

DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU

AUDIT AND RISK ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2024 (09:30 – 10:30)

DBCC Members Present: Michael Imperato (Chair) via MS Teams, Frank Cuthbert (Member) via MS Teams, Dianne Bevan (Member) via MS Teams, Andrew Blackmore (Independent Member) via MS Teams and Kalwant Grewal (Independent Member) via MS Teams

Audit Wales Representative Present: Julie Rees via MS Teams

LDBCW Officers Present: Shereen Williams (Chief Executive), David Carr (Finance Manager)

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. Annual Accounts 2023-24 and Audit of Financial Statements Report.

3.1 Julie Rees reported that accounts had been received on time and that the audit was now substantially complete subject to some final checks.

3.2 There were no uncorrected misstatements in the accounts or significant issues arising from the audit. There were 3 corrected misstatements in the accounts, the main one of which related to the understatement of the IFRS16 Right of Use asset calculation which had not been based on the full year's accommodation lease cost. The other corrected misstatements related to the inclusion of an omitted prepayment and disclosure of the full amount of the community review income rather than just the initial charges to local authorities.

3.3 There were two audit recommendation raised in the report which was that the Commission should obtain full closing and opening balance sheet reports when changing accounting software in future and that the Commission should investigate the possibility and cost of making local backups possible for their cloud based accounting software. Julie Rees also said that Audit Wales intended to hold more pre-audit meetings with senior managers going forward, rather than just one pre-audit meeting in January.

3.4 It was the Auditor General's intention to issue an unqualified audit report subject to there being no events affecting the accounts up to the point of the Auditor General's certification scheduled for 30 September 2024.

3.4 The Chair thanked Julie Rees for her report. The Committee recommended that the DBCC should approve the audited accounts and their signing and agreed to sign the Letter of Representation.

4. Any Other Business

4.1 There was no other business.