



REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

(from December 2021 to December 2022
ON-GOING and COMPLETED recommendations)

FOR AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

16TH DECEMBER 2022

REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS		
	NO.	%
ON TARGET (COMBINED – ONGOING & COMPLETED)	40	100%
OFF TARGET	0	0%
ON TARGET (ON-GOING)	11	28%
ON TARGET (COMPLETED)	29	72%
TOTAL	40	

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RECOMMENDATIONS

that are on-going/been completed during the last 12 months

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ON TARGET

How Local Government Uses Data (Dec 18)

On-going

Objective: WAO/NAT: How Local Government Uses Data (Dec 18)			
Action	14407	Target date	31/03/2023
Action promised	Data Culture: LA's need: to have a clear vision that treats data as a key resource; to establish corporate data standards & coding; to undertake an audit; & create a central integrated customer account as a gateway to services		
Comment	We have decided due to changes in major software solutions not to pursue further our single customer account. This will only be used if there is no major back-office application available. We continue to develop the Data Insights Strategy that will clearly outline our vision for maximising the use of data across the Authority.		
Service Head: Noelwyn Daniel		Performance status: On target	

Action	14409	Target date	31/03/2023
Action promised	Upskill staff: LA's: to identify staff who have a role in analysing & managing data to remove duplication & free up resources to build & develop capacity in data usage; & to invest & support development of staff data analytical, mining & segmentation skills		
Comment	Our approach here will be addressed within the Data Insights Strategy that is being currently developed. It will take into account the various aspects of this recommendation.		
Service Head: Noelwyn Daniel		Performance status: On target	

Action	14410	Target date	31/03/2023
Action promised	Data-driven decision-making culture: LA's: to set data reporting standards to ensure minimum data standards underpin decision making; and to make more open data available		
Comment	Work has commenced on a detailed programme of activity and the formulation of a new Data Insight Strategy that will address matters raised within this recommendation.		
Service Head: Noelwyn Daniel		Performance status: On target	

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: WAO/NAT: How Local Government Uses Data (Dec 18)			
Action	14408	Target date	31/03/2021 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Data Protection Responsibilities: LA's: to provide refresher training to service managers to ensure they know when & what data they can & cannot share; & review/update data sharing protocols to support services to deliver their data sharing responsibilities		
Comment	Refresher training sessions have now been arranged for DMTs and are in the process of being delivered. Some will be completed in April 2022.		
Service Head: Noelwyn Daniel		Performance status: On target	

Well-being of Future Generations: An examination of 'Start Well - Help children to live healthy lifestyles' (Feb 19)

Completed 30/09/2022

Objective: WAO/LOC: Well-being of Future Generations: An examination of 'Start Well - Help children to live healthy lifestyles' (Feb 19)			
Action	14298	Target date	31/03/2020
Action promised	Corporate: Develop a system to provide assurance at a corporate level that the Council is considering the five ways of working in the actions to deliver the well-being objectives		
Comment	The Integrated impact Assessment (IIA) has been completed and is ready to go live early next year with the adjustment for the new Corporate Strategy Well-being Objectives.		
Service Head:	Noelwyn Daniel	Performance status:	On target

The Effectiveness of Local Planning Authorities in Wales (June 19)

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: WAO/NAT: The Effectiveness of Local Planning Authorities in Wales (June 19)			
Action	14471	Target date	30/04/2022 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Local Planning Authorities improve the effectiveness of planning committees by: reviewing their scheme of delegation to ensure planning committees are focussed on the most important strategic issues relevant to their authority		
Comment	The revised scheme of delegation to officers and the protocol on representations to the County Council on Planning Committee was approved at the meeting of the County Council on the 2nd February 2022. The revised scheme of delegation has been published on the County Council webpages.		
Service Head:	Rhodri Griffiths	Performance status:	On target

Action	14514	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Local Planning Authorities: improve transparency and accountability by holding planning meetings at appropriate times, rotating meetings to take place in areas which are subject to proposed development, webcasting meetings and providing opportunities for stakeholders to address committee meetings		
Comment	Webcasting already undertaken with stakeholders are allowed to speak subject to the relevant protocol. The adoption of Webcasting has provided enhanced opportunities for those interested in viewing the work of the planning committee as well as improving accessibility and accountability. This has also negated the value of moving the planning committee to different locations. It is noted that varying the times might prove be problematic as the meetings are quite often lengthy dependent on the number and complexity of applications being considered. The matter may be further considered in light of any future demand and access issues and would require further investigation as we emerge from Covid restrictions. Whilst a response to Covid the move to virtual/remote Planning Committee meetings has enabled third parties to also join the meetings to provide their representations remotely increasing accessibility.		
Service Head:	Rhodri Griffiths	Performance status:	On target

