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Chirk Town Council - Auditor General for Wales' Audit Certificate and report

The Auditor General for Wales issued Chirk Town Council a qualified audit report. Details of the matter which has led to the qualification are given below:

Minutes of Meetings Held 2019-20

The Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 requires the Council to publish minutes of its meetings electronically.

The Council has failed to publish minutes for the Council's committees for the period from April 2019 to March 2020. The Council have acknowledged this and have confirmed it will be actioned in due course. The Council's assertion that it complies with relevant laws and regulations is incorrect. Therefore, the correct response to assertion 2 on the Annual Governance Statement (Part 2) should be "No".

Additionally, during our review we identified some other matters that we wish to draw to the Council's attention which do not affect our audit opinion but should be addressed by the Council.

Accounting Statement, Box 14 – Trust fund disclosure note

Box 14 on the Accounting Statement, trust funds disclosure note, was left unanswered for 2018/19 on the Annual Return. The Council has confirmed that it does not act as a sole trustee nor is it responsible for managing trust funds or assets and so these boxes should read 'N/A'.

In future the Council should ensure the Annual Return is completed in full prior to the submission to External Auditors.

Minute reference

The minute reference of the Accounting Statement and the Annual Governance statement is blank. The Council has confirmed that this should read “**169**”.

Date of signature

While Section the Accounting Statement and the Annual Governance Statement on the Annual Return has been signed by the RFO and the Chair it has not been dated. This date should read “**24 June 2020**”. In future the Council should ensure the Annual Return is completed in full prior to submission to External Auditors.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Thornton UK LLP

For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Date: 30 November 2020

Ref: WAL351