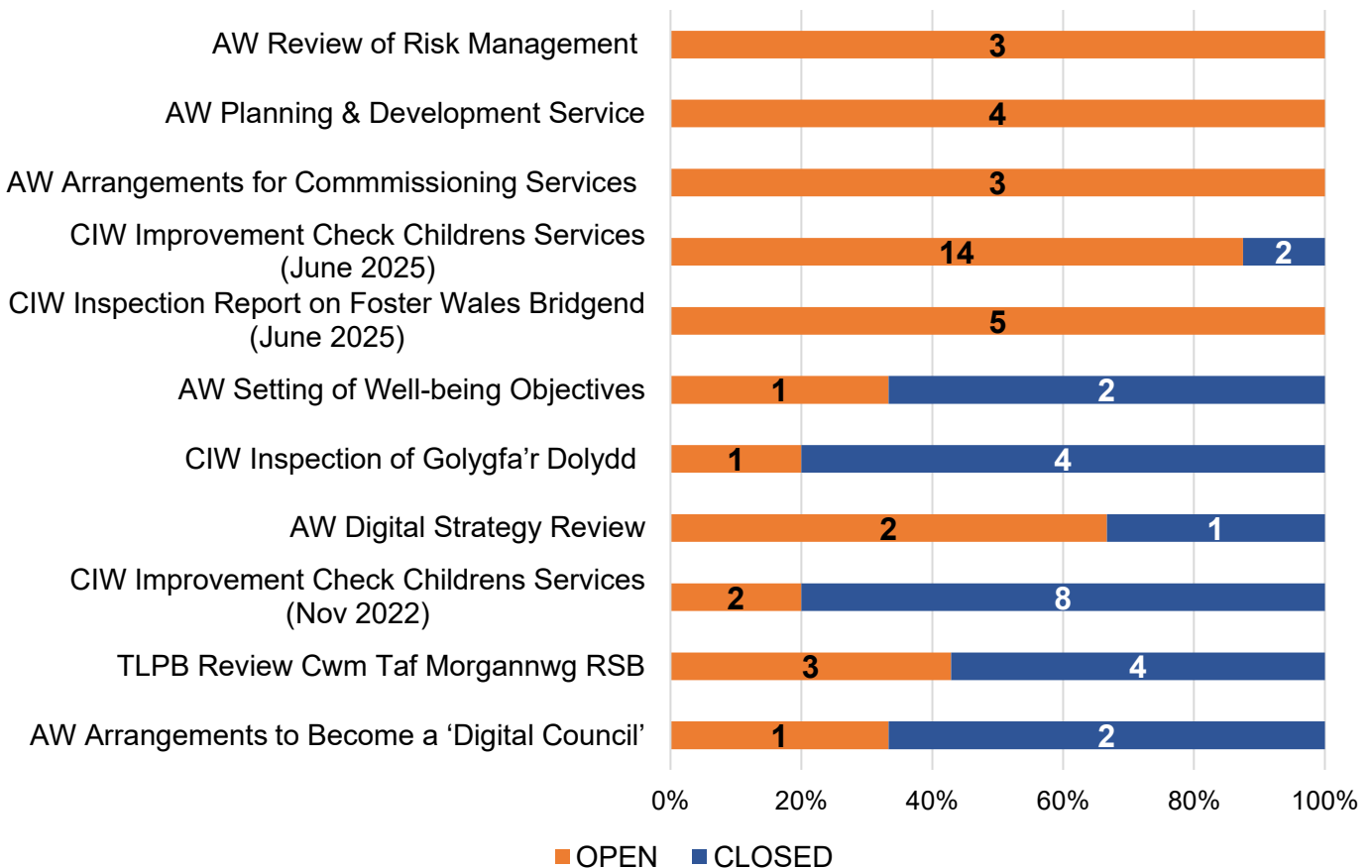
3.6 All recommendations have been closed in the following 2 inspections/audits and they have therefore been removed from the tracker.

Audit/Inspection	Recommendations
Audit Wales, Use of Service User Perspective and Outcomes	3
Estyn LALI visit Bridgend 2025	5

3.7 A breakdown of the open/closed status for the 62 current recommendations is below. This has also been summarised by audit / inspection to draw the Governance and Audit Committee’s attention to specific areas of concern.

Date	Recommendations	Open	Closed	% Open
15/07/2023	82	38	44	46.34
25/01/2024	58	33	25	56.90
19/07/2024	67	38	29	56.72
30/01/2025	69	38	31	55.07
24/04/2025	80	43	37	53.75
30/10/2025	58	38	20	65.52
<b>21/05/2026</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>62.90</b>

