Llangoedmor Community Council					
Meeting Date:	16 <sup>th</sup> June 2025				
Report Title:	Accounting Statements, Annual Governance Statement and Internal Auditor's Report for 2024-25				
Agenda Item Number	5.1.1				
Paper Reference	June 2025-2				
Presented By	Clerk				

#### Introduction

The following paper deals with the following matters:

- Approval of the Accounting Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025
- Approval of the Annual Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- To note the bank reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- To note the Annual Internal Audit Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2025
- To note the Fixed Asset Report at 31st March 2025
- To approve the Fixed Asset accounting policies used by the Council

#### Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

A copy of the Annual Return for 2024-25 is attached as Appendix 1. The Annual Return comprises:

- Accounting Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025
- Annual Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- Annual Internal Audit Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

The Council received income of £33,999 and spent £21,342 during the year. A summary of the income and expenditure is set out below.

2023-24	2024-25
£	£
30,000	32,400
270	540
87	64
57	56
10	11
6,418	0
0	525
0	403
36,842	33,999
	£ 30,000 270 87 57 10 6,418 0

Expenditure	2023-24	2024-25
	£	£
Training	111	0
Expenses	0	0
Salary	5,294	5,513
Expenses and Training	119	63
Office Supplies	720	223
Hall Hire	372	434
Repair and Maintenance	793	0
Grass Cutting	2,880	3,530
Playground	100	0
Litter	357	359
Bus Shelter and Toilets	5,209	4,019
Church	0	179
Defibrillators	188	208
Insurance	1,604	1,858
Professional Fees	3,716	1,024
S137 Expenditure	0	1,217
Donations	6,450	0
Remembrance	24	20
Entertainment	260	68
Capital	1,101	1,535
Total	29,298	20,250
VAT	1,718	1,092
Gross Toal	31,016	21,342

S137 expenditure related to the Christmas Dinner hosted by the Council for OAP's in the community.

Fixed Asset additions in the year amounted to £1,535 excluding VAT and are set out in Appendix 2.

Subject to the comments in the Internal Auditor's report to the Council, the Internal Auditor was satisfied with the governance operated by the Council during the year.

#### Bank Reconciliation at 31st March 2025

The bank reconciliation at 31st March 2025 is set out below.

	Main Account £	Business Account £	Total Cash Book £	
Balance per the cash Book	93,665.70	1,019.64	94,685.34	
Balance per the Bank Statement	93,665.70	1,019.64	94,685.34	

#### **Detailed Internal Auditors Report**

The detailed Internal Auditors Report is attached as Appendix 3 to this report.

#### **Fixed Assets and Accounting Policies**

A Fixed asset Register at 31st March 2025 is set out at Appendix 2.

The Council adopts the following policies in accounting for Fixed Assets:

- · Assets are not depreciated
- · Gifts are shown at zero value in the Asset Register
- Land is valued at £1 in the Asset Register

#### **Proposal**

It is proposed that the Council:

- Approves the Accounting Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025
- Approves the Annual Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- Notes the bank reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- Notes the Annual Internal Audit Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2025
- Notes the Fixed Asset Report at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- Confirms the Fixed Asset accounting policies used by the Council

## **APPENDIX 1**

## Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

## Accounting statement 2024-25 for:

Name of body: Llangoedmor Community Council

	Year end		ding	Notes and guidance			
	o Geography (Yac	31 March 2024 (£)	31 March 2025 (£)	Please round all figures to nearest £.  Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or nil balances.  All figures must agree to the underlying financial records for the relevant year.			
Sta	tement of income ar	nd expenditure/receip	ts and payments	Beginnery aved excitations and also statisticates of the			
1.	Balances brought forward	76,202	82,028	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Must agree to line 7 of the previous year.			
2.	(+) Income from local taxation/levy	30,000	32,400	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from local taxation (precept) or levy/contribution from principal bodies.			
3.	(+) Total other receipts	6,842	1,599	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.			
4.	brill politically h	5,294	5,513	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, taxable allowances, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and termination costs. Exclude reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.			
5.	(-) Loan interest/capital repayments	of govern including the Co	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).			
6.	(-) Total other payments	25,722	15,829	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).			
7.	(=) Balances carried forward	82,028	94,685	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).			
Sta	tement of balances0			descon truming two the spinuspice 4565.			
8.	(+) Debtors	0	0	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of debts owed to the body at the year-end.			
9.	investments se	egner is en 82,028 Mels across in sure and script sure and scr	94,685	All accounts: The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held at 31 March. This must agree with the reconciled cashbook balance as per the bank reconciliation.			
10.		all will be compared on a	0	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of monies owed by the body (except borrowing) at the year-end.			
11.	(=) Balances carried forward	82,028	94,685	<b>Total balances should equal line 7 above:</b> Enter the total of (8+9-10).			
12.	Total fixed assets and long-term assets	133,988	135,523	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as at 31 March.			
13.		mantan si ban si n <b>0</b>	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).			
		bagani of yorumogo ni into tee ea cimunosa iA edi yo baurar liboa	X	electors rights in a cordance with the requirements of the Public hudit (visits) Act 2004, and the Accounts and Audit (Wates) Requisitors 2016			

