

<u>BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL</u>	
Report to	The Chair and Members of the Audit Committee
Report Subject	Wales Audit Office Certificate of Compliance for the Audit of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's 2017-18 Improvement Plan
Report Author	Head of Policy and Performance
Report date	17th August 2017
Directorate	Corporate Services
Executive Portfolio	Leader / Corporate Services
Date of meeting	14th November 2017
Date signed off by Monitoring Officer	N/A
Date signed off by Section 151 Officer	N/A
Date signed off by Chair	
Key words	Improvement Wales Audit Office Local Government Measure

Report Information Summary

1.	Purpose of Report							
1.1	The purpose of the report is to present the Wales Audit Office Certificate of Compliance following the audit of the Council's 2017-18 Improvement Plan (attached at Appendix 1).							
2.	Scope of the Report							
2.1	<p>Under the Measure, the Council is required to prepare and publish an Improvement Plan describing its plans to discharge its duties to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions; • Make arrangements to secure achievement of its improvement objectives; and • Make arrangements to exercise its functions so that any performance standard specified by Welsh Ministers is met. <p>The Measure requires the Council to publish its Improvement Plan as soon as is reasonably practicable after the start of the financial year to which it relates.</p> <p>The Measure requires that the Council has regard to guidance issued by Welsh Ministers in preparing and publishing its plan.</p> <p>The WAO certified that, following publication on 27th July 2017, audited Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Improvement Plan in accordance with section 17 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) and the auditor's Code of Audit Practice. As a result of the audit, the WAO believed that the Council has discharged its duties under section 15(6) to (9) of the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance sufficiently to discharge its duties.</p>							
3.	Recommendation/s for Consideration							
3.1	It is recommended that Audit Committee note the compliance certificate dated August 2017.							
Why this topic is a priority for the Council?								
	Single Integrated Plan (SIP)	Council's Well-being Objectives	Performance Management Improvement Framework (PMIF)	Transforming Blaenau Gwent (TBG Programme)	Relevant legislation	Other (please state)		
Reporting Pathway								
	Directorate Management Team (DMT)	Corporate Leadership Team (CLT)	Audit	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny	Executive	Council	Other (please state)
			14.11.17					