

Report To: Corporate Governance Committee
Date of Meeting: 10 April 2013
Lead Officer: Alan Smith, Head of Business Planning & Performance
Report Author: Tony Ward, Corporate Improvement Team Manager
Title: Corporate Self-Assessment 2013

1. What is the report about?

1.1 This report presents the council's annual Corporate Self-Assessment for 2013.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1 The report is for information and no decision is required. However, the report will afford the Corporate Governance Committee an opportunity to discuss the latest Corporate Self-Assessment and to highlight any areas that require future monitoring by the committee.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 That Members consider the Corporate Self-Assessment for 2013, attached at Appendix I, and discuss whether any further action by the committee is required.

4. Report details.

4.1 The council produces an annual self-assessment to support compliance with its statutory obligation to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement", as required under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

4.2 Self-assessment helps us to understand our strengths and weaknesses in relation to our key processes, such as strategic planning; performance management; workforce planning; and financial management. The conclusion draws together the areas for improvement that have been identified in the assessment.

4.3 The document has been compiled based on the established style and questioning of previous Corporate Self-Assessments, having had input from relevant officers and using the most up-to-date information.

4.4 The plans for disseminating and communicating the Corporate Self-Assessment are as follows:

- Send to the Wales Audit Office (who will consider it as part of its Annual Improvement Report for the council).
- Circulate to the Corporate Governance Committee, for information.

- Circulate to the Performance Scrutiny Committee, for information.
- Publish on the council website, alongside our Annual Performance Report and the Wales Audit Office Annual Improvement Letter.
- Publish on the intranet.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

- 5.1 The Corporate Self-Assessment is an opportunity for the council to take an inward look at itself to identify any weaknesses in its key processes and to consider how things may be done more efficiently and effectively. This supports our commitment to 'modernising the council to deliver efficiencies and improve services for our customers'.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

- 6.1 There are no cost implications as a result of this report.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

- 7.1 The Corporate Self-Assessment itself does not propose any changes that require an Equality Impact Assessment. However, services should consider an EqIA of any changes that may be introduced to address the highlighted areas for improvement contained within the document.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

- 8.1 Input to the Corporate Self-Assessment has been given by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and other relevant officers, including Internal Audit. The report was also presented to the Corporate Executive Team at its meeting on February 18, and SLT on 21 February, and any comments/suggestions were subsequently incorporated into the document.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

- 9.1 Not required.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

- 10.1 There are no new risks arising as a result of this report. However, the report does highlight a number of issues for the council to manage, i.e. current weaknesses where further action is required.

11. Power to make the Decision

- 11.1 No decision required.