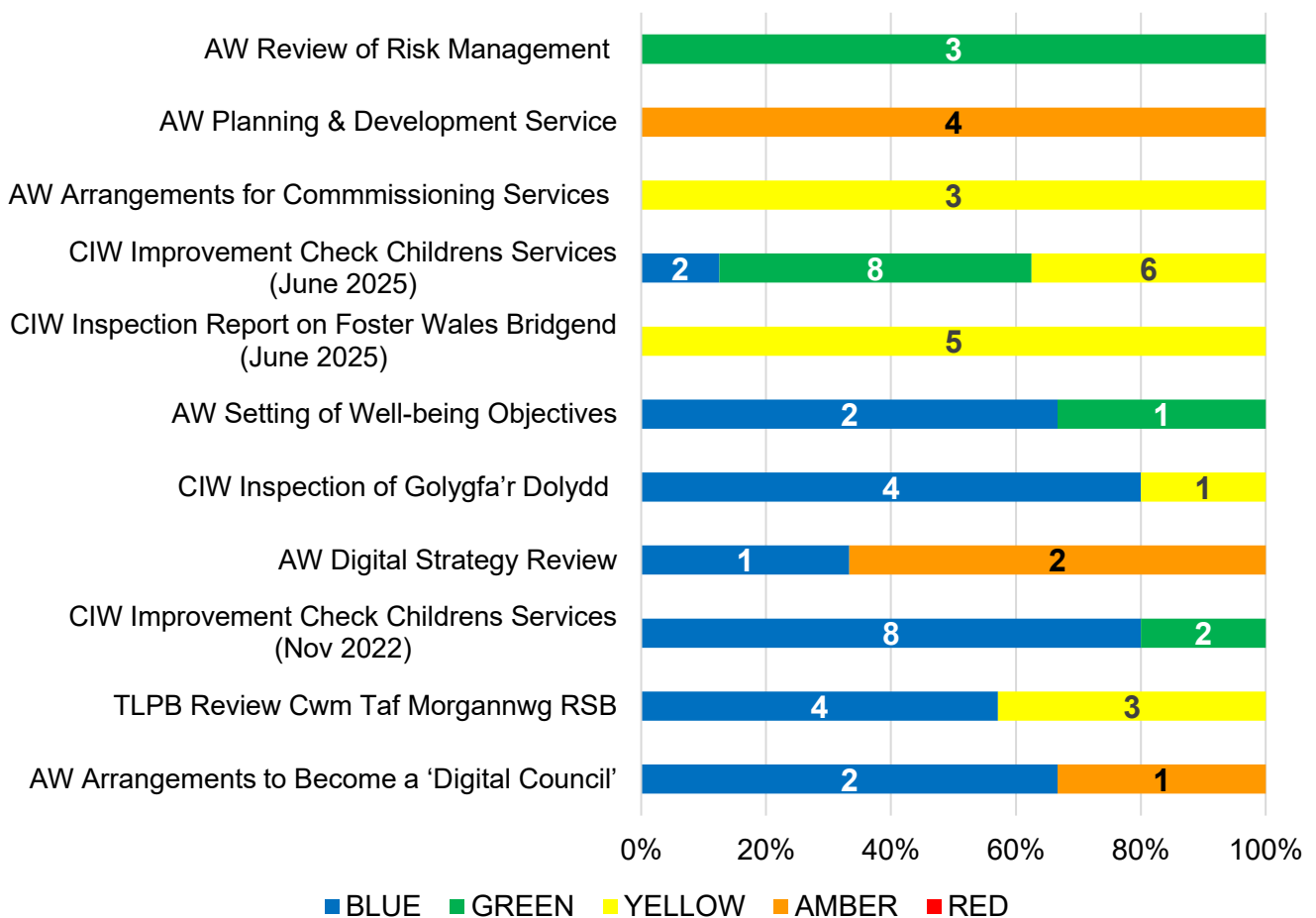
### Recommendations Open/Closed by Audit/Inspection



3.8 A breakdown of red, amber, yellow, green, blue status for recommendations is below. This has also been summarised by audit / inspection to draw Governance and Audit Committee’s attention to specific areas of concern.

Date	Recommendations	Blue	Green	Yellow	Amber	Red
15/07/2023	82	44	22	0	15	1
25/01/2024	58	25	17	0	15	1
19/07/2024	67	29	18	1	17	2
30/01/2025	69	31	11	1	25	1
24/04/2025	80	37	14	13	15	1
30/10/2025	58	20	16	12	7	3
<b>21/05/2026</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>

### Summary of BRAYG Status by Audit/Inspection



#### 4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty / Welsh Language)

4.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

#### 5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

5.1 This report forms part of the measurement of progress against the following corporate well-being objectives under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that form part of the Council's Corporate Plan 2023-28:-

- THRIVING - A prosperous place with thriving communities
- EMPOWERING - Supporting our most vulnerable
- ACHIEVING - Enabling people to meet their potential
- MODERNISING - Creating modern, seamless public services

## **6. Climate Change and Nature Implications**

6.1 There are no specific implications of this report on nature or climate change.

## **7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications**

7.1 There are no specific implications of this report on safeguarding or corporate parenting.

## **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 There are no financial implications associated with these arrangements.

## **9. Recommendation**

9.1 The Governance and Audit Committee is recommended to consider the summary points and contents of **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2** and raise any issues of concern for follow-up.

## **Background documents**

None.