

REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

(from December 2022 to December 2023
ON-GOING and COMPLETED recommendations)

FOR AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

15TH DECEMBER 2023

REGULATORY RECOMMENDATIONS		
	NO.	%
ON TARGET	29	85%
OFF TARGET	5	15%
	TOTAL	34

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RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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How Local Government Uses Data (Dec 18)

Completed 31/12/2022

Action	14409	Target date	31/12/2022 (original target 31/03/2020)
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	This is an important element of the Data Management and Insight Strategy, and work has already commenced in this regard. In Oct. 2022 a cohort of 18 members of staff from various departments took part in a series of 4 half day training sessions arranged by the Data Insight team and facilitated by Data Cymru. This provided an opportunity to understand the range of skills available to us within the organisation and allowed for the development of good working relationships between the Data Insight team and wider colleagues. Over time this will strengthen our capacity and capabilities with regards to data and its use. Although this action is depicted as complete given that the first round of training is complete, up-skilling staff will be an ongoing activity.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	

Completed 30/06/2023

Action	14407	Target date	30/06/2023 (original target 31/03/2020)
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	The draft Data Management and Insight Strategy has been developed and its underpinning principles continue to drive the team. Actions to address this Audit Wales recommendation have been embedded into business plans. The last 18 months have been positive in terms of defining our role and progress has been made through supporting with some key pieces of work (i.e. annual report) and driving forward the development of some key strategic projects (i.e. Corporate Data Suite) which involved undertaking an audit of available measures. This work will continue in the coming months as we consolidate our position within the organisation, which is especially important in our aim of establishing corporate data standards.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	

Action	14410	Target date	30/06/2023 (original target 31/03/2020)
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	This continues to be an ongoing priority for the Data Insight Team and actions to address this Audit Wales recommendation have been embedded into our business plan. Building on the progress made over the last 18 months with regards to understanding what data is available to us, we are now able to start exploring options with regards to the visualisation and wider accessibility of this data. This is being actioned through the development of a 'Corporate Data Suite' which will exist as a Power BI dashboard. The dashboard will be available to senior leaders and senior officers and support in evidence-based decision making. The suite takes account of a range of data. In conjunction to this, we continue to develop the offer on our Research and Statistics Pages of the website and provide ad-hoc support to departments, services and members as the need arises.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	

Review of Risk Management Arrangements (July 19)

On-going

Action	14302	Target date	29/03/2024 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: 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	Awaiting final translation of all Risk Management documents for inclusion on the Risk Management Intranet page. The Risk Management Strategy 2018-2022 is in the process of being updated.		
Remedial Action	Awaiting amendments from original translation.		
Service Head: Helen Pugh		Performance status: Off target	☹️
Action	14307	Target date	29/03/2024 (original target 31/03/2020)
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: 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	Bid forms are being updated to include what risks are mitigated and how, and after completion how they can be demonstrated. Officers invited to attend Steering Group to provide feedback.		
Remedial Action	Slight delay in finalising of Bid forms. Due to meet colleagues in Education and Children Services to improve process.		
Service Head: Helen Pugh		Performance status: Off target	☹️

Completed 30/06/2023

Action	14303	Target date	30/06/2023 (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	Final document approved by CMT and Governance & Audit Committee.		
Service Head: Helen Pugh		Performance status: On target	

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

Completed 31/03/2023

Action	14750	Target date	31/03/2023 (original target 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	Screen saver loaded on all Carmarthenshire County Council computer equipment to highlight/communicate the message to stamp out fraud, corruption and theft within the council and from external sources. We will continue to explore opportunities for raising awareness of fraud across the authority.		
Service Head: Helen Pugh		Performance status: On target	

Review of Waste Services – CCC (July 21)