## Annual Governance Statement

We acknowledge as the members of the Council, our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, that:

, conneted tin to tid from at time about account of a little and a lit	Agreed?		'YES' means that the Council:	Toolkit
If figures many agree to the underlying distanced records for a relevant vale.	Yes	No*		
In consultation with the community, we have developed a vision and purpose for the Council and used this vision to inform the Council's plans, budget and activities.	Atomso X 12,000	sa bns a	Has consulted with the community and focussed its activities to meet the community's needs	A, C
<ol> <li>We have adopted a Code of Conduct for members and officers and implemented an appropriate training plan for members to ensure all councillors understand their role and responsibilities.</li> </ol>	×		Ensures that councillors understand and are equipped to deliver their roles and responsibilities.	B (1) S
<ol> <li>We have ensured that we electronically publish the information the Council is required to publish by law, on its website at Llangoedmorcc.org.uk.</li> </ol>	102 c		Is transparent about its activities and provides the public with all information required by law	A, C, D, E
We have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the Council complies with relevant laws and regulations when exercising its functions, including employment of staff and payment of allowances to members.	×		Has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it does so	
<ol> <li>We have adopted standing orders, financial regulations and terms of reference and ensure that these are followed when conducting business including functions delegated to committees.</li> </ol>	×		Has adopted rules and procedures to govern how the Council conducts its business including procurement of goods and services.	B, E a alia gon
6. We have put in place arrangements for:  • Effective financial management including the setting and monitoring of the Council's budget  • Maintenance and security of accurate and up to	7 (29.5)	X	Calculated its budget requirement in accordance with the law and properly monitors its financial position throughout the year	D 7
date accounting and other financial records  Identifying potential liabilities, commitments, events and transactions that may have a financial impact on the Council.	¥ 11		rs of balances0	
7. We have maintained an adequate system of internal control and management of risk, including:  • measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption including clearly documented procedures for authorising and making payments  • assessment and management of risks facing the Council  • an adequate and effective system of internal audit and reviewed the effectiveness of these arrangements.	X ARB A		Made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge including arranging for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the body.	D, E &
We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in previous reports from internal and external audit.	×		Considered and taken appropriate action to address weaknesses /issues brought to its attention by internal and external auditors.	D, E
<ol> <li>We have provided proper opportunity for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.</li> </ol>	×		Has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect the body's accounts as set out in the notice of audit issued by the Auditor General.	E
General power of Competence – The Council has resolved to adopt the General Power of Competence set out in Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021		×	Meets the eligibility criteria to exercise the general Power of Competence	E

<sup>\*</sup> Please include an explanation for any 'No' answers

#### Additional disclosure notes

Include here any additional disclosures the Council considers necessary to aid the reader's understanding of the accounting statement and/or the annual governance statement

The following information is provided to assist the reader to understand the accounting statement and/or the Annual Governance Statement

#### 1. Expenditure under S137 Local Government Act 1972

Section 137(1) of the 1972 Act permits the Council to spend on activities for which it has no other specific powers if the Council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants, providing that the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure. Section 137(3) also permits the Council to incur expenditure for certain charitable and other purposes. The maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137(1) and (3) for the financial year 2024-25 was £10.81 per elector.

In 2024-25, the Council made payments totalling £1,217 under section 137. These payments are included within 'Other payments' in the Accounting Statement.

*	
1	
distr	

the Internal audit 1991 not required if defailed internal sudit report presents

**Trust Funds** 

Trust funds – The Council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust fund(s)/assets. We exclude transactions related to these trusts from the Accounting Statement. In our capacity as trustee, we have discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s) including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.

