

# Community and Town Councils in Wales Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

## LANGUAGE PREFERENCE

Please indicate how you would like us to communicate with you during the audit. Note that audit notices will be issued bilingually.

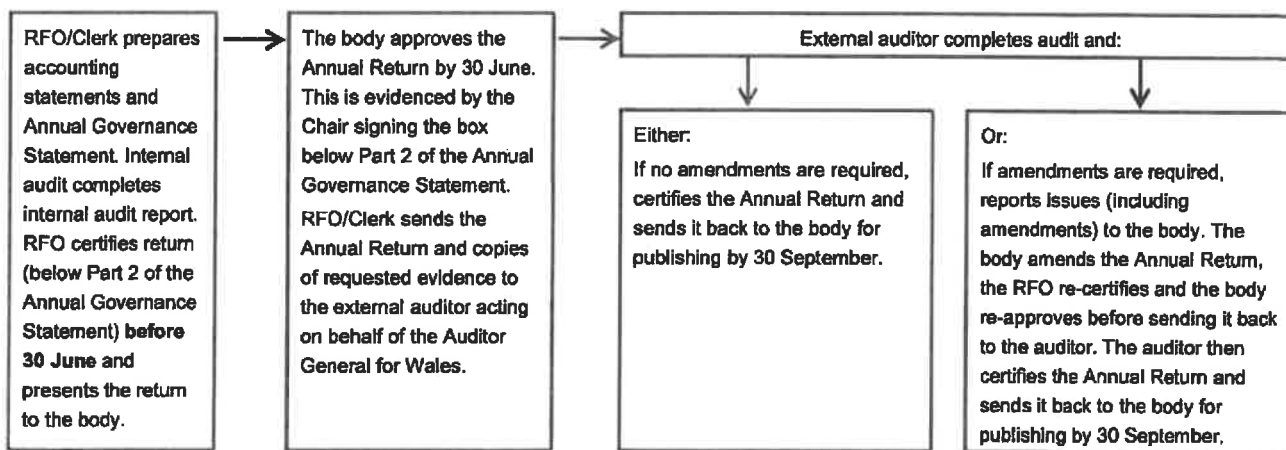
	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
<b>ENGLISH</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<b>WELSH</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<b>BILINGUALLY</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## THE ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT PROCESS

Section 12 of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 requires community and town councils (and their joint committees) in Wales to make up their accounts each year to 31 March and to have those accounts audited by the Auditor General for Wales. Regulation 14 of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 states that smaller local government bodies i.e. those with annual income and expenditure below £2.5 million must prepare their accounts in accordance with proper practices.

For community and town councils and their joint committees, proper practices are set out in the One Voice Wales/Society of Local Council Clerks publication **Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales – A Practitioners' Guide** (the Practitioners' Guide). The Practitioners' Guide requires that they prepare their accounts in the form of an Annual Return. This Annual Return meets the requirements of the Practitioners' Guide.

The accounts and audit arrangements follow the process as set out below.



Please read the guidance on completing this Annual Return and complete all sections highlighted pink including BOTH sections of the Annual Governance Statement.

## APPROVING THE ANNUAL RETURN

There are two boxes for certification and approval by the body. The second box is only required if the Annual Return has to be amended as a result of the audit. You should only complete the top box before sending the form to the auditor.

The council must approve the Annual Return BEFORE the accounts and supporting documents are made available for public inspection under section 30 of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

The Auditor General for Wales' Audit Certificate and report is to be completed by the auditor acting on behalf of the Auditor General. It MUST NOT be completed by the Clerk/RFO, the Chair or the internal auditor.

Audited and certified returns are sent back to the body for publication and display of the accounting statements, Annual Governance Statement and the Auditor General for Wales' certificate and report.

