

MEETING	Governance and Audit Committee
DATE	25 th May 2023
TITLE	Audit Wales Reports
AMCAN	Provide an update to the Committee on the Audit Wales work programme for Quarter 1 as well as the Annual Audit Summary 2022 and Outline Audit Plan 2023 that have been recently published.
RECOMMENDATION	Members are asked to accept the report.
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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Audit and Governance Committee has a role to review and assess the risk management, internal control, performance management and corporate governance arrangements of the Council and as part of this role there is an expectation to consider the reports of external review bodies such as Audit Wales, Estyn and Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW).
- 1.2. As well as actively considering reports the committee are expected to assure themselves that there are arrangements in place to monitor and evaluate progress against any recommendations contained in them. To facilitate this work Audit Wales prepares a quarterly update on the work of the review bodies and a copy of this document for Quarter 4 2022/23 is included as **Appendix 1**.
- 1.3. A report on the current studies of Audit Wales, Estyn and Care Inspectorate Wales and the progress made by the Council in response to proposals or recommendations was presented to the meeting of this Committee on the 9th of February 2023. The next report will be presented to the committee in September 2023.

2. Annual Audit Summary 2022 and Outline Audit Plan 2023

- 2.1. The Gwynedd Council Annual Audit Summary 2022 (**Appendix 2**) by the Auditor General summarises the audit work undertaken in the Council by Audit Wales since the publication of the last report in January 2022.
- 2.2. It should be noted that this report is not a full review of all the Council's arrangements or Services.

- 2.3. To fulfil the Auditor General's duties Audit Wales completes work each year associated with the following duties – Audit of Accounts, ensuring Value for Money, ensuring Continuous Improvement and complying with the Sustainable Development Principles.
- 2.4. Specific projects are completed whilst also using information gathered from other regulators such as Care Inspectorate Wales and Estyn. A summary of the findings and conclusions for the work completed in the last year can be found in the summary document.
- 2.5. The Outline Audit Plan for 2023 is also attached as **Appendix 3**. It describes the outline programme of work for the year in accordance with the duties set out in 2.3 above. It is anticipated that the final plan for the year will be published during the summer.
- 2.6. Officers from Audit Wales will give a presentation on the key points to the Members and there will be an opportunity ask questions in relation to the content of the reports.