Action	14519	Target date	31/03/2023 (original target 31/03/2021)
Action promised	Local Planning Authorities improve the effectiveness of planning committees by enforcing the local planning authorities' standards of conduct for meetings		
Comment	The role of the planning committee will be reinforced through quarterly reporting of core planning performance measures including planning appeals. The reporting of performance is to be a standing item on the agenda to ensure appropriate awareness of decision-making outcomes. The responsibilities under the standards of conduct is conveyed through a revised introduction presented by the legal officers and in the advice to committee to members during by officers and where appropriate the Chair.		
Service Head:	Rhodri Griffiths	Performance status:	Closed at 85% complete

Review of Risk Management Arrangements (July 19)

On-going

Objective: WAO/LOC: Review of Risk Management Arrangements (July 19)			
Action	14302	Target date	31/03/2023 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Procedures and Guidance: The Council should develop suitable procedures and guidance to underpin its risk management strategy to ensure that risk management is consistently embedded across the organisation.		
Comment	Risk management has met with colleagues in the business development unit to progress the risk management intranet page. Business development now have access and documents (Welsh & English version) are being checked prior to uploading.		
Service Head:	Helen Pugh	Performance status:	On target

Action	14303	Target date	31/03/2023 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Risk Appetite: The Council should define its corporate risk appetite to ensure that it manages risks and opportunities effectively.		
Comment	Session held for CMT and HOS on 27th September facilitated by an external provider. Risk appetite statement to be drafted and forwarded to CMT for approval.		
Service Head:	Helen Pugh	Performance status:	On target

Action	14307	Target date	31/03/2021 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	The Council to Improve Effectiveness by: training staff; regularly seeking assurance on effectiveness of all aspects of its arrangements & acting on findings; & embedding process for identifying lessons learned & sharing good practice across organisation		
Comment	The risk steering group includes feedback on completed risk bids to ascertain if the risk posed has been addressed and the lessons learnt. The bid forms are currently being updated to incorporate a section on what risks are mitigated and how, and after completion it can be demonstrated. This will be presented to the working groups for sign off in October 2021.		
Service Head:	Helen Pugh	Performance status:	On target

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: WAO/LOC: Review of Risk Management Arrangements (July 19)			
Action	14305	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Roles & Responsibilities: The Council should review and clarify the roles and responsibilities of: Managers, Staff, Risk Champions, The Risk Management Steering Group in its risk management arrangements		
Comment	Risk Management Toolkit accepted by the Risk Management Steering Group on 11th November 2021. The Risk Management Toolkit was translated in December 2021. The Risk Management Intranet Page is being developed and the Risk Management Toolkit will be available on this page. Terms of reference for the Risk Management Steering Group, Property & Liability Risks Working Group, Transport Risks Working Group and Contingency Planning Working Group accepted by the Risk Management Steering Group on 11th November 2021. The Terms of Reference will be available on the Risk Management Intranet Page when developed. An exercise has been undertaken that representative is correct on the working Groups.		
Service Head:	Helen Pugh	Performance status:	On target

Action	14306	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	Risk Management System: The Council should: clarify system it is using to identify & capture risks to ensure consistency in approach across the organisation; & review the information recorded on risk registers throughout the organisation to ensure information is up to date, complete, & has enough detail to ensure risks can be appropriately managed		
Comment	New process for updating the Corporate Risk Register has been introduced & is working well. Departmental editors nominated and training provided. Departmental editors providing updates to corporate risks directly to the JCAD CORE system and the updates are reported to CMT with the performance management information. Awareness on Project Risk Registers and Implementation of Project Risk Registers have commenced.		
Service Head:	Helen Pugh	Performance status:	On target

'Raising Our Game' - Tackling Fraud in Wales (July 20)

On-going

Objective: WAO/NAT: 'Raising Our Game' - Tackling Fraud in Wales (July 20)			
Action	14750	Target date	31/03/2021
Action promised	Policies & Training: Staff working across the Welsh public sector should receive fraud awareness training as appropriate to their role in order to increase organisational effectiveness in preventing, detecting & responding to fraud.		
Comment	Awaiting L&D Departmental review before a fraud e-learning module can be developed. Continuing to source fraud training at periodic intervals.		
Service Head:	Helen Pugh	Performance status:	On target

