



Members of the Audit Committee London Borough of Havering Town Hall Main Road Romford RM1 3BB

26 July 2018

#### Dear Audit Committee Members

We are pleased to attach our audit results report for the forthcoming meeting of the Audit Committee. This report summarises our preliminary audit conclusion in relation to the audit of Havering Pension Fund for 2017/18.

We have substantially completed our audit of Havering Pension Fund for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Subject to concluding the outstanding matters listed in our report, we confirm that we expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements in the form at Section 3, before the statutory deadline of 31 July 2018.

This report is intended solely for the use of the Audit Committee, other members of the Authority, and senior management. It should not be used for any other purpose or given to any other party without obtaining our written consent.

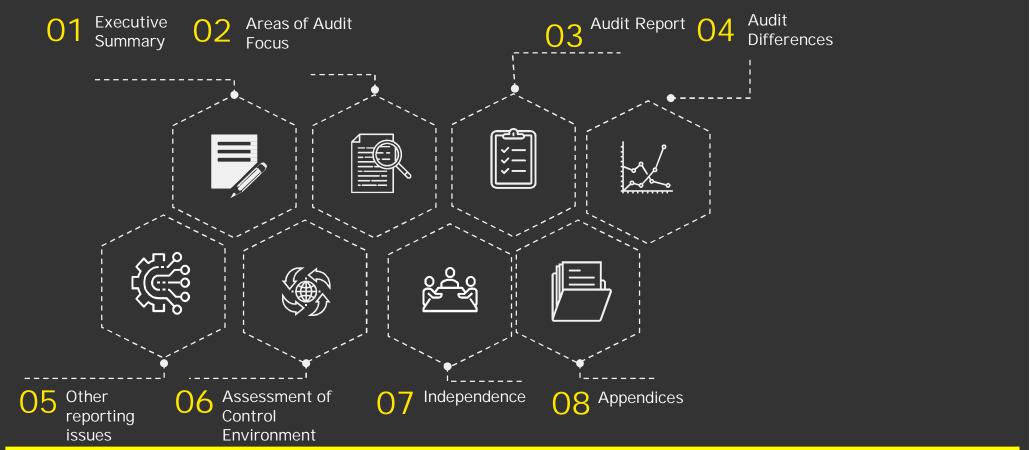
The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 introduced a significant change in statutory deadlines from the 2017/18 financial year. The timetable for the preparation and approval of the financial statements was brought forward, with draft accounts needing to be prepared by 31 May, and publication of audited accounts by 31 July. These changes provide risks for both the preparers and the auditors of the financial statements. The Council has prepared well for these changes, preparing a good set of draft accounts and supporting working papers in advance of the deadline of 31 May. The Council's staff also responded to the queries we raised during the course of audit promptly, and as such we anticipate being able to meet the earlier deadline of 31July for the issue of our Audit Report on the financial statements. We would like to thank the Council's staff in helping us achieve this.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the contents of this report with you at the Audit Committee meeting on 30 July 2018.

Yours faithfully

Debbie Hanson Associate Partner For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP Encl

## Contents



In April 2015 Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) issued "Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies". It is available from the via the PSAA website (<a href="https://www.PSAA.co.uk">www.PSAA.co.uk</a>). The Statement of responsibilities serves as the formal terms of engagement between appointed auditors and audited bodies. It summarises where the different responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies begin and end, and what is to be expected of the audited body in certain areas.

The "Terms of Appointment (updated February 2017)" issued by the PSAA sets out additional requirements that auditors must comply with, over and above those set out in the National Audit Office Code of Audit Practice (the Code) and in legislation, and covers matters of practice and procedure which are of a recurring nature.

This report is made solely to the Audit Committee and management of Havering Pension Fund in accordance with the statement of responsibilities. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Audit Committee, and management of Havering Pension Fund those matters we are required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Audit Committee and management of Havering Pension Fund for this report or for the opinions we have formed. It should not be provided to any third-party without our prior written consent.





