



MINUTES OF MEETING

AUDIT MEETING

MONDAY, 27TH MARCH, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Thomas (In the Chair)

Councillors: H Barrett, T Chaplin, M Davies, C T Jones, T Lewis and Raymond Thomas

Lay Member:
D Gibby

Officers:
Gary Evans (Audit Manager), Steve Jones (Head of Finance) and Louise Ballinger (Senior Auditor)

Outside Bodies:
Justine Morgan and Helen Goddard (Wales Audit Office)

Karen Vokes (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
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The Chair welcomed everyone which is the last meeting of the 5 year administration. He formally thanked members and officers for their hard work and commitment over this period of time.

972	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence received from Councillors D Jones, G Lewis and B Mansbridge.
973	Declarations of Interest	No declarations of interest were made.
974	Wales Audit Office: Audit Plan 2017 - Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	The Chair welcomed Justine Morgan and Helen Goddard from the Wales Audit Officer to the meeting.

		<p>Justine Morgan and Helen Goddard led the Committee through the Wales Audit Office Audit Plan for 2017 and outlined the work that will be undertaken, together with timescales, the financial aspects and the performance audit elements of the plan.</p> <p>The following were then raised by the Committee and were responded to by Justine Morgan, Helen Goddard and officers of the Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The requirement of the faster closing agenda being imposed on all local government organisations and does Merthyr Tydfil have the capacity to do this. • Clarification on the recoverability of £205,000 relating to the former Housing Revenue Account. • Clarification on the balance sheet review being carried out. • Further updates in relation to the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal. • Bad Debt Provision. • Recommendations within the WFG Scrutiny Review. <p>In relation to the Certification of grant claims and returns, Helen Goddard advised that the programme of work was finished in December and the report details and findings were scheduled to be presented to today's committee. Unfortunately due to the forthcoming elections this had been postponed and will be presented to the next available Audit Committee.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The Committee receives and notes the contents of the Wales Audit Office Audit Plan for 2017.</p> <p>It was also RESOLVED that:</p> <p>As part of the audit function, officers to make enquiries into future debt write off reports being agendered for future audit committees, in addition to them being dealt with by Cabinet.</p>
975	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.