**GWENT ARCHIVES JOINT COMMITTEE**

**Certification and approval of annual accounts for 2019-20**

Regulation 15(1) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that the Responsible Financial Officer of the Gwent Archives Joint Committee sign and date the accounts (the Annual Return) and certify that it presents fairly the financial position of the Gwent Archives Joint Committee at the end of the year and the Gwent Archives Joint Committee’s income and expenditure for the year. The Regulations required that this be completed by 15 June 2020.

The Responsible Financial Officer has signed and certified the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2020 on 10 June 2020 ([http://www.gwentarchives.gov.uk/about-us.aspx](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.gwentarchives.gov.uk%2Fabout-us.aspx&data=02%7C01%7CSuzanne.Williams%40torfaen.gov.uk%7C44263604e95642332bc608d7467bc6a5%7C2c4d0079c52c4bb3b3cad8eaf1b6b7d5%7C0%7C1%7C637055369756482302&sdata=zlCzuuOsTeXiNG5o692VToQTlez8dSR0LWrD65rlErM%3D&reserved=0)).

Regulation 15(2) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that following the certification by the Responsible Financial Officer referred to above, the Joint Committee must approve the Annual Return. The Regulations require that this be completed by 15 June 2020.

However, the Joint Committee has been unable to meet to approve the Annual Return due to the COVID-19 outbreak.  As soon as the Joint Committee is able to meet it will consider the Annual Return and associated reports.