

Steve Edwards  
Acting Clerk  
Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council  
Council Offices  
Mitre Street  
Abertillery  
Blaenau Gwent  
NP13 1AE

29th August 2023

Dear Steve,

Further to my Internal Audit of the Council in respect of the 2022-23 Annual Return, I am submitting my report and observations to the Council. As you will notice from the attached Internal Audit Report it was unfortunately necessary to issue a negative response in respect of Control Objective 3.

### **Control Objective 3**

*“The body assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.”*

### **Reason for the negative response Control Objective 3**

From the records available, there is no evidence that the Council has undertaken such a review during the year.

### **Implications in respect of the Annual Return**

As previously advised it will be necessary for a negative response to be entered on the Internal Audit Report. In addition, the Council will also have to return a negative response in respect of Assertion 5 of the Annual Governance Statement.

It is highly likely that this issue will be subject to further query by the External Auditor and it would be helpful in that regard if the Council were to properly Minute a discussion of a review of this issue and to include an explanatory letter when submitting the Annual Return.

In addition to the Negative Response on the Internal Audit Report we have also responded ‘Not Covered’ in respect of the Control Objectives 6 and 11 and we are required to explain why we have done this.

- We have responded 'Not Covered' in response to Objective 6 as we understand that the Council does not maintain a Petty Cash.
- We have responded 'Not Covered' in response to Objective 11 as we understand that the Council does not act as Sole Managing Trustee.

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In addition to this letter and the statutory Internal Audit Report I have also submitted our Internal Audit Observations to you by email. I would be grateful if you could bring all of these to the Council's attention in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Rose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a distinct 'Rose'.

Kevin Rose ACMA  
Director