

ISSUES ARISING REPORT FOR  
Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council  
Audit for the year ended 31 March 2013



---

The following issue(s) have been raised to assist the council. The council is recommended to take action on the following issue(s) to ensure that the council acts within its statutory and regulatory framework.

### Fidelity Guarantee

#### *What is the issue?*

The council appears to have no fidelity guarantee cover within its insurance policy held as at 31 March 2013.

#### *Why has this issue been raised?*

A local council, under S114 of the Local Government Act 1972, must take security as it considers sufficient in the case of any of its officers likely to handle its money. The council may decide that insurance is not 'sufficient' for them, but in order to come to this opinion it must have reviewed the requirement annually and have objective grounds for such a conclusion.

#### *What do we recommend you do?*

The council should consider obtaining this insurance cover and set it to a level that will protect the council against potential loss. The council should review the level of cover at least annually as circumstances may change throughout the year.

The amount should be sufficient to cover the maximum amount of money the council holds at any one time during the year. A council does not have to have fidelity guarantee insurance if it considers that no security is 'sufficient' but there must be objective grounds for such a conclusion. Smaller councils may decide therefore that the cost of this insurance is disproportionate to the risk involved. If this is so the council should minute this decision annually.

\*

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

Local Council Administration, 8th Edition, Charles Arnold-Baker, Chapter 9.8  
Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in Wales - A Practitioners Guide, NALC/SLCC

**No other matters came to our attention.**

For and on behalf of  
BDO LLP

Date: 15 July 2013

\* This was the Council's decision.

R. K. J. Friend  
Clerk



## Section 1 – Accounting statements for:

LLANFELI HANGELCIL RHYDITHON

	Year ending		Notes and guidance for compilers				
	31 March 2012 (£)	31 March 2013 (£)					
			<b>Please round all figures to nearest £. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or nil balances. All figures must agree to the Council's underlying financial records for the relevant year.</b>				
1. Balances brought forward	14,942	14,818	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. (+) Annual precept	936	1,370	Total amount of precept income received in the year.				
3. (+) Total other receipts	194	172	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus the precept. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.				
4. (-) Staff costs	501	574	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and related expenses.				
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the Council's borrowing (if any).				
6. (-) Total other payments	753	1986	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	14,818	13,800	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).				
8. (+) Debtors and stock balances	0	0	<b>Income and expenditure accounts only:</b> Enter the value of debts owed to and stock balances held at the year-end.				
9. (+) Total cash and investments	14,818	13,800	<b>All accounts:</b> 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. (-) Creditors	0	0	<b>Income and expenditure accounts only:</b> Enter the value of monies owed by the Council (except borrowing) at the year-end.				
11. (=) Balances carried forward	14,818	13,800	<b>Total balances should equal Line 7 above:</b> Enter the total of (8+9-10).				
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	0	0	The recorded current book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the Council and any other long-term assets – eg, loans to third parties, other investments to be held for the long term ie, more than 12 months.				
13. Total borrowing	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).				
14. Trust funds disclosure note	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	The Council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing (a) trust fund(s)/assets (readers should note that the figures above do not include any trust transactions).



## Section 2 – 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 Council's accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2013, that:

	Agreed?		'YES' means that the Council:	PG Chap.	
	Yes	No*			
1. We have approved the accounting statements which have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended) and proper practices.	✓		Prepared its accounting statements in the way prescribed by law.	6, 12	
2. We have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption, and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		Made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.	6, 7	
3. We have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the Council to conduct its business or on its finances.	✓		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 has done so.	6	
4. We have provided proper opportunity for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended).	✓		Has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the Council's accounts.	6, 23	
5. We have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the Council and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		Considered the financial and other risks it faces in the operation of the Council and has dealt with them properly.	6, 9	
6. We have maintained an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the Council's accounting records and control systems throughout the year and have received a report from the internal auditor.	✓		Arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the Council.	6, 8	
7. We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in previous reports from internal and external audit.	✓		Has responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.	6, 8, 23	
8. We have considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the Council and, where appropriate, have included them on the accounting statements.	✓		Disclosed everything it should have about its business during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.	6	
9. Trust funds – in our capacity as trustee we have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s) including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.</li> </ul>	Yes	No	N/A	Has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.	3, 6
			✓		

\* Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'no' response given; and describe what action is being taken to address the weaknesses identified.



### Section 3 – Certification and approval

#### Council approval and certification following the audit

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounting statements in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended) and for the preparation of an Annual Return which:

- summarises the Council's accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2013; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to the external auditor's responsibilities.

<p><b>Certification by the RFO</b></p> <p><b>Certificate under Regulation 8 Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (Regulation 8B (1), 8B (2) and 8B(3))</b></p> <p>I certify that the accounting statements contained in this Annual Return presents fairly the financial position of the Council, and its income and expenditure, or properly presents receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2013.</p>	<p><b>Approval by the Council</b></p> <p><b>Approval of accounting statements under Regulation 9 (3) Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended) and the Annual Governance Statement</b></p> <p>I confirm that these accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved by the Council under council minute reference:</p>
	20/06/2013 Agenda item 7
RFO signature: <i>R. K. J. Trend</i>	Chair signature: <i>M. R. Jones</i>
Name: <i>R. K. J. TREND</i>	Name: <i>Meurig Reighton Jones</i>
Date: <i>DD/MM/YY 20/06/2013</i>	Date: <i>DD/MM/YY 20/06/2013</i>

#### External Audit Certificate

The external auditor conducts the audit in accordance with guidance issued by the Auditor General for Wales. On the basis of their review of the Annual Return and supporting information, they report whether any matters that come to their attention give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

We certify that we have completed the audit of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2013 of:

LLANFANHANGEL RHYDITHON COMMUNITY	Council
-----------------------------------	---------

#### External auditor's report

~~[Except for the matters reported below]~~\* On the basis of our review, in our opinion, the information contained in the Annual Return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

[~~These matters along with~~]\* Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the Council/meeting are included in our report to the Council dated 15/7/2013.

(\* Delete as appropriate)

External auditor's signature:	<i>BDO UK</i>	
External auditor's name:	<b>BDO LLP Southampton United Kingdom</b>	Date: <i>15/7/13</i>