



Item 26

Annual Council - 12 May 2026

Annual Governance Statement 2025-2026

1. **Introduction**
2. Section 12 of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 requires Community and Town Councils (and their joint committees) in Wales to make up their accounts each year to 31 March and to have those accounts audited by the Auditor General for Wales. Regulation 14 of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 states that smaller local government bodies i.e., those with annual income and expenditure below £2.5 million must prepare their accounts in accordance with proper practices.
3. For Community and Town Councils and their joint committees, proper practices are set out in the One Voice Wales / Society of Local Council Clerks Publication Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales - A Practitioners' Guide (the Practitioners' Guide). The Practitioners' Guide requires that they prepare their accounts in the form of an Annual Return. This Annual Return meets the requirements of the Practitioners' Guide.
4. The Annual Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2026 is attached as **Appendix 26.1** to this report.
5. **Recommendation.** It is recommended that:
 - 5.1 The Annual Governance Statement be approved, signed by the Chair of Council, and submitted to the Auditor General for Wales together with any evidence required to support the submission.

Huw Evans (PSLCC)
Clerk to Llangyfelach Community Council