

MEETING	AUDIT COMMITTEE
DATE	1 December 2015
TITLE	2014/15 Final Accounts
PURPOSE	To submit – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The 2014/15 Final Accounts for re-approval;• The Wales Audit Office’s letter, revised opinion and certificate.
RECOMMENDATION	To consider and approve the information before authorising the Chairman to sign the accounts again.
AUTHOR	Dafydd L Edwards, Head of Finance

BACKGROUND

1. In the Audit Committee meeting on 24/09/15, the revised statutory financial statements for the Council and Pension Fund were presented for approval by the committee.
2. It was resolved to -
 - approve the statutory financial statements;
 - accept Wales Audit Office’s related reports (with an unqualified opinion on the 2014/15 accounts), and
 - authorise the Head of Finance and the Chairman of the Committee to sign the letters of representation and to submit them to the Auditor General for Wales Audit Office.

DELAY BEFORE PRESENTING CERTIFICATION

3. It was noted at the time that there would be a delay before the accounts were certified, as a member of the public had expressed an objection to the accounts relating to a peripheral issue, being expenditure on a Trunk Road Agency scheme in the previous year.
4. Consequently, Wales Audit Office could not formally conclude its audit responsibilities or issue the certificate of audit closure until the matter had been addressed.

COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT

5. I attach a letter which confirms that Wales Audit Office has completed its work on this matter and has responded to the elector stating that they are not going to propose any further action (**Appendix 1**).
6. The Auditors revised opinion and certificate are enclosed with the attached letter.

NO CHANGE TO THE ACCOUNTS

7. There are no changes at all to the accounts approved by the Audit Committee on 24/09/15, and the Head of Finance has already certified them, but this final report has to be considered before the accounts can re-approved.

RECOMMENDATION

8. Therefore, the Audit Committee on 01/12/15 is asked to authorise the Chairman of the Committee to sign a fresh set of the same accounts.

NEXT STEPS

9. After receiving the accounts having been re-signed, the Auditor General for Wales Audit Office will be able to certify the accounts and close the audit for 2014/15

Enclosure:

Appendix 1 – Auditor General for Wales' letter, dated 20/11/15