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Aneurin Phillips
Snowdonia National Park Authority
National Park Office
Penrhyndeudraeth
Gwynedd
LL48 6LF

Reference 106A2014

Date 27 January 2014

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Dear Aneurin

Improvement Assessment

In my letter of 27 September 2013, I gave my opinion on whether Snowdonia National Park Authority (the Authority) 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 the Authority 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 Authority has discharged its improvement reporting duties under the Measure

The Authority has discharged its improvement reporting duties under the Measure:

- the Authority published an assessment of its performance during 2012-13 in its Annual Report and Improvement Plan for 2012/13 (the Report) before 31 October 2013;
- the Report assesses the Authority's performance in the preceding financial year (2012-13) and sets out how the Authority has sought to discharge its duties under the Measure;
- the Report includes performance indicators for a number of areas and, where appropriate and available, compares its performance with its performance in the previous year and with the performance of other national park authorities;
- the Report evaluates the Authority's success in achieving its improvement objectives;
- the Report includes a short section for citizens who want to provide feedback or make comments on the review; and
- the Report includes information on the ways in which the Authority has sought to collaborate.

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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 Authority in implementing the proposals set out in my previous reports and letters.

I will undertake more detailed work on the arrangements that support the Authority'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 Authority that I will publish 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

John Griffiths, Minister for Culture and Sport

John Roberts, Performance Audit Lead