

Committee: **Audit Committee**

Date of meeting: **17<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Report Subject: **Audit Wales Certificate of Compliance for the Audit of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Assessment of 2019-20 Performance**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr N. Daniels, Leader / 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)
			17.11.20					

**1 Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of the report is to present the Audit Wales Certificate of Compliance following the audit of the Council's Assessment of 2019-20 Performance (attached at Appendix 1).

**2. Scope and Background**

Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure, the Council is required to annually publish an assessment which describes its performance:

- in discharging its duty to make arrangements 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 performance standards.

The Measure requires the Council to publish an assessment before 31<sup>st</sup> October in the financial year following that to which the information relates.

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

Audit Wales certified that, following publication, audited Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's assessment of performance in 2019-20 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, Audit Wales believed that the Council has discharged its duties under section 15 of the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance sufficiently to discharge its duties.

3. **Recommendation**

- 3.1 It is recommended that that Audit Committee note the compliance certificate dated October 2020.