Completed 31/03/2023

Action	15225	Target date	30/06/2022
Action promised	R7(5): Waste Strategy-It develops and implements an engagement strategy focusing 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	The development and implementation of an engagement strategy for behavioural change to launch and adopt the waste service change has occurred. A communication and engagement plan has been rolled out in quarter 4 as a result of the waste changes roll out which started from 23rd January 2023. This service change is an interim change ahead of the main waste strategy service change aligning with Wales Government blueprint methodology for domestic waste collections. Information packs containing letters, calendars and recycling guidance leaflets have been issued to all households, community group talks have been carried for example with; sheltered scheme residents, disability groups, town and community councils, multi-cultural group. Door knocking and face to face communications with individual residents across the County has and is continuing. A series of hwb engagement dates in place where officers attend all three of the principal hwb every Monday to engage with residents about waste related matters. Waste, cleansing, enforcement, customers services, complaints and business support staff briefings have taken place with over 30 sessions taking place to inform staff members of the changes. Five online and face to face meetings have taken place with elected members and an online meeting with Tyisha steering groups. Text and email alert messages is in operation, reminding residents of their next collection days and a waste hub has been created to manage any telephone and email enquiries regarding the service change in order to support residents with the changes and increase in recycling participation.		
Service Head: Daniel W John		Performance status: On target	

Regenerating Town Centres in Wales (Sep 21)

Completed 31/03/2023

Action	15232	Target date	31/12/2023
Action promised	In line with the Audit Wales Report Regenerating Town Centres in Wales – National Report Sept 2021, recommendation 6, we will use the regeneration tool to 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 and 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. A further Placemaking Plan for Burry Port has been drafted and will be taken through an appropriate sign off process to allow the town to access potential funding alongside the other 13 towns within the County. We have used and will continue to make use of the regeneration tool to support our work where appropriate.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	

Closed 31/03/2023

(The following 2 Recommendations were closed without being 100% as they have been superseded by the on-going 2023/24 Delivery Plan actions below)

Action	15146	Target date	31/12/2024
Action promised	Review existing town centre master-plans for 3 primary town centres & produce Recovery Master-plans. Commence delivery of short, medium & strategic 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. The projects under the UK Government’s Community Renewal Fund (CRF) have been completed, which include Carmarthenshire Towns Recovery and Growth Pilot, Supporting the Welsh Language in Business and Communities, Revitalise Rhydaman, Business Bank Sir Gar and Regenerating Llanelli. Under the Levelling Up Fund, Carmarthenshire have been successful in the following bids, firstly the Tywi Valley Path from Llandeilo to Carmarthen and secondly a joint bid with Pembrokeshire County Council for new Public Service Hwbs in Carmarthen and Pembroke town centres. A further two levelling up bids were submitted in Llanelli, but unfortunately the bids were unsuccessful. Shared Prosperity funding has been secured for the 3 primary town centres and applications have been invited to bid for the available funding. Funding includes town centre vacancy fund, an events fund, Business Grants and a Business Renewable Energy fund. In addition, we are working with key stakeholders through their respective town centre task forces and forums to deliver place projects through the shared prosperity fund.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target before being closed	

Action	15228	Target date	31/03/2025
Action promised	In line with the AW Report Regenerating Town Centres in Wales – National Report Sept 2021, recommendation 4, we will through the multi-disciplined corporate enforcement group implement the Empty Property Action Plan, using potential loan funding from WG’s Empty Property Management Fund to utilise necessary enforcement powers where appropriate		
Comment	Carmarthenshire have completed the training provided and subsequently developed an Empty Property Action Plan for enforcement within town centres linked to the Transforming Towns agenda. Carmarthenshire have an Enforcement Group in place, made up of officers from a wide range of departments aimed to tackle the empty properties in the County. The second meeting took place on 27th September 2022. The group are tasked with working through a Property Priority list originally consisting of 27 problematic properties mixed between commercial and residential across the County, mostly within the primary towns. Meetings have been held with Welsh Government officials to target specific buildings and the option of utilising specific consultant support alongside a loan has been offered. To date the group have started working their way through the properties and through collaborative working 4 commercial properties have subsequently been unlocked and are now occupied. A full update was provided to WG in December 2022. As the group progresses there will be consideration made regarding requests to add properties to the list. A full Enforcement group meeting took place in January 2023 to work through adding / removing properties from the current list. In March 2 further properties in Llanelli had received positive outcomes from enforcement action to tidy up the properties. The review exercise was beneficial, the properties on the list are the hardest to reach. In addition, there is a separate list of vacant commercial properties within the primary town centres which we will aim to unlock by contacting property owners and highlighting potential funding such as the Transforming Towns Loan and Shared Prosperity Funding.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target before being closed	