Yes No

X

N/A

Has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

### Council approval and certification

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounting statements and the annual governance statement in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 (the Act) and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

Certification by the RFO I certify that the accounting statements contained in this Annual Return present fairly the financial position of the Council, and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and	사람들이 그리는 그리는 이번 보면 보고 있었다. 그런 그런 사람들이 얼마나 없는 아니라 생각하다 하는 것이 되었다.		
payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2025.	Minute ref: 1998 Assissing of asits of		
RFO signature:	Chair signature:  the EVAN beautient exception of plant in the Chair signature of the Chair		
Name:	Name: Property for the property of the propert		
Date:	Date: Bornstandary Philagrap		

<sup>\*</sup> Please include an explanation for any 'No' answers

## Annual internal audit report to:

Name of body:	2	languednor	Community	Courcil

The Council's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, has included carrying out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ending 31 March 2025.

The internal audit has been carried out in accordance with the Council's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the following control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the Council.

			Ag	greed?		Outline of work undertaken as part of
		Yes	No*	N/A	Not covered**	the internal audit (NB not required if detailed internal audit report presented to body)
1.	Appropriate books of account have been properly kept throughout the year.	/				
2.	Financial regulations have been met, payments were supported by invoices, expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	1			A pool of contract	
3.	The body assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.		1			> internal order report
4.	The annual precept/levy/resource demand requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process, progress against the budget was regularly monitored, and reserves were appropriate.	V				except for issue 1.) in internal ordet report
5.	Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked, and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	1				
6.	Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.			/		
7.	Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with contracts/ minuted approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	/				
8.	Asset and investment registers were complete, accurate, and properly maintained.	/				

<sup>\*</sup> Please include an explanation for any 'No' answers

			A	greed?		Outline of work undertaken as part of the internal audit (NB not required if detailed internal audit report presented to body)
		Yes	No*	N/A	Not covered**	
9.	Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	/				
10.	Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments/income and expenditure), agreed with the cashbook, were supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records, and where appropriate, debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	/				
11.	Trust funds (including charitable trusts). The Council has met its responsibilities as a trustee.	/				

		Ag	greed?		Outline of work undertaken as part of
	Yes	No*	N/A	Not covered**	the internal audit (NB not required if detailed internal audit report presented to body)
12.					
13.					
14.					

<sup>\*</sup> If the response is 'no', please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

[My detailed findings and recommendations which I draw to the attention of the Council are included in my detailed report to the Council dated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.] \* Delete if no report prepared.

#### Internal audit confirmation

I/we confirm that as the Council's internal auditor, I/we have not been involved in a management or administrative role within the body (including preparation of the accounts) or as a member of the body during the financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26. I also confirm that there are no conflicts of interest surrounding my appointment.

Name of person who carried out the internal audit: JDH BUSINESS SERVICES LTD	
Signature of person who carried out the internal audit:	_ vv
Date: 20/05/2025	

<sup>\*\*</sup> If the response is 'not covered', please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or if coverage is not required, internal audit must explain why not.

<sup>\*</sup> Please include an explanation for any 'No' answers

## **APPENDIX 2**

## Llangoedmor Community Council Asset Register 31.03.25

Asset Description	Date aquired	Purchase price
Converted old Church of the Holy Cross of St David to sacred ruin		
Valued at conversion costs		33,000
Title number WA915438 Millenium centre	21/05/1999	1
Two bus shelters (ins value)		3,543
Notice board end wall of toilet block	5.03.18	956
Notice board donated by Aberystwyth Arts Council		
Notice board in block bus shelter	05/09/2023	327
Public benches 9 in number		3,732
Remembrance Bench Church	12.10.17	400
New bench Church	12.10.17	471
Remembrance bench field	1.09.17	-
Millenium project		20,980
Festive lighting		
Playground equipment pre 03-15	pre 2015	
Roundabout	pre 2015	500
Double toddler swings	pre 2015	1,800
Double swings	pre 2015	1,700
Sovereign climbing frame	04/04/2022	17,597
Playground equipment - HAGS steel firon	17.03.15	3,706
Playground equipment - HAGS Turtle 4 way springer	17.03.15	366
Playground equipment - HAGS jetsky springer	17.03.15	450
Playground benches	14.09.15	40.007
Playground surfaces (Quartzcoat Ltd)	14.09.15	12,097
Playground surfaces (Urban Leisure Ltd)	4.3.19	7,130
Playground post mounted bin	05/09/2022 01, 08,15	219
Airman Plaque Llangoedmor		372
Remembrance plaque church	May-16 12.3.19	988
Glasdon picnic benches x 2	12.3.19	627
Glason wheelchair access picnic bench  NBB recycled furniture childrens multi coloured picnic bench	12.3.19	339
Rmembrance bench by block bus shelter	03/03/2023	758
Plough in Memory of Clir W D James	00/00/2020	400
Information boards at Millenium Project building		6,000
Festive lighting		0,000
Commemorative plaque and stone in playing fields		500
Replacement festive lighting	14.01.16	
Printer		
Lap top		
Laptop Dell Inspiron 15	11.04.16	449
Remembrance plaque	<b>Ma</b> y-16	372
Christmas lights connection equipment upgrade	29.10.16	·
Defib from Welsh Hearts	Aug-14	250
Defib box	Oct-14	
Replacement defib cabinet	28.06.18	375
Defib cabinet at Cardi Builders	Jan-23	510

