

## City & County of Swansea Audit Committee Update – June 2018

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### Financial audit work 2017-18 – City & County of Swansea Pension Fund

Activity	Scope	Status
<b>Audit Plan</b>	Plan of financial audit work for 2017-18.	Audit Committee March 2018.
<b>Financial Statements/Annual Audit Letter</b>	Audit of the Pension Fund's 2016-17 financial statements and Annual Audit Letter.	Planned Audit Committee September 2018.

### Financial audit work 2017-18 – City & County of Swansea

Activity	Scope	Status
<b>Audit Plan</b>	Plan of financial audit work for 2017-18.	Audit Committee March 2018.
<b>Financial Statements 2017-18</b>	Audit of the Council's 2017-18 financial statements.	Planned Audit Committee and Council September 2018.
<b>Certification of Grants and Returns 2017-18</b>	Summary of grants and returns certification work 2017-18.	Planned Audit Committee January 2019.
<b>Annual Audit Letter</b>	Report summarising our 2017-18 financial audit work.	Planned Audit Committee January 2019.

Performance Audit work - City & County of Swansea

2017-18 Improvement Assessment	Scope	Status
<b>Corporate Improvement Plan Audit</b>	Checks Council compliance with Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 requirement to set improvement objectives.	Certificate issued September 2017.
<b>Improvement Plan Audit</b>	Checks Council compliance with Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 requirement to publish a self-assessment of performance in the previous year by 31 October.	Certificate issued November 2017.
<b>Annual Improvement Report (AIR)</b>	Annual report summarising the audit work undertaken in the last year which also includes a summary of the key findings from reports issued by 'relevant regulators'.	Planning.
<b>Wellbeing &amp; Future Generations Year one commentary</b>	Year one commentary on WFG/Baseline Gather evidence on how the 44 bodies are beginning to respond to the requirements of the WFG Act and identify examples of notable emerging practice. There is no local report it is intended the baseline will inform a commentary to be published Summer 2018.	Complete. National report published on WAO website.
<b>Overview and Scrutiny – Fit for the Future</b>	This review will examine the impact of the WFG Act on the work of scrutiny committees including PSB scrutiny, facilitating improvement and sharing of good practice.	Reporting.

2017-18 Improvement Assessment	Scope	Status
<b>Service User Review</b>	To gather evidence and insight into the extent to which services respond to the needs and expectations of service users both in their design and delivery.	Reporting. This work focused on the Council's housing tenants and supplemented the WHQS review below.
<b>Aligning Levers of change</b>	<p>The purpose of this review is to support the development of local action that will promote positive practice and help identify barriers to be addressed. The review will assist councils to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• refine current arrangements in Councils by promoting what is working well, identifying any barriers and developing local improvement opportunities; and</li> <li>• facilitate sharing of practice between Councils.</li> </ul>	Following discussion with officers, it was agreed that this work would not go ahead.
<b>Housing/WHQS Local Project</b>	To determine whether the Council has effective arrangements in place to enable it to engage with residents in meeting the WHQS by 2022.	Reporting.
<b>Digital Risk</b>	Diagnostic.	Reporting.

2016-17 Local Government Studies	Scope	Status
<b>Improving wellbeing through housing adaptations</b>	We will review how adaptations prevent access to and speed up discharge from hospitals. The work will look at how health use adaptations to underpin their activity as well as how efficient and effective organisations are at procuring and delivering adaptations work.	Report published February 2018. C&CS has not been selected to take part in the detailed fieldwork of this study.
<b>Strategic commissioning of learning disability services by local authorities</b>	Fieldwork will focus on the corporate approach to strategic commissioning but also use findings from the tracer area to understand how effective operational arrangements are. We are working with CSSIW and SSIA and will be building on recent national inspection and support work on learning disabilities.	Report published May 2018. C&CS has not been selected to take part in the detailed fieldwork of this study.
<b>How local government manages demand - Homelessness services</b>	The study will focus on homelessness in local authorities using the recent prevention duties placed on local authorities to judge how demand for services is managed.	Report published January 2018. C&CS was a fieldwork site.
2017-18 Local Government Studies	Scope	Status
<b>Services to rural communities</b>	The study will focus on whether local government uses its resources to deliver services that meet the needs of rural communities today and in the longer term.	In progress. C&CS has not been selected to take part in the detailed fieldwork of this study.
<b>Using data effectively</b>	This study will seek to identify whether councils' corporate management arrangements for managing and using data are leading to better decision making in the use of resources. The study will collect information from all councils in Wales.	In progress.

2018-19 Local Government Studies	Scope	Status
<p><b>First point of contact assessments under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014</b></p>	<p>The Welsh Government introduced the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (the 2014 Act) which focuses on reforming and simplifying the law relating to social services. The 2014 Act introduced new duties for local authorities, local health boards and other public bodies and covers adults, children and their carers, and came into force on 6 April 2016. The study will review first point of contact and assessments for adult social care.</p> <p>Detailed fieldwork in five local authorities. We are planning to undertake fieldwork in Cardiff City Council, Denbighshire County Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and Carmarthenshire County Council.</p>	<p>Project set up.</p>
<p><b>Tackling violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence</b></p>	<p>In 2015 the Welsh Government passed the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act (the 2015 Act). The overarching objective of the 2015 Act is to improve the Public Sector response to violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence; provide a strategic focus on these issues; and ensure consistent consideration of preventative, protective and supportive mechanisms in the delivery of services. The review will focus on determining whether local authorities and their partners are effectively working together to prevent gender-based violence and domestic abuse, and protecting all of the people involved.</p> <p>Our fieldwork sites are the City &amp; County of Swansea, Conwy County Borough Council, Flintshire County Council, Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, South Wales Police and South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority.</p>	<p>Project set up.</p>

<b>2018-19 Local Government Studies (continued)</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Planning Services: Improving the wellbeing of Wales</b>	<p>Planning services are an important part of the democratic jigsaw that allows the detailed consideration of proposals to improve the economic prospects of the nation. Good planning decisions can have a positive impact on the wellbeing of people and places. Poor planning decisions can have a detrimental impact on people’s wellbeing and can stifle economic development. This study will provide independent assurance that planning authorities are supporting sustainable development and delivering for the future long-term wellbeing of their communities and for Wales.</p> <p>We are planning to undertake fieldwork in Bridgend County Borough Council, Gwynedd County Council, Newport City Council, Torfaen County Borough Council and Ceredigion County Council.</p>	Project set up.

National Studies	Update and link to report
<b>Waste management</b>	Recycling module (clearance); waste prevention and waste treatment infrastructure modules (drafting).
<b>NHS Wales informatics services</b>	Published 10 January 2018. <a href="#">Link</a> to published report.
<b>Access to public services with the support of specialist interpretation and translation</b>	Published 25 April 2018. <a href="#">Link</a> to published report.
<b>Early intervention and public behaviour change</b>	Drafting.
<b>Welsh Government business finance</b>	Drafting (phase 1).
<b>Primary care</b>	Published April 2018. <a href="#">Link</a> to published report.
<b>Youth services</b>	Fieldwork.
<b>Rural Development Programme 2014-2020</b>	Drafting.
<b>European Structural Funds Programme 2014-2020</b>	Drafting.
<b>Integrated Care Fund</b>	Fieldwork.
<b>Care experienced children and young people – audit work to support ongoing Public Accounts Committee inquiry</b>	Scoping.