Rough Sleeping in Wales – Everyone’s Problem; No One’s Responsibility (July 20)

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: WAO/NAT: Rough Sleeping in Wales – Everyone’s Problem; No One’s Responsibility (July 20)			
Action	14760	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2021)
Action promised	Intelligent use of data: Use data to plan the right future services, and to put in place effective data sharing protocols to ensure they respond effectively and safely to people sleeping rough. We recommend: i) invest in data analytical skills to better understand the current situation and predict future demand to prevent future homelessness		
Comment	Following consultation with the Homeless Forum a sub-Task and Finish Group was set up. Partners discussed the self-reflection tool and has used it as a basis for another consultation exercise with the Forum. This has led to actions being identified which will be included and delivered as part of the 5-year Rapid Re-Housing Plan which encompasses the needs of complex needs individuals.		
Service Head: Jonathan Morgan		Performance status: On target	

Action	14761	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2021)
Action promised	Intelligent use of data: Use data to plan the right future services, and to put in place effective data sharing protocols to ensure they respond effectively and safely to people sleeping rough. We recommend: ii) review and update data sharing protocols to ensure they support services to deliver their data sharing responsibilities effectively		
Comment	Following consultation with the Homeless Forum a sub-Task and Finish Group was set up. Partners discussed the self-reflection tool and has used it as a basis for another consultation exercise with the Forum. This has led to actions being identified which will be included and delivered as part of the 5-year Rapid Re-Housing Plan which encompasses the needs of complex needs individuals.		
Service Head: Jonathan Morgan		Performance status: On target	

Action	14762	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2021)
Action promised	Intelligent use of data: Use data to plan the right future services, and to put in place effective data sharing protocols to ensure they respond effectively and safely to people sleeping rough. We recommend: iii) introduce a single data capture & risk assessment process to help support safe decisions making in dealing with people sleeping rough		
Comment	Following consultation with the Homeless Forum a sub-Task and Finish Group was set up. Partners discussed the self-reflection tool and has used it as a basis for another consultation exercise with the Forum. This has led to actions being identified which will be included and delivered as part of the 5-year Rapid Re-Housing Plan which encompasses the needs of complex needs individuals.		
Service Head: Jonathan Morgan		Performance status: On target	

Action	14763	Target date	30/09/2021 (original target 31/03/2021)
Action promised	Integrated services to tackle complex needs: By responding to people in crisis, often deal with issues in isolation & rarely address fundamental cause. Requires responsive service delivery models, we recommend public bodies use our complex needs self-reflection tool to improve how they can jointly address complex needs in the future		
Comment	Following consultation with the Homeless Forum a sub-Task and Finish Group was set up. Partners discussed the self-reflection tool and has used it as a basis for another consultation exercise with the Forum. This has led to actions being identified which will be included and delivered as part of the 5-year Rapid Re-Housing Plan which encompasses the needs of complex needs individuals.		
Service Head: Jonathan Morgan		Performance status: On target	

National review of care homes for people living with dementia (Sep 20)

Completed 31/12/2021

Objective: CIW/NAT: National review of care homes for people living with dementia (Sep 20)			
Action	15233	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R1 - Choice, people need clearer information about the location and types of service available. Commissioners need to address the gaps in care home provision		
Comment	The National Audit recommendations have been considered in Carmarthenshire and following the action plan response have been updated - the recommendations are now included in everyday business for the service areas.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Action	15234	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R2 – Training - providers of carer services and commissioners need to ensure that training supports the delivery of person-centred care. Training should involve people living with dementia who can describe their experience of care		
Comment	The National Audit recommendations have been considered in Carmarthenshire and following the action plan response have been updated - the recommendations are now included in everyday business for the service areas.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Action	15235	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R3 – Environment -providers and Commissioners should work together to ensure new homes are designed and built to improve outcomes and enable effective care, informed by evidence		
Comment	The National Audit recommendations have been considered in Carmarthenshire and following the action plan response have been updated - the recommendations are now included in everyday business for the service areas.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Action	15236	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R4 - Welsh Language - providers and Commissioners must gather better information about the Welsh Language skills of the workforce; educators should work to upskill the current workforce		
Comment	The National Audit recommendations have been considered in Carmarthenshire and following the action plan response have been updated - the recommendations are now included in everyday business for the service areas.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Action	15237	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R6 – Rights - there is a lack of understanding about mental capacity with a need to upskill staff in the context of rights-based approaches to care and support		
Comment	The National Audit recommendations have been considered in Carmarthenshire and following the action plan response have been updated - the recommendations are now included in everyday business for the service areas.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Action	15238	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R7 - Multi-disciplinary support - there is a need to improve support from mental health services and effective admission and discharge from hospital		
Comment	The National Audit recommendations have been considered in Carmarthenshire and following the action plan response have been updated - the recommendations are now included in everyday business for the service areas.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Commercialisation in Local Government (Oct 20)