#### Scope update

In our Audit Planning Report presented to the March 2018 meeting of the Audit Committee, we provided you with an overview of our audit scope and approach for the audit of the pension fund financial statements. We carried out our audit in accordance with this Plan. We outlined below our reassessment of materiality and risk.

- Changes in materiality: In our Audit Committee Planning Report, we communicated that our audit procedures would be performed using a materiality of £11.5 million, but that we would update this at year end. This level of materiality has reduced to £9.8 million. The threshold for reporting misstatements that have an effect on the primary statements (fund account and net asset statement) is £490,000.
- Changes in risks: In our Audit Committee Planning Report, we communicated our significant risk in relation to the accounts. Following receipt of the draft accounts and undertaking our work during the audit, the risks remain consistent with our initial assessment.

#### Status of the audit

We have substantially completed our audit of Havering Pension Fund's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 and have performed the procedures outlined in our Audit Planning Report. Subject to satisfactory completion of the following outstanding items we expect to issue an unqualified opinion on the Pension Fund's financial statements in the form which appears at Section 3. However until work is complete, further amendments may arise:

- Testing of Employer and Member contributions within the Fund Account
- Testing of Pension Benefits within the Fund Accounts
- Review of the Pension Fund Annual Report
- Review of the final signed version of the financial statements
- Completion of review of audit work by the manager and Associate Partner.
- Completion of subsequent events review
- Receipt of the signed management representation letter



#### Audit differences

There are no unadjusted differences arising from our audit.

We have identified a small number of disclosure matters which have been adjusted by management. As can be seen in Section 4 Audit Differences, we have not felt it necessary to provide the details of these amendments.

There are no matters, apart from those reported by management or disclosed in this report, which we believe should be brought to the attention of the Audit Committee.

#### Control observations

We have not identified any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of an internal control that might result in a material misstatement in your financial statements and which is unknown to you.

We have adopted a fully substantive approach, so have not tested the operation of controls.

#### Independence

Please refer to Section 8 for our update on Independence.





## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk

Misstatements due to fraud or error (management override)

#### What is the risk?

There is a risk that the financial statements as a whole are not free of material misstatements whether caused by fraud or error.

As identified in ISA (UK and Ireland) 240, management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of its ability to manipulate accounting records directly or indirectly and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. We identify and respond to this fraud risk on every audit engagement.

For the Pension Fund we have identified the valuation of unquoted investments such as private equity funds (classified as Level 3 Investments). The nature of these Investments means that any error in judgements taken by Investment Managers in relation to these investments could result in a material valuation error. Market volatility means such judgments can quickly become outdated, especially when there is a significant time period between the latest available audited information and the fund year end. Such variations could have a material impact on the financial statements.

#### What did we do?

In response to the risk, we:

- Enquired of management about risks of fraud and the controls in place to address those risks;
- Considered the oversight given by those charged with governance of management's processes over fraud by direct enquiry;
- Considered the effectiveness of management's controls designed to address the risk of fraud;
- Tested the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparing the financial statements;
- Reviewed accounting estimates for evidence of management bias, including in respect of Level 3 investments;
- Undertook a review of reconciliations to the fund manager and custodian reports and investigated any reconciling differences;
- Re-performed the detailed investment note using the reports we acquired directly from the custodian or fund managers;
- Reviewed accounting estimates for evidence of management bias; and
- For Level 3 investments we agreed information to source reports and the financial statements of the individual funds.

## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk

Misstatements due to fraud or error (management override)

#### What judgements are we focused on?

We focused on aspects of the financial statements where management could inappropriately report valuations, primarily:

- Material accounting estimates.
- · Journal entries.
- Unusual transactions.

#### What are our conclusions?

- We obtained the responses we requested from management and those charged with governance to our enquiries and used these to inform our understanding of fraud risks. We noted that key elements of the entity level control framework that we would expect to see, especially arrangements for internal audit, and risk management, were in place.
- Our walkthrough testing included considering what controls are in place to address significant risks. We concluded that these are in large part year end processes including management review of the draft financial statements. We confirmed that these controls were in place, although our approach was not to rely on controls.
- Our work on the testing of accounting estimates has been completed and no significant issues identified.
- We have not identified any material weaknesses in controls or evidence of material management override.
- We have not identified any instances of inappropriate judgements being applied.
- We did not identify any other transactions during our audit which appeared unusual or outside the Authority's normal course of business.