On-going (2023/24 Delivery Plan actions)

Action	16338	Target date	31/03/2025
Action promised	Deliver the Llanelli masterplan actions and continue to support and develop new initiatives and projects through direct delivery and by supporting third parties with available sources of funding. (CV36)		
Comment	We continue to deliver the actions relating to the Llanelli recovery plan. 1 project linked to the central Square is being developed through the SPF Place Tackling Towns funding. We have also applied for WG Transforming Towns Placemaking funding to complete feasibility studies and works where necessary. Two applicants have submitted an expression of interest for the Transforming Towns Placemaking Funding. 3 applicants have expressed an interest in the SPF vacant property funding, 1 of which has progressed to a full application. The Llanelli Task Force continues to meet on a quarterly basis. A productive walkaround has ensured areas of concern within Llanelli have been tackled through support from cleansing and highways. A prioritised long list of actions is being shared between Economic Development and Environment. The Economic Development team are supporting with weekly recording and reporting of town centre related support required to all appropriate departments. Five events have been supported through the SPF events fund.		

Comment	The former YMCA building is under refurbishment and expected to complete in 4th quarter of 2023/4. The development provides 4 ground floor retail units and 4 first floor office units to deliver 1000sqm of commercial floorspace to accommodate up to 50 jobs, as well as 8 residential units. Commercial opportunities will be advertised in the coming months and residential element let through the Housing Options team in line with local lettings policy to council tenants. Construction on the Market Street North site recommenced 18th September 2023 with an anticipated 18-month (65 weeks) build programme. The development will provide 340sqm commercial floorspace in 5 commercial units with capacity to accommodate 17 jobs and 10 residential units.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	16339	Target date	31/03/2025
Action promised	Deliver the Carmarthen masterplan actions and continue to support and develop new initiatives and projects through direct delivery and by supporting third parties with available sources of funding. (CV38)		
Comment	We continue to deliver the actions relating to the Carmarthen recovery plan. 3 projects are being developed through the SPF Place Tackling Towns funding. We are also applying for WG Transforming Towns Placemaking funding to complete further projects and works where necessary. A condition survey for the Castle has been procured and an inception meeting is expected to take place early October 2023. An internal group are considering revised options for the space at Jacksons Lane Square following discussions with businesses using the outdoor area. One applicant has submitted an expression of interest for the Transforming Towns Placemaking Funding. One applicant has applied for SPF Vacant property funding which has subsequently been withdrawn. The Carmarthen Town Regeneration Forum continues to meet on a quarterly basis. A productive walkaround has ensured areas of concern within Carmarthen have been tackled through support from cleansing and highways. A prioritised long list of actions is being shared between Economic Development and Environment. The Economic Development team are supporting with weekly recording and reporting of town centre related support required to all appropriate departments. Works to the kiosks on Chapel Street have been completed, following open market advertising 3 businesses have taken handover of the units and occupied the kiosks at the end of September 2023. All businesses will be occupying the kiosks for a maximum of 12 months, during which time business engagement and opportunities to expand into other properties within the town will be supported.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	16340	Target date	31/03/2024
Action promised	Through the multi - disciplined corporate enforcement group implement the Empty Property Action Plan, using potential loan funding from Welsh Governments Empty Property Management Fund to utilise necessary enforcement powers where appropriate. (CV39)		
Comment	A cross departmental group is in place which brings together officers who have the necessary enforcement powers. The group meets on a quarterly basis. There is a long list of properties which are considered. Originally the list consisted of 27 properties across the county. To date positive intervention has seen 10 removed from the list as they have been occupied or resolved. The list is reviewed at each meeting to ensure the most appropriate properties are on it. The progress is provided to Welsh Government on a 6 monthly basis. The properties unlocked to date have not required assistance from the Empty Property Management Fund.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	16341	Target date	31/03/2025
Action promised	Deliver initiatives linked to the three Primary Town centre recovery plans and ten towns via The Shared prosperity Fund Place Anchor Projects including Tackling Town centres, Town Centre Vacant property Fund and Town centre Events Fund (CV36, CV38, CV39 & CV41)		
Comment	The Place Anchor projects were released to the market on 1st March to attract individuals, businesses, business improvement districts and town councils to apply for funding within the town centres. The vacant property fund has received 4 expressions of interest to date and applications have been taken to an internal grants panel to consider eligibility and delivery, of these projects one has been withdrawn and one has progressed to the full application stage. The events funding has involved a summary of events which benefit the town centres being considered and endorsed by the Task Forces / Town Forum. To date 7 events have been supported with a further 31 being endorsed between the 3 primary towns. We will continue to work with the town councils and business improvement districts to strengthen their calendars of events. The Tackling Towns funding has ringfenced £500,000 for the towns of Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli which will include direct delivery of smaller interventions within the town centres linked to the actions of the recovery masterplans. There is also £100,000 funding for direct delivery projects for the 10 towns and Burry Port. The projects have been endorsed by the respective town groups. The initial designs for the projects are currently being worked up with a view of gaining the necessary statutory approvals in advance of instructing the DLO or contractor through the engineering framework. Consideration is being given to variations within the SPF Place funding profile to provide options to adjust the funding opportunities to cover different activities which support the original objectives of the SPF Place anchor including uplifting the town centres by reducing the amount of vacant properties and enhancing the public space.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	