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: AW/NAT: Commercialisation in Local Government (Oct 20)			
Action	14916	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	We will ensure that the TIC Income Thematic Workstream is focussed on the development of a more commercial approach across the organisation and will aim to implement the outcomes and recommendations of the Audit Wales Review of Commercialisation in Local Government.		
Comment	The findings of the Wales Audit Review - `Commercialisation in Local Govt` has been considered by the TIC Income Workstream. The toolkit included within the report has been used to support a self-assessment exercise by the workstream. A facilitated session was held with the Heads of Service forum in December. Further service specific workshops will now be held with priority services and the findings from these exercises will now be used to inform a discussion at CMT and with elected members. It is hoped that this will help clarify the Council`s ambitions in this area and what capacity/skills the Council possesses or requires to further progress this agenda.		
Service Head: Paul R Thomas		Performance status: On target	

Review of Waste Services – CCC (July 21)

On-going

Objective: AW/LOC: Review of Waste Services – CCC (July 21)			
Action	15225	Target date	30/06/2022
Action promised	R7(5): Waste Strategy-It develops and implements an engagement strategy focussing on the behavioural change required for the successful launch and adoption by the public of its new strategy (the Welsh Government Blueprint collection model)		
Comment	Communications plan is on track. Information packs containing letters, calendars and recycling guidance leaflets are in the process of being developed for issue in early autumn. A series of hwb engagement dates are being finalised and, internal as well as external briefings with staff, town and community councils, disability partnership groups, Tyisha steering groups and local community groups is being drafted and timeline produced to align with the resident information pack being issued. A programme of face-to-face engagement in communities and Recycling advisor door knocking engagements is being devised to run alongside the information pack and delivery period and operational collection implementation post 23rd January and with any existing community engagement activities that are planned with other departments or on a local level. This will commence in the autumn.		
Service Head: Daniel W John		Performance status: On target	

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: AW/LOC: Review of Waste Services – Carmarthenshire County Council (July 21)			
Action	15215	Target date	31/12/2021
Action promised	R1: Garden Waste-The Council should identify performance measures for its garden waste service and ensure effective oversight of performance in this area by senior officers and Members		
Comment	We have performance Indicators now in place to measure Garden waste service, these are calculated manually currently with the move to the dataset database system planned by August 2022. 100% complete in terms of providing performance indicators to measure the service performance.		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: On target	

Action	15216	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R2; CWM Environmental Ltd - Ensure that there is a risk register for CWM		
Comment	The risk register has now been developed and was approved by the CWM Management Board in December 2021. It will be reviewed by the Board as required and formally presented annually thereafter. The register was presented to the Council's CWM Shareholder Board, along with its business plan in March 22. Risk register to be presented to the Shareholder Board annually thereafter.		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: On target	

Action	15219	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R5: Fly-tipping-Develop and implement an agreed plan to sustainably address the high number of fly-tipping incidents		
Comment	<p>The formal LEQ strategy has been adopted by the Council. This strategy is being monitored and delivered through the LEQ Strategic group which has been re-convened in December 21. This group seeks to address problematic areas of fly-tipping in a strategic co-ordinated manner. With set action plans developed for specific areas or problems based upon need.</p> <p>Caru Cymru (CC) project current year program is underway. Initiatives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engaging with local schools and community groups to facilitate local initiatives e.g. litter picks, communications packs and engagement events. • Local business engagement for "2-minute street clean" initiative. • Engaging town and community councils on green spaces initiative/dog fouling – encouraging positive LEQ behaviour in parks and green spaces • Fly-tipping – selecting a rear lane in Llanelli to create a positive LEQ messaging. Invest in area to promote local custodianship and care. • Support the delivery of the National CC Roadside Litter campaign through material delivery, installation, promotion and engagement with relevant partners <p>An LEQ Action Plan is being produced in partnership between the Council and KWT and these are updated on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The key element in the immediate term is to remove the incidents of fly-tipping as soon as practicable. Currently all fly-tipping is removed within 4 days of reporting, unless there are ongoing investigation work that preclude removal.</p> <p>Current resources are therefore sufficient to deal with the removal of fly-tipped materials.</p>		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: On target	

