

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-2016 – REPORT NO.

**COMMITTEE:
COUNCIL**

25th November 2015

REPORT OF:

**GROUP DIRECTOR, CORPORATE AND FRONTLINE SERVICES
Chris Lee (01443) 424026**

PART 1	AGENDA ITEM NO.7
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15	
COMPLETION OF AUDIT	

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To note the completion of the audit of the 2014/15 accounts following the conclusion of the outstanding matter of an objection raised by an elector and to formally re-approve the “Statement of Accounts”, as presented to Council on the 30th September 2015, in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council :

- 2.1 Note the final audit report on the 2014/15 accounts as attached at appendix 1; and
- 2.2 Re-approve the Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2014/15 as required by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

3.0 STATUTORY APPROVAL PROCESS

- 3.1 The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations require the Responsible Financial Officer to certify the unaudited accounts by the 30th June following financial year end. This Council complied with the regulations in this respect and the unaudited accounts were certified by myself on the 30th June 2015.

- 3.2 The regulations require that Council approve the audited Statement of Accounts by 30th September. This Council complied with the regulations in this respect and the audited accounts were approved on the 30th September 2015.
- 3.3 As reported by the auditor in his report presented to Council 30th September 2015, whilst an unqualified opinion was given, the audit could not be formally concluded and an audit certificate issued until enquiries arising from a matter raised by a member of the public had been formally completed.
- 3.4 The Auditor General for Wales has now advised that he has concluded his work on this matter and responded to the elector that he could not accept the objection and did not propose any further formal audit action.
- 3.5 As a result there have been no changes to the accounts which were presented to and approved by Council on the 30th September 2015.
- 3.6 The final audit opinion and certificate of completion of audit is attached at appendix 1.
- 3.7 In accordance with Regulation 10(5) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014, this final report now needs to be considered by Council prior to formally re-approving the accounts as previously presented.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The completion of the audit process and the associated re-approval of the Statement of Accounts for 2014/15 ensures that the Council complies with the legal requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

24 Heol y Gadeirlan / Cathedral Road
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF11 9LJ
Ffôn / Tel: 029 20 320500
info@audit.wales / post@archwilio.cymru
www.audit.wales / www.archwilio.cymru

Chris Lee
Group Director Corporate and Frontline Services
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Bronwydd House
Porth
CF39 9DL

Reference	JH52/NG
Date	13 November 2015
Pages	1 of 4

Dear Chris

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Statement of Accounts 2014-15

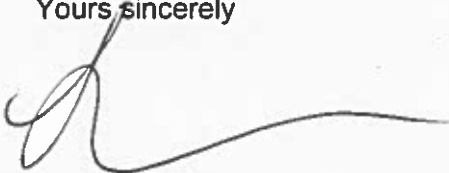
This is my final report on the audit of the 2014-15 accounts.

I issued an unqualified opinion on your 2014-15 accounts on 30 September but could not issue a certificate concluding the audit as there was a matter outstanding relating to an objection raised by an elector. I have concluded my work on this matter and responded to the elector stating I could not accept his objection and did not propose any further formal audit action.

As a result there have been no changes to the accounts which were approved by Council on 30 September. In accordance with Regulation 10 (5) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations (Wales) 2014 this final report needs to be considered by Council prior to re-approval of the accounts. Following receipt of re-signed accounts I will be able to conclude the audit for 2014-15.

My revised opinion and certificate is attached to this letter.

Yours sincerely



John Herniman
Engagement Lead

On behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Independent auditor's report to the Members of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

As stated in my report dated 30 September 2015, I have audited the accounting statements and related notes of:

- Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council;
- Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Group; and
- Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund;

for the year ended 31 March 2015 under Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's accounting statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Group accounting statements comprise the Group Movement in Reserves Statement, the Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Group Balance Sheet and the Group Cash Flow Statement.

Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund accounting statements comprise the Fund Account and the Net Assets Statement.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15 based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)

Respective responsibilities of the responsible financial officer and the independent auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts set out on page 13, the responsible financial officer is responsible for the preparation of the statement of accounts, including Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Group accounting statements and Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund accounting statements, which gives a true and fair view.

My responsibility is to audit the accounting statements and related notes in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the accounting statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounting statements and related notes sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounting statements and related notes are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Group's and Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the responsible financial officer and the overall presentation of the accounting statements and related notes.

In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Explanatory Foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited accounting statements and related notes and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies, I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on the accounting statements of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

In my opinion the accounting statements and related notes:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council as at 31 March 2015 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom in 2014-15.

Opinion on the accounting statements of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Group

In my opinion the accounting statements and related notes:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Rhondda Cynon Taf county Borough Council as at 31 March 2015 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15.

Opinion on the accounting statements of Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund

In my opinion, the Pension Fund accounts and related notes:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of Rhondda Cynon Taf Pension Fund during the year ended 31 March 2015 and of the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at that date, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the scheme year; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014-15.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, the information contained in the Explanatory Foreword is consistent with the accounting statements and related notes.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters, which I report to you, if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept;
- the accounting statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit; and
- the Governance Statement contains material misstatements of fact or is inconsistent with other information I am aware of from my audit.

Certificate of completion of audit

My report dated 30 September 2015 contained an audit opinion on the 2014/15 accounts and explained that the audit could not be formally concluded until consideration of enquiries raised by a member of the public had been formally completed. Those issues have now been resolved and I certify that I have completed the audit of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Auditor General for Wales' Code of Audit Practice.

For and on behalf of
Huw Vaughan Thomas
Auditor General for Wales
24 Cathedral Road,
Cardiff, CF11 9LJ

Date: