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Dr Mohammed Mehmet
Chief Executive
Denbighshire County Council
County Hall
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Reference 635A2013
Date 27 November 2013
Pages 1 of 2

Dear Mohammed

Improvement Assessment

In my letter of 12 September 2013, I gave my opinion on whether the Council had discharged its statutory duties in respect of improvement planning.

I am also required, under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) to give an opinion on whether Denbighshire County Council (the Council) has discharged its duties in respect of improvement reporting and met the requirements of the Measure.

In my opinion, and based on audit work undertaken to date the Council has discharged its improvement reporting duties under the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance.

The Council has discharged its improvement reporting duties under the Measure

- the Council published an assessment of its performance during 2012-13 in its *Annual Performance Report 2012/13* (the Report) before 31 October 2013;
- the Report assesses the Council's performance in the preceding financial year (2012-13) and sets out how the Council has sought to discharge its duties under the Measure;
- the Report evaluates the Council's success in achieving its improvement objectives and expresses its view clearly;
- the Report includes a short section for citizens who want to provide feedback or make comments on the Review;
- the Report includes details of performance and comparisons as measured by the national statutory performance indicators; and

- the Report includes a short section on the ways in which the Council has sought to collaborate.

Further proposals for improvement/recommendations

No proposals for improvement are being suggested in this letter. We will continue to monitor and report on the progress made by the Council in implementing the proposals set out in my previous reports and letters.

I will undertake more detailed work on the arrangements that support the Council's performance management and reporting over the following months and report this, as well as summarising all of my work and that of relevant regulators during 2013-14, in an Annual Improvement Report for the Council that I will publish by the end of March 2014.

Yours sincerely



HUW VAUGHAN THOMAS

Auditor General for Wales

CC: Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Local Government and Government Business

Huw Lloyd Jones – Manager

Gwilym Bury – Performance Audit Lead