

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
COMMITTEE:	COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE:	12 MAY 2011
TITLE OF REPORT:	ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11
PURPOSE OF REPORT :	REQUIRED BY CONSTITUTION
REPORT BY:	COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
ACTION:	ACCEPT REPORT

Meetings

During the municipal year, the Committee has met seven times – two meetings to elect Chairs and five regular meetings. Councillor Cliff Everett was elected to the Chair at the start of the year, and after he joined the Executive, Councillor Aled Morris Jones was elected Chairman. Councillor Robert Llewelyn Jones, Vice-Chairman, chaired two meetings during the year.

The regular meetings followed the audit committee calendar developed in 2009-10 and considered among the regular committee business: progress reports from internal and external auditors, the statement of accounts and the external auditor's report on it. The committee reviewed the Treasury Management Annual Report for the first time, after this responsibility was transferred to it. The committee also considered a report on a Data Security Breach which occurred during the year.

The completion of the audited Statement of Accounts for 2009-10 was delayed, such that the committee was unable to approve it by the 30 September deadline for the first time. Approval was given at the December meeting.

Governance Statement

For the first time, the committee adopted an annual Governance Statement for 2009-10 instead of the previous Statement of Internal Control, in advance of it becoming a statutory requirement.

However, the Annual Governance Statement reflected the weaknesses reported on in the 2009 Corporate Governance Inspection and was largely derived as a progress report on the Recovery Plan.

Enhancing the Audit Committee

This project, part of the authority's Recovery Plan, continues work begun during 2009-10 to develop the role of the Audit Committee. The Committee had undertaken a self-assessment using a checklist from CIPFA's guidance on audit committees in local government, and the outcome of the 2009 assessment had guided the training programme and actions for the year.

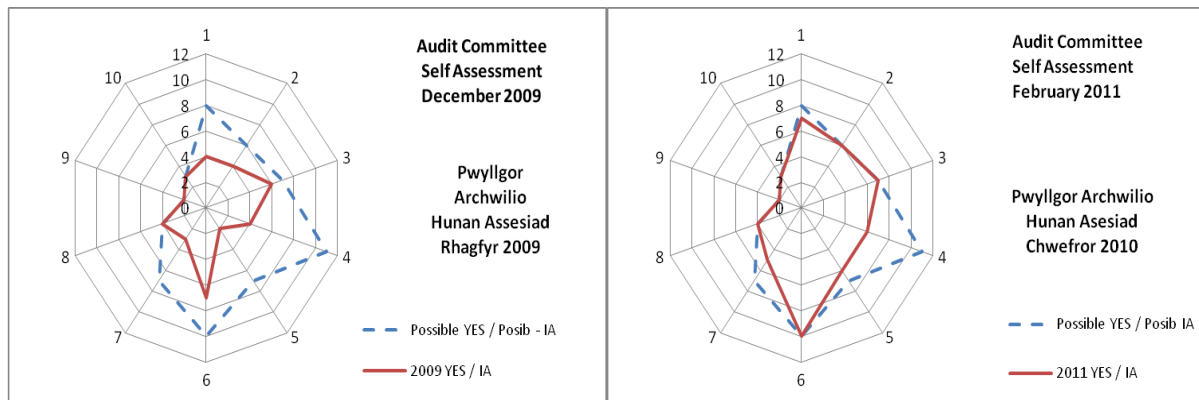
During the year, training was arranged for Audit Committee members, linked to their responsibilities and the member development programme, on:

- The Statement of Accounts
- Risk Management
- Treasury Management

These training events were well-attended and well received by members.

Changes were also made to the style of meetings and reports in response to the self-assessment feedback.

A further self-assessment undertaken in February 2011 reviewed progress against the same CIPFA checklist. As illustrated by these spider charts, this showed some progress had been achieved since the earlier assessment:



Plans for the Future

As well as its regular business, the committee will continue its development programme, informed by the self-assessment results. This will include more training events geared to its activities in 2011-12.

The National Assembly's new Local Government Measure includes new requirements to make Audit Committees mandatory at principal local authorities. Few changes to the role and terms of reference will be required at Anglesey, the authority having operated an audit committee in accordance with good practice for many years. However, one change brought about by the Measure is the requirement to co-opt non-councillor members to the committee. This will need to be given further consideration in the coming year.

COUNCILLOR ALED MORRIS JONES

CHAIRMAN

4 MAY 2011