## Accounting statements 2019-20 for:

Name of body: **BARRY TOWN COUNCIL**

	Year ending		Notes and guidance for compilers				
	31 March 2019 (£)	31 March 2020 (£)					
<b>Statement of income and expenditure/receipts and payments</b>							
1. Balances brought forward	675389	599324	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. (+) Income from local taxation/levy	1044949	1166550	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from local taxation (precept) or levy/contribution from principal bodies.				
3. (+) Total other receipts	159220	193601	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.				
4. (-) Staff costs	643085	694547	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 eg. termination costs.				
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	21463	20642	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).				
6. (-) Total other payments	615686	547589	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	599324	696698	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).				
<b>Statement of balances</b>							
8. (+) Debtors and stock balances	13583	44513	<b>Income and expenditure accounts only:</b> Enter the value of debts owed to the body and stock balances held at the year-end.				
9. (+) Total cash and investments	653044	692887	<b>All accounts:</b> 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	67303	40702	<b>Income and expenditure accounts only:</b> Enter the value of monies owed by the body (except borrowing) at the year-end.				
11. (=) Balances carried forward	599324	696698	<b>Total balances should equal line 7 above:</b> Enter the total of (8+9-10).				
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	1606509	1644637	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as at 31 March.				
13. Total borrowing	82152	65231	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).				
14. Trust funds disclosure note	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	The body 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).

## Annual Governance Statement (Part 1)

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 accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2020, that:

	Agreed?		'YES' means that the Council/Board/Committee:	PG Ref	
	Yes	No*			
<p>1. We have put in place arrangements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>effective financial management during the year; and</li> <li>the preparation and approval of the accounting statements.</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Properly sets its budget and manages its money and prepares and approves its accounting statements as prescribed by law.	6, 12	
<p>2. We have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption, and reviewed its effectiveness.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.	6, 7	
<p>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/Board/Committee to conduct its business or on its finances.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	
<p>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.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect the body's accounts as set out in the notice of audit.	6, 23	
<p>5. We have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the Council/Board/Committee and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Considered the financial and other risks it faces in the operation of the body and has dealt with them properly.	6, 9	
<p>6. We have maintained an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems throughout the year and have received a report from the internal auditor.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 body.	6, 8	
<p>7. 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/Board/Committee and, where appropriate, have included them on the accounting statements.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disclosed everything it should have about its business during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.	6	
<p>8. We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in previous reports from internal and external audit.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Considered and taken appropriate action to address issues/weaknesses brought to its attention by both the internal and external auditors.	6, 8, 23	
<p>9. Trust funds – in our capacity as trustee, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s) including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

## Annual Governance Statement (Part 2)

	Agreed?			'YES' means that the Council/Board/ Committee:
	Yes	No*	N/A	
1. We have prepared and approved minutes for all meetings held by the Council (including its committees) that accurately record the business transacted and the decisions made by the Council or committee.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has kept and approved minutes in accordance with Schedule 12, Paragraph 41 of the Local Government Act 1972.
2. We have ensured that the Council's minutes (including those of its committees) are available for public inspection and have been published electronically.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has made arrangements for the minutes to be available for public inspection in accordance with section 228 of the Local Government Act 1972 and has published the minutes on its website in accordance with section 55 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013.

\* Please delete as appropriate.

### Council approval and certification

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 the Annual Governance Statement.

#### Certification by the RFO

I certify that the accounting statements contained in this Annual Return presents fairly the financial position of the Council/Board/ Committee, and its income and expenditure, or properly presents receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2020.

RFO signature: 

Name: V. N. SIMS

Date: 29.06.2020

#### Approval by the Council

I confirm that these accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved by the Council/Board/Committee under minute reference:

Minute ref: 727

Chair of meeting signature: 

Name: CHLR. M.R. WILKINSON

Date: 29.06.2020

### Council re-approval and re-certification (only required if the Annual Return has been amended at audit)

#### Certification by the RFO

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 2020.

RFO signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Approval by the Council

I confirm that these accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved by the Council/Board/Committee under minute reference:

Minute ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of meeting signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_