

Section 1 – Accounting statements for: **LLANGLWOM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

	Year ending		Notes and guidance for compilers
	31 March 2014 (£)	31 March 2015 (£)	
			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.
1. Balances brought forward	3,685	4,158	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	2,700	2,700	Total amount of precept income received in the year.
3. (+) Total other receipts	72	58	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus the precept. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4. (-) Staff costs	1,097	1,257	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	N/A	N/A	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the Council's borrowing (if any).
6. (-) Total other payments	1,202	1,408	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	4,158	4,251	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).
8. (+) Debtors and stock balances	N/A	N/A	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of debts owed to and stock balances held at the year-end.
9. (+) Total cash and investments	4,158	4,251	All accounts: 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	N/A	N/A	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of monies owed by the Council (except borrowing) at the year-end.
11. (=) Balances carried forward	4,158	4,251	Total balances should equal Line 7 above: Enter the total of (8+9-10).
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	6,155	6,155	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	N/A	N/A	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).
			✓			✓	

* Shirley Anne Hughes (Clerk)
S.A.Hughes

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 2015, that:

	Agreed?			'YES' means that the Council:	PG Chap.
	Yes	No*	N/A		
1. We have approved the accounting statements which have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 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 2014.	✓			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"> Discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s) including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit. 			✓	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 2014 and for the preparation of an Annual Return which:

- summarises the Council's accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2015; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to the external auditor's responsibilities.

Certification by the RFO	Approval by the Council
Certificate under Regulation 8 Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (Regulation 15(1)) 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 2015.	Approval of accounting statements under Regulation 15(2) Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 and the Annual Governance Statement I confirm that these accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved by the Council under council minute reference:
	18/8/2015 - EXTRAORDINARY - 4.
RFO signature: <i>S.A. Hughes</i>	Chair signature: <i>Michael H. Foster</i>
Name: <i>SHIRLEY ANNE HUGHES</i>	Name: <i>MICHAEL H. FOSTER</i>
Date: <i>18/8/2015</i>	Date: <i>18/8/2015</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 2015 of:

LLANGWM COMMUNITY

Council

External auditor's report

Except for the matters reported below, on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information 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.

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations require the Responsible Financial Officer to certify and the Council to approve the accounts by 30 June. For 2014/15 this did not occur until 18 August 2015. For 2015/16 the Council needs to put in place arrangements to ensure that it can meet its statutory financial reporting responsibilities by the due date.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the council:

A. We were required to return the Annual Return to enable the Council to correct the following:

i. The bank reconciliation provided in support of Section 1 was inconsistent with the Annual Return because VAT paid out in 2014/15 was not recorded in other payments (box 6) and therefore the recorded balance and cash in bank figures at boxes 7,9 and 11 were overstated.

ii. Reimbursements of costs incurred by the Clerk were initially misclassified as staff costs rather than other payments, which is not in line with proper practice.

In future the Council needs to ensure that the Annual Return is accurate and follows proper practice.

B. The Council holds reserves of £4,291 compared to the annual precept of £2,700 and expenditure of £2,625. The Council has no powers to hold revenue reserves for general purposes and should consider earmarking reserves for specific purposes.

C. In Section 4 the internal auditor has ticked 'no' in respect of the Council undertaking regular bank reconciliations but did not set out the implications and action taken in a footnote as required by proper practice. In future the Council should ensure that the internal auditor provides an explanation for any controls it concludes are not operating.

External auditor's signature:

Mazars LLP