Action	15220	Target date	31/03/2022 (original target 31/03/2022)
Action promised	R6: Fly-tipping-Report corporately on a fuller set of performance measures for fly-tipping, including the number of incidents, to enable senior officers and Members to have more effective oversight of the problem and to drive improvement		
Comment	<p>New Measure Implemented in 2022- 25 departmental business plan - Total fly tipping service requests per annum. As part of the divisional plan, we will measure Total number of fly-tipping hotspots and total number of incidents at these hotspots.</p> <p>These performance indicators will enable us to assess the current service demand and then measure our impact following behavioural change campaigns and directed enforcement activities.</p> <p>This will lead to an understanding of how to drive fly-tipping down in the longer term.</p> <p>Full suite of LEQ actions within Departmental Business plan</p> <p>We are currently developing an alternative recording and task management system to enable us to react to and record fly-tipping more accurately and effectively. The scoping and initial development of this system is underway.</p>		
Service Head: Ainsley Williams		Performance status: On target	

Action	15221	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R7(1): Waste Strategy-All elements of the waste hierarchy need to be considered, including prevention		
Comment	<p>A new waste strategy and proposed collections methodology has been agreed and Phase 1 is in the process of being planned (see below). In addition, WG funded circular economy projects are currently being constructed. Our first a re-use shop was opened in Llanelli on the 22nd February 2022.</p> <p>Phase1 – introduction of three-weekly glass collection, three weekly residual waste collection (black bag) and weekly recycling collection (blue bag) from October/November 2022.</p> <p>Phase 2 will entail the introduction of a weekly kerbside sort collection system, weekly glass collection and continuation of a three weekly residual waste collection.</p>		
Service Head:	Ainsley Williams	Performance status:	On target

Action	15222	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R7(2): Waste Strategy-It integrates its strategy with other related projects and plans e.g. regeneration, enforcement and fly-tipping		
Comment	<p>The agreed waste strategy makes strong links with wider Council policies and plans: Corporate strategy and the Council's wellbeing objectives; Net Zero Carbon plan (e.g., introduction of ultra-low emissions vehicles and electric vehicles); Local Environment Quality; Regeneration ambitions for principal towns and as part of the CE Strategy, links to our rural towns and 10 towns initiatives.</p>		
Service Head:	Ainsley Williams	Performance status:	On target

Action	15223	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R7(3): Waste Strategy-It has clear and sustainable plans for financing its strategy (including contingency plans if Welsh Government funding is not available)		
Comment	<p>WG funding agreed for the Phase 2 roll-out (funding profile to be refined as plan progresses). Funding of electric vehicles as part of the Phase 1 roll out has been agreed.</p> <p>County Council funding has been agreed for the Phase 1 interim roll out.</p>		
Service Head:	Ainsley Williams	Performance status:	On target

Action	15224	Target date	31/10/2021
Action promised	R7(4): Waste Strategy-It devotes sufficient time to consult the public on its proposed changes to waste collection arrangements		
Comment	<p>ACTION PLAN RESPONSE: Outcome of the engagement exercise has been included in the waste strategy report as part of the considerations for the new strategy. Public engagement exercise was completed in July 21.</p>		
Service Head:	Ainsley Williams	Performance status:	On target

Action	15226	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R8(1): Business Plan-Set out clear accountable actions for its waste service which are specific measurable and timebound		
Comment	<p>Specific actions have been developed in line with proposed waste strategy and all actions relating to the waste strategy are set out in the 2023-25 Business Plan.</p>		
Service Head:	Ainsley Williams	Performance status:	On target

Action	15227	Target date	31/03/2022
Action promised	R8(2): Business Plan-Include performance measures that re linked to the actions which have clear targets and success actions		
Comment	<p>Specific actions have been developed in line with proposed waste strategy and all actions relating to the waste strategy are set out in the 2023-25 Business Plan.</p>		
Service Head:	Ainsley Williams	Performance status:	On target

Regenerating Town Centres in Wales (Sep 21)

