

Committee: **Audit Committee**
 Date of meeting: **28th January 2020**
 Report Subject: **Wales Audit Office Certificate of Compliance for the Audit of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Assessment of 2018-19 Performance**
 Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Nigel Daniels, Leader / Executive Member Corporate Services**
 Report Submitted by: **Bernadette Elias, Head of Governance and Partnerships**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
			26.01.20					

1. **Purpose of the 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 assessment of 2018-19 performance (attached at Appendix 1).

2. **Scope and Background**
 Under the Measure, the Council is required to prepare and publish an assessment which describes its performance:
 - in discharging its duty to make arrangement to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions;
 - in meeting the improvement objectives, it has set itself;
 - by reference to performance indicators specified by Welsh Ministers, and self-imposed performance indicators; and
 - in meeting any performance standards specified by Welsh Ministers, and self-imposed standards.

The Measure requires the Council to publish its Assessment of Performance before 31st October in the financial year to which it relates.

The Measure requires that the Council has regard to guidance issued by Welsh Ministers in preparing and publishing its assessment.

The WAO certified that, following publication in October 2019, audited Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Assessment of Performance in accordance with sections 17 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) and the Code of Audit Practice. As a result of the audit, the WAO believed that the Council has discharged its duties under section 15(2), (3), (8) and (9) of the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance sufficiently to discharge its duties.

3. **Options for Recommendation**
- 3.1 It is recommended that that Audit Committee note the compliance certificate dated November 2019.