



## AUDIT COMMITTEE – 14TH DECEMBER 2016

**SUBJECT: WAO REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS TO ADDRESS EXTERNAL AUDIT, INSPECTION AND REGULATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT – CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151 OFFICER**

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- 1.1 The report, which was presented to Cabinet on 19th October 2016 provided details of the Wales Audit Office (WAO) report on its review of arrangements to address external audit, inspection and regulation recommendations and proposals for improvement of Caerphilly CBC.
- 1.2 In the 2015-16 Audit Plan, the WAO identified that they would assess the Council's progress in implementing recommendations from their previous work. As part of this follow-up work, they stated they would seek assurance that the Council has appropriate corporate processes for responding to their reports, tracking implementation of their recommendations and reporting this to the appropriate committee. The WAO did this by undertaking specific follow-up work to determine progress in addressing the recommendations made in areas for improvement arising from the Special Inspection Report, the Follow-up of the Special Inspection and previous audit work relating to:
- Self-evaluation
  - HR and Workforce planning
  - Internal Audit
  - Scrutiny
- 1.3 The review concluded that the Council's response to their recommendations and proposals for improvements is supporting improvement in its self-evaluation and scrutiny arrangements, but further work remains to fully address weaknesses in Internal Audit and Human Resources, some of which are longstanding.
- 1.4 Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report and as outlined at the meeting : -

- (i) the Officer responses to the WAO proposal for improvement as detailed in Appendix 2 (Management Response) of the report be noted;
- (ii) the monitoring arrangements, as outlined in paragraph 4.3 of the report be endorsed, with the addition that minutes from the Corporate Governance Panel also be reported to Cabinet

- 1.5 Members are asked to consider the recommendations.

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Appendix: Report to Cabinet dated 19th October 2016.