Direct Payments for Adult Social Care (April 22)

On-going

Action	17252	Target date	31/03/2024 (original target 31/12/2022)
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Review public information in discussion with service users and carers to ensure it is clear, concise and fully explains what they need to know about Direct Payments		
Comment	The information is currently being reviewed to ensure that it is concise and fully explains Direct Payments. This will be completed when the review of the Direct Payments Policy is completed to ensure that the information for service users and carers is correct and accurately reflects the policy.		
Remedial Action	The delay with the policy has impacted on our ability to review information. The policy is nearing completion, and the next phase will be to engage with service users and carers to develop user friendly information and guidance for direct payments recipients.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: Off target	
Action	17258	Target date	31/03/2024 (original target 31/03/2023)
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: To ensure services are provided equitably & fairly we recommend LAs & WG: Clarify policy expectations in plain accessible language- what Direct Payments can pay for; how application & assessment processes, timescales & review processes work; monitoring individual payments & verify payments; unused monies; pooled budgets		
Comment	Due to delay and work involved with changing the system for DP, more time is required to review the policy and associated documentation		
Remedial Action	Regular meeting with DP team and professionals.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: Off target	

Action	17259	Target date	31/03/2024
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Work together to establish a system to fully evaluate Direct Payments that captures all elements of the process – information, promotion, assessing, managing and evaluating impact on wellbeing and independence		
Comment	Development work is ongoing with key areas such as system change nearing completion. A DP operational group has been set up to revise the policy and to consider all aspects of the process		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Completed 30/09/2023

