



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

6 January 2021

Report of

Chief Executive

K.Jones

Matter for: Information

Wards Affected: All Wards

Report Title: Audit Wales - Audit of Neath Port Talbot Council's assessment of 2019-20 performance

Purpose of Report

1. To present the Audit Wales Certificate of Compliance issued in November 2020 (Appendix 1) for their Audit of Neath Port Talbot Council's assessment of 2019-20 performance (Corporate Plan 2019-22 [Annual Report 2019-20](#)).

Background

2. Under section 17 and 19 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, the Auditor General is required to report on his audit and assessment work in relation to whether the Council has discharged its statutory duty to publish an assessment of performance, before 31 October in the financial

year following that to which the information relates, or by any other such date as Welsh Ministers may specify by order.

Main Findings

3. From the Compliance Certificate (contained in Appendix 1), it is pleasing to report the Auditor General concluded that: “the Council has discharged its duties under sections 15(2), (3), (8) and (9) of the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance sufficiently to discharge its duties.”

Financial Appraisal

4. The audit work undertaken by Audit Wales has been delivered within the budget allocated for audit and inspection work. Performance reported in the 2019-20 Annual Report was delivered against a challenging financial backdrop.

Integrated Impact Assessment

5. There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment as this report is for information purposes.

Valleys Communities Impact:

6. No implications.

Workforce Impact

7. There are no workforce impacts.

Legal Impact

8. Under Sections 17 and 19 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, the Auditor General for Wales is required to carry out an audit to determine whether the Council has discharged its duty to publish an assessment of performance.

Risk Management

9. The Council also has a general duty under the local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, to annually publish an assessment which describes its performance before 31 October in the financial year following that to which the information relates, or by any other such date as Welsh Ministers may specify by order. Failure to complete and publish an annual assessment of performance report would mean the Council has not complied with statutory guidance, which could result in statutory recommendations the Council would be obliged to address.

Consultation

10. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

11. It is recommended that Members note the Audit Wales: Audit of Neath Port Talbot Council's assessment of 2019-20 performance, (attached at Appendix 1) before publication on the Council's web site.

Reason for Proposed Decision

12. This is a matter for information therefore no decision is required.

Implementation of Decision

13. This is a matter for information therefore no decision is required.

Appendices

14. Appendix 1 – Audit Wales: Audit of Neath Port Talbot Council's assessment of 2019-20 performance.

List of Background Papers

15. Neath Port Talbot Council, Corporate Plan 2019-22 - [Annual Report 2019-20](#)
16. Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

Officer Contact

17. Mrs Karen Jones, Chief Executive. Tel: 01639 763284 or e-mail:
k.jones3@npt.gov.uk
18. Mrs Caryn Furlow-Harris, Strategic Manager – Policy & Democratic Services.
Tel: 01639 763242 or email: c.furlow@npt.gov.uk