

CONSTRUCTING EXCELLENCE WALES (CEW) REVIEW

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR RESOURCES

AGENDA ITEM: 5.3

Reason for Report

1. To provide the Audit Committee with a briefing as to the findings of a review undertaken by Constructing Excellence Wales (CEW) into the Council's Building Maintenance Framework.

Background

2. The Council is over half way into its four year framework for building maintenance services. Key contractors include Ian Williams Limited, Kier Services Limited, and R&M Williams Limited.
3. Given the strategic and operational importance of the Building Maintenance Framework, in the summer/ autumn of 2014 officers commissioned CEW to undertake a review of the arrangement with the aim of ensuring that the Council maximises all possible benefits from the framework moving forward. CEW promote excellence in the built environment here in Wales (for more information please see: <http://www.cewales.org.uk/> <<http://www.cewales.org.uk/>>). Ultimately their role is to help improve the construction industry's performance, to help the industry deliver better quality services, and to help the industry deliver better value for money (VfM) for its customers and clients.
4. Audit Committee have expressed concerns as regards the Building Maintenance Framework and as such it is timely to update the Audit Committee as to the findings of the CEW review, the actions being taken by officers to address the same, and actions being taken by officers in general to improve the framework.

Issues

5. A briefing paper setting out the following is attached at Appendix A:
 - (i) Key features of the Building Maintenance Framework Agreement
 - (ii) The CEW Review Focus and Review Process
 - (iii) Key supply side findings – the experience of “users”
 - (iv) Key demand side findings – the experience of those “delivering” the services, i.e. the external contractors providing the services to the Council.
 - (v) The CEW Recommendations
 - (vi) Work done by service areas to compliment the CEW review

- (vii) Context where Council complaints are concerned
- (viii) Positives where the framework is concerned; and
- (ix) Current position with the CEW review and progress to date with regards the CEW recommendations.

6. With regards (ix) above, please note that a copy of the current Action Plan being progressed and delivered on by officers is attached at Appendix B to this report. Also, a copy of the Foreword and Executive Summary to the CEW review is attached at Appendix C.

Legal Implications

7. There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

8. There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

9. For the Audit Committee to note the contents of the attached briefing paper at Appendix A, and in particular the contents of the CEW Recommendations, the work being done by officers to complement the CEW review and the contents of the Action Plan.

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The following Appendices are attached:

Appendix A – Constructing Excellence Wales (CEW) Review – Briefing, September 2015
Appendix B – Current Action Plan
Appendix C - Foreword and Executive Summary to the CEW Review