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Darren Mepham  
Chief Executive  
Bridgend County Borough Council  
Civic Offices  
Angel Street  
Bridgend  
CF31 4WB

Reference	644A2013
Date	27 November 2013
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Dear Darren

## Improvement Assessment

In my letter of 27 August 2013, I gave my opinion on whether the Council had discharged its statutory duties in respect of improvement planning.

I am also required, under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) to give an opinion on whether Bridgend County Borough Council (the Council) has discharged its duties in respect of improvement reporting and met the requirements of the Measure.

**In my opinion, and based on audit work undertaken to date the Council has discharged its improvement reporting duties under the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance**

I have reached this conclusion because:

- The Council approved and published its Annual Performance Report 2012-13 (the Report) before the statutory deadline of 31 October 2013.
- The Report provides a fair and balanced account of the Council's performance in the 2012-13.
- The Report sets out how the Council has sought to discharge its duties under the Measure.
- The Report includes details of performance and comparisons as measured by the national statutory performance indicators.
- The Report includes details of the ways in which the Council has sought to collaborate and used examples to illustrate the outcomes of some of these collaborations.

- The Report is accessible to the public and is available both in English and Welsh to download from the Council's website. The Report is also available in hard copy upon request and a bi lingual summary has been produced which will be widely circulated among various council locations.

### **Further proposals for improvement/recommendations**

No proposals for improvement are being suggested in this letter. We will continue to monitor and report on the progress made by the Council in implementing the proposals set out in my previous reports and letters.

I will undertake more detailed work on the arrangements that support the Council's performance management and reporting over the following months and report this, as well as summarising all of my work and that of relevant regulators during 2013-14, in an Annual Improvement Report for the Council that I will issue by the end of March 2014

Yours sincerely,



**HUW VAUGHAN THOMAS**

**Auditor General for Wales**

cc: Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Local Government and Government Business

Steve Barry – Manager, South Region

Helen Keatley – Performance Audit Lead

Darren Gilbert – Director KPMG