On-going

Objective: AW/LOC: Regenerating Town Centres in Wales (Sep 21)		
Action	15146	Target date
Action promised	Review existing town centre master-plans for 3 primary town centres & produce Recovery Master-plans. Commence delivery of short, medium & strategy interventions. Projects: Carmarthen Hwb, CRF - Revitalise Rhydaman; Towns & Growth; Llanelli	
Comment	Recovery plans have been developed for Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli, in partnership with town task forces/ forum and endorsed by Cabinet. bids have been approved under the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund (CRF) and it's Levelling up Fund. Under the CRF fund the following have been approved for Regeneration, Carmarthenshire Towns Recovery and Growth Pilot, Supporting the Welsh Language in Business and Community Revitalise Rhydaman, Business Bank Sir Gar and Regenerating Llanelli. All works are progressing well with a deadline of December 2023. Under the Levelling Up Fund, Carmarthenshire have been successful in the following bids, firstly the Tywi Valley Path from Llandeilo to Carmarthen and secondly bid with Pembrokeshire County Council for new Public Service Hwbs in Carmarthen and Pembroke town centres. The first stage tender process has b completed and contractor has been appointed. Detailed designs and cost plans are progressing well. A further two levelling up bids were submitted i one transport bid and one regeneration bid, with a decision on applications expected in the Autumn.	
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target

Action	15228	Target date
Action promised	In line with the AW Report Regenerating Town Centres in Wales – National Report Sept 2021, recommendation 4, we will through the multi-discipline corporate enforcement group implement the Empty Property Action Plan, using potential loan funding from WG's Empty Property Management Fund necessary enforcement powers where appropriate	
Comment	Carmarthenshire have completed the training provided and subsequently developed an Empty Property Action Plan for enforcement within town cent to the Transforming Towns agenda. Carmarthenshire have an Enforcement Group in place, made up of officers from a wide range of departments ai tackle the empty properties in the County. The second meeting took place on 27th September 2022. The group are tasked with working through a Priority list originally consisting of 27 problematic properties mixed between commercial and residential across the County, mostly within the primary Meetings have been held with Welsh Government officials to target specific buildings and the option of utilising specific consultant support alongside has been offered. To date the group have started working their way through the properties and through collaborative working 2 commercial properties subsequently been unlocked and are now occupied. As the group progresses there will be consideration made regarding requests to add properties.	
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target

Action	15232	Target date
Action promised	In line with the Audit Wales Report Regenerating Town Centres in Wales – National Report Sept 2021, recommendation 6, we will use the regenerating self-assess our town centre regeneration work where necessary	
Comment	Regeneration has led in the preparation of town centre recovery plans for Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli, which have been to public consultation endorsed by Cabinet on the 17/01/22. In addition, Regeneration has been leading on developing the "Ten Towns" plans. All these plans have acknowledged the changes occurring in town centres that have been accelerated by the pandemic, Brexit and other market forces. We will make use of the regeneration to support our work where appropriate, this work is ongoing.	
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target

Completed 31/03/2022

Objective: AW/LOC: Regenerating Town Centres in Wales (Sep 21)		
Action	15142	Target date
Action promised	Development of recovery and growth plans for Ten Rural Market Towns and to commence delivery of interventions identified	
Comment	The Ten Towns initiative has progressed well over the last 12 months. Growth Plans have been prepared and agreed by each of the respective comm Growth Plan Teams have been established in each of the areas to take forward some of the key aspirations identified within the plans. The Growth PI are represented by local businesses, town and community councils and third sector. To support the Growth Plan Teams, 3 Rural Market Town officers been appointed to progress the needs identified by the communities. Over recent months, the growth plan teams have been meeting regularly to prioritise their ideas for consideration under two funding pots which the has secured to take forward some of the aspirations identified within the growth plans. These include the Authority's £1m Capital investment fund an £100k Leader innovation fund. Each of the growth plan teams have been invited to collectively bring forward their priority projects for consideration. Expressions of Interest were submitted by the end of February for the capital fund, the total value of which equates to £1.25m. We are currently exp opportunities to draw down external funding to maximise opportunities wherever possible. Additionally, applications have been submitted for consideration under the Leader funding and are currently undergoing assessment. In addition, funding has been secured to deliver other support including the provision of free Wi-Fi in each of the respective towns. In addition, funding been secured via the Leader programme to help promote the distinctiveness of the Ten Towns, a common theme which has been identified across all growth plans. Other initiatives include the development of circular economy initiatives. We are in the process of commissioning external consultants t develop and pilot circular economy activities which minimise waste and increase opportunities for communities to access repair and reuse facilities an initiative across the Ten Towns.	
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target