Action	17253	Target date	30/09/2022
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Undertake additional promotional work to encourage take up of Direct Payments		
Comment	This has been completed in the first instance with a Radio campaign that generated interest from potential PA's. This is also ongoing with the PA Coordinator attending other for a to generate interest, such as attendance at the job centre and presence at Pathway to Care event.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	
Action	17254	Target date	30/09/2022
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Ensure advocacy services are considered at the first point of contact to provide independent advice on Direct Payments to service users and carers		
Comment	Advocacy services have been commissioned and we are trying to ensure that they are considered the first point of contact for independent advice. This is done by the continued marketing of the services as the experts in the field.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	
Action	17255	Target date	31/12/2022
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Ensure information about Direct Payments is available at the front door to social care and are included in the initial discussion on the available care options for service users and carers		
Comment	Training about Direct Payments and the process for managing them has been provided to care managers. A new round of training will take place over the winter to ensure that new staff are provided with current information regarding the process. There is also an information pack that is provided to potential direct payments recipients to ensure that they make an informed choice.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	
Action	17256	Target date	31/12/2022
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Provide training to social workers on Direct Payments to ensure they fully understand their potential and feel confident promoting it to service users and carers		
Comment	Training regarding Direct Payments and the process for managing them has been provided to care managers. There will be a new round of training provided over the winter to ensure that new staff are provided with up-to-date information regarding the process.		
Service Head: Chris Harrison		Performance status: On target	

Action	17257	Target date	30/09/2022
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Work together to develop a joint Recruitment and Retention Plan for Personal Assistants		
Comment	This has been developed and is being implemented.		
Service Head:	Chris Harrison	Performance status:	On target
Action	17260	Target date	31/03/2023
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Annually publish performance information for all elements of Direct Payments to enable a whole system view of delivery and impact to support improvement		
Comment	A performance report is done yearly to inform the Director's annual report. This was completed for end of financial year 22/23.		
Service Head:	Chris Harrison	Performance status:	On target

Review of Scrutiny (July 22)

On-going

Action	16535	Target date	31/03/2024
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Put in place arrangements for assessing the effectiveness and impact of overview and scrutiny. (CV107)		
Comment	The Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum have agreed a self-evaluation questionnaire which will be circulated to all members w/c 11/09/2023. Once the results are known the Authority will commission the WLGA to facilitate a two part self-evaluation workshop.		
Service Head:	Linda Rees Jones	Performance status:	On target

Springing Forward – Workforce Management (Aug 22)

On-going

Action	17095	Target date	31/03/2024
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Workforce management: The Council should strengthen the application of the sustainable development principle1 to improve the way it plans, delivers, and monitors the management of its workforce		
Comment	The development of a robust workforce data framework was identified as a priority within the Audit Wales Springing Forward report. This project is being fully aligned with the key thematic priorities and objectives identified within the Council Workforce Strategy which is currently in draft form. Further discussions to be held with People Management SMT and other relevant Council officers to inform the development of the data framework in order to fully reflect the Council Workforce Strategy ambitions and support implementation and monitoring of progress at corporate and departmental service level.		
Service Head:	Paul R Thomas	Performance status:	On target
Action	17096	Target date	31/03/2024
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Performance management: Council needs to strengthen performance management of its workforce by: developing a set of performance & outcome measures that reflect the ambitions for its workforce & monitor measures at a corporate level - reporting to overview & scrutiny & • benchmarking performance on workforce management with other orgs		
Comment	This project is being fully aligned with the key thematic priorities and objectives identified within the Workforce Strategy. This document is currently in draft form. Further discussions to inform the development of the data framework and ensure it fully reflects the Council's workforce strategy and support implementation and monitoring of progress at corporate and departmental service level are also taking place.		
Service Head:	Paul R Thomas	Performance status:	On target

Assurance & Risk Assessment Progress Update – Carbon Reduction (Oct 22)