Defibrilator	28/01/2025	905.00
Laminated Dog Signs	07/10/2024	50.00
Sign and Bench Installation	03/08/2024	580.00
Additions 2024-25		
Value as at 31.03.24		133,987.83
Xmas Lights	15/01/2024	300.00
Mobile Telephone	11/12/2023	59.99
Laptop Computer	29/09/2023	468.32
Bin	15/07/2023	49.99
Earth Anchors Limited EA37375	02/05/2023	222.90
New bin	3.12.18	171
Field path	2.7.18	9,263
Regelia		1,365
Bench at Llangoedmor	Sep-22	689
Bench on verge at Preseli View	2.7.18	485

## **APPENDIX 3**

# Llangoedmor Community Council

Internal Audit 2024/25

JDH BUSINESS SERVICES LTD

Registered to carry on audit work by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

The internal audit of Llangoedmor Community Council is carried out by undertaking the following tests as specified in the Annual Return for Local Councils:

- Checking that books of account have been properly kept throughout the year
- Checking a sample of payments to ensure that the Council's financial regulations have been met, payments are supported by invoices, expenditure is approved, and VAT is correctly accounted for
- Reviewing the Council's risk assessment and ensuring that adequate arrangements are in place to manage all identified risks
- Verifying that the annual precept request is the result of a proper budgetary process; that budget progress has been regularly monitored and that the council's reserves are appropriate
- Checking income records to ensure that the correct price has been charged, income has been received, recorded and promptly banked and VAT is correctly accounted for
- Reviewing petty cash records to ensure payments are supported by receipts, expenditure is approved and VAT is correctly accounted for
- Checking that salaries to employees have been paid in accordance with Council approvals and that PAYE and NI requirements have been properly applied
- Checking the accuracy of the asset and investments registers
- Testing the accuracy and timeliness of periodic and year-end bank account reconciliation(s)
- Review of year-end financial statements

#### Conclusion

On the basis of the internal audit work carried out, which was limited to the tests indicated above, in our view the council's system of internal controls is in place, adequate for the purpose intended and effective, subject to the recommendations overleaf. As part of the internal audit work for the next financial year we will follow up all recommendations included in the action plan.

JDH Business Services Ltd

## **ACTION PLAN**

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
202	4/25 Internal Audit		
1	The council has not reviewed budgetary control during the financial year except as part of the annual budget setting. Financial Regulations require the following:  4.8. The RFO shall regularly provide the Council with a statement of receipts and payments to date under each head of the budgets, comparing actual expenditure to the appropriate date against that planned as shown in the budget. These statements are to be prepared at least at the end of each financial quarter and shall show explanations of material variances. For this purpose, "material" shall be in excess of £100 or 15% of the budget.	The council must comply with the budgetary control requirements of the Financial Regulations.	
2	No VAT reclaim was received or submitted to HMRC during the financial year. Financial Regulations require the following:  9.8. The RFO shall promptly complete any VAT Return that is required. Any repayment claim due in accordance with VAT Act 1994 section 33 shall be made at least annually coinciding with the financial year end	The council must comply with the VAT reclaim requirements of the Financial Regulations.	

