

City of Cardiff Council

WAO performance audit work programme update January 2018

WAO Performance Audit Themed Review work programme for 2017-18				
Item no.	Project	Description	Update	Timescale
1	Year one commentary on WFG/Baseline	<p>This project will gather evidence on how the 44 bodies are beginning to respond to the requirements of the Well Being of Future Generations Act and identify examples of notable emerging practice.</p> <p>There will be no local report but it is intended that the baseline will inform a commentary to be published in the summer of 2018.</p>	Local fieldwork complete	<p>Publication of national commentary in Spring 2018</p> <p>Event – 17 May 2018</p>
2	Overview and Scrutiny – Fit for the Future?	<p>National themed review in all 22 Welsh councils.</p> <p>The review will explore whether the Council’s overview and scrutiny function is well placed to respond to current and future challenges including the Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG Act), in relation to their scrutiny activity, as well as how councils are beginning to undertake scrutiny of public service boards. We will examine how well placed councils are to respond to future challenges including continued pressure on public finances and the possible move towards more regional working between local authorities.</p>	Fieldwork complete, draft report March	March 2018

		The review involves interviews, focus groups and observations of a sample of scrutiny committees.		
3	Service User Perspective Review	<p>National themed review in all 22 Welsh councils.</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to gain assurance and insight into the extent to which services respond to the needs and expectations of service users both in their design and delivery, and take their views and aspirations into account. We will examine how service users feel they are able to influence the design and delivery of services and what changes to the design and delivery of services would help to better meet their needs, and the implications of this for value for money and achievement of intended outcomes.</p> <p>Our work at the Council will focus on the Council's housing tenants. It will involve a telephone survey of a sample of the Council's housing tenants.</p>	Project Brief under development. Topic: Council housing tenants. Had set up meeting with officers on 30 th November. Fieldwork commence March 2017.	March 2018
4	Welsh Housing Quality Standard review	A local review to determine whether the Council has effective arrangements in place to enable it to engage with residents to maintain the WHQS.	As above. Project brief to be issued. We will look to deliver this review alongside our service user perspective review, which is focusing on the Council's housing tenants.	March 2018
5	Aligning Levers of change	The purpose of this review is to support the development of local action that will promote positive practice and help identify barriers to be addressed. The review will assist councils to:	Discussions are ongoing with the Council to determine the scope of this work.	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refine current arrangements in Councils by promoting what is working well, identifying any barriers and developing local improvement opportunities; and • facilitate sharing of practice between Councils. 		
6	Digital Risk diagnostic	An overview of the level of digital risk the Council faces. The diagnostic will be used by the Wales Audit Office to identify 'potential' digital risks and issues at the Council. Potential risks identified will be used to focus auditors on areas where further, more specific IM&T performance work might be needed.	Draft project brief to be issued.	February/March 2018
2017-18 Improvement Assessment				
Item no.	Project	Description	Update	Timescale
7	Improvement Assessment Letter 1	Review Council arrangements to secure continuous improvement, its progress against previous proposals for improvement and the setting of improvement objectives for the year	Audit complete. Certificate issued to the Council on 17 April 2017	April 2017
8	Improvement Assessment Letter 2	Review of the Council's published plans for delivering on improvement objectives	Audit complete. Certificate issued to the Council 13 November 2017	November 2017
9	Annual Improvement Report (AIR)	Annual report summarising the audit work undertaken in the last year which also includes a summary of the key findings from reports issued by 'relevant regulators'		May 2018
Local Government National Studies 2016-17				
Item no.	Project	Description	Update	Timescale
10	Improving Well Being through Housing Adaptions	We have reviewed how adaptations prevent access to and speed up discharge from hospitals. The work has looked at how health use adaptations to underpin their activity as well	Report currently in clearance. Cardiff was not a selected fieldwork site	Publish February 2018

		as how efficient and effective organisations are at procuring and delivering adaptations work. The study is seeking to answer the following main question: Is there an effective strategic approach to housing adaptations that delivers value for money and assures the continued wellbeing of vulnerable people?		
11	Strategic commissioning of learning disability services by local authorities	The review focuses on learning disability schemes as a tracer in local authorities and will assess how effectively strategic commissioning is being delivered. Fieldwork focussed on both the corporate approach to strategic commissioning but also used findings from the tracer area to understand how effective operational arrangements are. We have worked with CSSIW and SSIA and have built on the recent national inspection and support work on learning disabilities.	Report currently in clearance. Cardiff was a selected fieldwork site.	Publish March 2018
12	How Local Government manages demand – Homelessness Services	The study focuses on a specific tracer area of homelessness in local authorities using the recent prevention duties placed on local authorities to judge how demand for services is managed.	The report has been published and is available on the WAO website . Cardiff was not selected as a fieldwork site	Published 9 January 2018
Local Government Studies 2017-18				
Item no.	Project	Description	Update	Timescale
13	Using data effectively	Focus on council's corporate management arrangements for managing and using data leading to better decision making in the use of resources.	Project Brief issued 23 rd June 2017. The study will collect information from all councils in Wales.	August 2018

			<p>A short survey has been issued to the following respondents across all councils in Wales</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Management teams 2. ICT Managers 3. Information Officers 4. Policy Officers 5. Operational Managers 6. and Elected Members <p>The survey closed on 12 December.</p> <p>The study team will then analyse the responses to identify notable practice in the management and use of data and barriers to further progress. We will conduct either face-to-face or telephone interviews with officers.</p>	
14	Services to Rural Communities	<p>The study will focus on whether local government uses its resources to deliver services that meet the needs of rural communities today and in the longer term.</p> <p>It will consider the strategic approach of councils, engagement of partner organisations and the public in planning services and if councils are effectively integrating services to ensure they are making best use of resources in continuing to deliver services?</p>	Cardiff is not included in this review.	September 2018

National Studies Update		
Item no.	Project	Update
15	Emergency Ambulance Services Commissioning	Published 2 Aug 2017. Link to published report
16	The 21 st Century Schools and Education Programme	Published 25 May 2017. Link to Published Report
17	Waste management	Recycling module (clearance); waste prevention and waste treatment infrastructure modules (drafting)
18	Public procurement (including development of the National Procurement Service)	Published 17 October 2017. Link to published report
19	Implementation of the NHS Finances (Wales) Act 2014 (integrated medium term planning)	Published July 2017. Link to published report
20	Welsh Government financial support for Carmarthenshire Energy Ltd	Published July 2017. Link to published report
21	Supporting people programme	Published 31 August 2017. Link to published report
22	NHS Wales informatics services	Published 10 January 2018. Link to published report
23	Access to public services with the support of specialist interpretation and translation	Drafting
24	Fiscal devolution in Wales	Published December 2017. Link to published report
25	Early intervention and public behaviour change	Drafting
26	Welsh Government business finance	Drafting (phase 1)
27	Primary care	Drafting (phase 1) – local audit work to follow
28	Youth services	Fieldwork
29	Rural Development Programme 2014-2020	Drafting
30	European Structural Funds Programme 2014-2020	Fieldwork
31	Integrated Care Fund	Scoping
32	Care experienced children and young people – audit work to support ongoing Public Accounts Committee inquiry	Scoping
33	Intermediate Care Fund	Scoping