

**ISSUES ARISING REPORT FOR
Penyffordd Community Council
Audit for the year ended 31 March 2018**

Introduction

The following matters have been raised to draw items to the attention of Penyffordd Community Council. These matters came to the attention of BDO LLP during the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The audit of the annual return may not disclose all shortcomings of the systems as some matters may not have come to the attention of the auditor. For this reason, the matters raised may not be the only ones that exist.

The matters listed below are explained in further detail on the page(s) that follow;

- Approval of the annual return
 - Expenditure powers - S137 power incorrectly used
 - Internal auditor's recommendation
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The following issue(s) have been raised to assist the body. The body is recommended to take action on the following issue(s) to ensure that the body acts within its statutory and regulatory framework.

Approval of the annual return

What is the issue?

The council have not entered the minute reference and date for the approval of the accounting statements and annual governance statement.

Why has this issue been raised?

The annual return has not been fully completed in accordance with requirements.

What do we recommend you do?

The council must ensure that all relevant boxes are fully complete before submitting the annual return for audit.

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

Governance and Accountability for Local Councils in Wales, A Practitioners' Guide - OVW/SLCC

Expenditure powers - S137 power incorrectly used

What is the issue?

Payments were made to one or more of the following: a local social, sports or youth club(s) which could have been authorised under S19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, power to provide recreational facilities within and outside of the area.

Why has this issue been raised?

The council incorrectly recorded items as Section 137 payments when other statutory powers existed. A payment cannot be recorded under S137 if another statutory powers exists.

What do we recommend you do?

The council must ensure in future years that it reviews the list of statutory powers available to council to establish if a power exists before relying on S137 to authorise a payment. The statutory power being used to authorise expenditure should be recorded alongside the item to demonstrate the council has properly followed its standing orders and financial regulations.

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

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in Wales - A Practitioners' Guide, OVW/SLCC
One Voice Wales representative, One Voice Wales website - (www.onevoicewales.org.uk)
Audit Briefing, Spring 2010, BDO

Internal auditor's recommendation

What is the issue?

The internal auditor has made a recommendation to the council.

Why has this issue been raised?

The council is exposed to the risks associated with this weakness.

What do we recommend you do?

The council must implement the recommendation made by the internal auditor to improve the financial systems of the council as soon as possible or in any event before the end of the current financial year.

If the council addresses the issues raised by the internal auditor the council should improve internal controls which will help to prevent and detect error and fraud and assist the council to operate in an effective and efficient manner.

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

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in Wales - A Practitioners' Guide, OVW/SLCC

No other matters came to our attention.

For and on behalf of
BDO LLP

Date: 22 August 2018