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
3	The council did not review, update and approve a risk assessment during the financial year. Financial Regulations require the following:  17.1. The Council is responsible for putting in place arrangements for the management of risk. The Clerk [with the RFO] shall prepare, for approval by the Council, risk management policy statements in respect of all activities of the Council. Risk policy statements and consequential risk management arrangements shall be reviewed by the Council at least annually.	The risk assessment should be reviewed, updated and approved by council each financial year. Previous recommendations regarding improvements to risk assessment processes should be implemented.	
2023	3/24 Internal Audit		
1	Although the risk assessment was approved during the financial year the improvements recommended in issues 6.) and 7.) in our 2022/23 report below remain outstanding.	The risk assessment should be reviewed in 2024/25 and our 2022/23 recommendations for improvement implemented.	Recommendation Outstanding
2	The last charity annual return for year ended 31/03/23 has not been submitted and as at the date of the internal audit (22/08/34) was 204 days overdue.	The council as sole trustee must ensure all returns to the Charity Commission are filed within deadlines.	Implemented

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
3	Recurring Issue:  The bank reconciliation contains a number of historical reconciling items relating to differences between cheques issued and the amount recorded in the cashbook.	Instead of carrying forward year after year the historical reconciling items relating to cheques differences, the council should adjust the differences in the 2024/25 cashbook.	Implemented
2022	2/23 Internal Audit	<u> </u>	
1	The legal ownership of two material assets was clarified in the financial year as the council accepted legal advice that it did not own the car park and toilet block situated at the Coracle Hall. These items were removed from the 2022/23 fixed asset register and the fixed assets value. However, as the council did not legally own the assets in 2021/22 the external auditor may want the 2021/22 comparative for fixed assets to be restated in the 2022/23 annual return accounts to reflect this.	The council should secure guidance from external audit or One Voice Wales as to whether the comparative 2021/22 fixed asset figure in the 2022/23 Annual Return needs to be restated to reflect the clarified legal ownership of the car park and toilet block.	Implemented
2	The bank reconciliation contains a number of minor reconciling items relating to underpayments and minor cashbook errors regarding the value of cheques.	The council should ensure underpayments are corrected with further payments where necessary and the cashbook is amended for any cheque amounts where the incorrect value is included.	Implemented

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
3	The staff costs disclosure in the Annual Return accounts includes the clerks expenses. Only actual payroll costs should be included in staff costs as specified in the following Annual Return guidance 'Staff costs should include expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, taxable allowances, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and termination costs. Exclude reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.' If this also occurred in 2021/22 then the 2021/22 comparatives should be restated to exclude staff expenses.	Staff costs in the Annual Return should not include staff expenses.	Implemented
4	General reserves at the year-end were in excess of 100% of the 2022/23 precept level of £30,000. Sector guidance is that councils should aim for a general reserve level of between 25% and 100% of the precept or net operating expenditure. The practitioners Guide also notes this recommended level of reserves.	The council should review the level of general reserves during the budget setting process with reference to sector guidance.	Implemented – earmarked reserves have been established for medium term projects and schemes.
5	The council did not review, update and approve the risk assessment during the financial year, although the risk	The risk assessment should be reviewed, updated and approved by council each financial year.	Implemented in 2023/24, however, see issue 1.) in 2023/24 report above.

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
	assessment for 2022/23 was reviewed and approved by the council in March 2022.		
6	The risk assessment document could be improved as follows:  - There is no clear evidenced rationale for classification of individual risks as High, Medium or Low, such as an 'impact vs 'likelihood' risk matrix with definitions of scoring weightings. Therefore, 'impact' and 'likelihood' risk scores are not multiplied to show total risk which should then be plotted on a risk matrix using a traffic light system.  - The risk assessment does not contain an important part of risk management which is to show the movement in risks (Direction of Travel) since the last risk assessment. Risk management is a dynamic process ensuring that new risks are addressed as they arise. It should also be cyclical to establish how previously identified risks may have changed.	The risk assessment should be further developed as noted and council should ensure it covers the entire scope of the council operations, governance and finances.	Recommendation Outstanding

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
7	The risk assessment does not address the risks of supplier fraud. The supplier fraud risks can be managed via appropriately robust policies and procedures. Examples of prevention actions include:	The risk assessment should be updated to include supplier fraud including the adequacy of supplier onboarding controls.	Recommendation Outstanding
	<ul> <li>training for staff to alert them to the potential risks of providing sensitive company information, by phone or other means, especially contract and account information.</li> </ul>		
	- establish a rigorous change of supplier details procedure - where a supplier has purported to have changed their bank details always call the supplier to check the veracity of a request, using details in your system, rather than those on any associated letter or email. A person should be authorised to approve a supplier bank account change after having reviewed the process undertaken to verify the supplier details change		
	<ul> <li>periodic review of supplier accounts should also be undertaken to remove any dormant accounts. This reduces the likelihood of any old supplier information being used to secure fraudulent payments.</li> </ul>		

ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
- checking address and financial hedetails with Companies House - checking samples of online paymous supplier invoices to ensure the pathas been made to the supplier baraccount	nents to syment	