

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

Report to: **Governance and Audit Committee**

Date of meeting: **9th September 2021**

Title: Addressing asset valuation issues arising from the 2019/20 Audit Wales Report and subsequent Audit Wales input

Purpose of the report: To provide information to the Governance and Audit Committee about how communications between Audit Wales and Economy and Regeneration service have been addressed in advance of the review of Asset Valuations work 2020/21

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member **Rhodri Evans**
Economy and Regeneration

Recommendations (s): **That the Governance and Audit Committee note the content of the report**

Reason for decision: **To provide assurance to the Committee that issues previously discussed are being addressed**

Appendices

Corporate Lead Officer: Russell Hughes-Pickering

Reporting Officer: Arwyn Davies

Date: 01/09/21

Background

Following a report and discussion at the Governance and Audit Committee of 3^d June 2021 on performance relating to the valuation of Council assets, this is an update on the steps taken since to ensure that short term and long term sustainable improvements are achieved for the valuations system going forward.

Steps taken since June

As poor communications was identified as a key issue, regular (fortnightly) meetings have taken place between the Corporate Lead Officer, Corporate Manager and officers at Audit Wales as preparations are made for the review of the 2020/21 valuations in September.

The draft valuations report was shared with Audit Wales officer and small amendments suggested. The report has now been amended and completed.

A meeting is taking place between Audit Wales officers and officers of the Estates service on September 6th to set out the review process.

Members of staff from the Estates service will be on hand during the two weeks following the 6th to respond to any queries raised.

Future improvements

The series of scheduled meetings between the CLO / Corporate Manager and Audit Wales will continue as the 2021/22 valuations work is undertaken, so that any issues can be identified and addressed immediately.

Recruitment to fill vacancies in the service will take place in the coming 4-6 weeks, which will also support the on-going improvements in the service.