On-going

Action	16153	Target date	31/03/2024 (original target 31/03/2023)
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: In order to meet its net zero ambition, the Council needs to fully cost its action plan and ensure that it is aligned with its Medium-Term Financial Plan		
Comment	The Authority has costed its net zero plan in line with other authorities within the Region; however, there is no All-Wales costing model available. Local Partnerships (an in-house consultancy jointly owned by the Local Government Association, HM Treasury, and the Welsh Government) are currently developing a methodology to provide a robust and consistent approach to costing NZC Plans. Welsh Local Government Association are in discussions with Welsh Government regarding potentially providing a basic package for all 22 Welsh local authorities. We have volunteered to be a pilot local authority.		
Remedial Action	We have costed our own plan and will publish that alongside a new strategy in spring 2024. The development of the All-Wales model authority has not yet been developed by the Welsh government. While the development of that model is not in the gift of the Authority, the Authority, alongside the WLGA and other authorities, support the development of an All-Wales model as it provides consistency of approach and transparency for stakeholders on the costs to the public sector. If that model is not available by the time of the new strategy, we will be publishing our own model as part of the strategy.		
Service Head: Rhodri Griffiths		Performance status: Off target	



Time for Change – Poverty in Wales (Nov 22)

On-going

Action	17263	Target date	31/12/2023
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: That councils improve their understanding of their residents' 'lived experience' through meaningful involvement in decision-making using 'experience mapping' and/or 'Poverty Truth Commissions' to review and improve accessibility to and use of council services		
Comment	Discussions have taken place on undertaking a Poverty truth Commission in Carmarthenshire with links established with the Poverty truth network to support. next step is to fully scope requirements and develop a costed plan for undertaking		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	17265	Target date	31/03/2024 (original target 30/09/2023)
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: To streamline & improve application & information services for people in poverty councils should: establish corporate data standards & coding that all services use for their core data; undertake an audit; create a central integrated customer account; undertake a data audit; review & update data sharing protocols		
Comment	Work underway and is being supported through the Officer Working Group. Customer account managed through the Hwb Advisor service.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	17266	Target date	31/12/2023
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Councils review their integrated impact assessments or equivalent to: ensure that they draw on relevant, comprehensive & current data (nothing over 12 months old) to support analysis; ensure integrated impact assessments capture information on: involvement activity; cumulative impact/mitigation; monitor & evaluate impact; action plan		
Comment	IIA method fully updated and tested and now being used by some departments. Full go live planned for January 2024 following final testing of the cover sheet element (to draw on information from the IIA as part of the committee cover sheet process).		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	

Completed 30/09/2023

Action	17261	Target date	31/05/2023
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Local strategies, targets & performance reporting for tackling & alleviating poverty; Wellbeing Plans to focus on tackling poverty to co-ordinate efforts, meet local needs & support revised national plan targets & actions - SMART local actions; resourcing plan; involvement; outcome indicators/measures; annual public reporting		
Comment	Tackling Poverty embedded as a thematic priority across the Council and included as a specific well-being objective in the PSB well-being plan. Progress will be monitored through these channels. Council published its' Tackling Poverty Plan in July 2023 and actions from that plan will be embedded in divisional business plans and monitored through regular performance monitoring channels and by the tackling Poverty Advisory Panel.		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	17262	Target date	31/12/2022
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: That each council designate a cabinet member as the council's poverty champion and designate a senior officer to lead and be accountable for the anti-poverty agenda		
Comment	Cllr Linda Evans designated as the lead Cabinet member for Tackling Poverty for Carmarthenshire County Council		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	
Action	17264	Target date	30/04/2023
Action promised	AUDIT WALES: Ensure people are able to get the information & advice they need, we recommend councils optimise their digital services by creating a single landing page on their website - directly accessible on home page; provides links to services provided by us that relate to poverty; provides information on the work of partners to assist people		
Comment	Carmarthenshire County Council website has dedicated cost of living pages with information and support available through Claim What`s Yours and Hwb Advisors. Face to face advice also available through Hwbs at Llanelli, Carmarthen and Ammanford and Hwb Bach Y Wlad (funded by SPF) launched in September 2023 to visit the 10 rural towns		
Service Head: Jason Jones		Performance status: On target	