Overall, our audit work has not identified any material issues, inappropriate judgements or unusual transactions which indicate that there has been any misreporting of the Pension Fund's financial position or that management has overridden control.





## Audit Report

# Draft audit report

## Our opinion on the financial statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

#### Opinion

We have audited the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The pension fund financial statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes 1 to 28. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

In our opinion the pension fund financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2018 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2018; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the pension fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (C&AG) AGNO1, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Chief Operating Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Chief Operating Officer has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the pension fund's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts 2017/18, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Chief Operating Officer is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



## Audit Report

#### Our opinion on the financial statements

Matters on which we report by exception

We report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make written recommendations to the audited body under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects

Responsibility of the Chief Operating Officer

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Chief Operating Officer's Responsibilities set out on page 18, the Chief Operating Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's financial statements, which includes the pension fund financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Operating Officer is responsible for assessing the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Pension Fund either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the London Borough of Havering Council, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Debbie Hanson (Key Audit Partner) Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor) Luton Date





## Audit Differences

In the normal course of any audit, we identify misstatements between amounts we believe should be recorded in the financial statements and the disclosures and amounts actually recorded. These differences are classified as "known" or "judgemental". Known differences represent items that can be accurately quantified and relate to a definite set of facts or circumstances. Judgemental differences generally involve estimation and relate to facts or circumstances that are uncertain or open to interpretation.

## Summary of unadjusted differences

We highlight in our report any unadjusted misstatements greater than £490,000. We have no unadjusted misstatements to bring to your attention.

## Summary of adjusted differences

We highlight in our report adjusted misstatements which we consider merit the attention of Members. We have such amendments to bring to your attention.



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# Other reporting issues

#### Consistency of other information published with the financial statements

We must give an opinion on the consistency of the financial and non-financial information in the London Borough of Havering Council's financial statements, and the Pension Fund Annual Report. We have not yet completed our review of this information. We will update Members on the progress of our review at the meeting of the Audit Committee on 30 July 2018.

#### Other powers and duties

We have a duty under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to consider whether to report on any matter that comes to our attention in the course of the audit, either for the Authority to consider it or to bring it to the attention of the public (i.e. "a report in the public interest"). We did not identify any issues which required us to issue a report in the public interest.

We also have a duty to make written recommendations to the Authority, copied to the Secretary of State, and take action in accordance with our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. We did not identify any issues.

## Other matters

As required by ISA (UK&I) 260 and other ISAs specifying communication requirements, we must tell you significant findings from the audit and other matters if they are significant to your oversight of the [Authority]'s financial reporting process. They include the following:

- Significant qualitative aspects of accounting practices including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures;
- Any significant difficulties encountered during the audit;
- Any significant matters arising from the audit that were discussed with management;
- Written representations we have requested;
- Expected modifications to the audit report;
- Any other matters significant to overseeing the financial reporting process;
- Findings and issues around the opening balance on initial audits (if applicable);
- Related parties;
- External confirmations;
- · Going concern; and
- Consideration of laws and regulations;

We have no matters to report.





## Assessment of Control Environment

#### Financial controls

It is the responsibility of the Authority to develop and implement systems of internal financial control and to put in place proper arrangements to monitor their adequacy and effectiveness in practice. Our responsibility as your auditor is to consider whether the Authority has put adequate arrangements in place to satisfy itself that the systems of internal financial control are both adequate and effective in practice.

As part of our audit of the financial statements, we obtained an understanding of internal control sufficient to plan our audit and determine the nature, timing and extent of testing performed. As we have adopted a fully substantive approach, we have therefore not tested the operation of controls.

Although our audit was not designed to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control we are required to communicate to you significant deficiencies in internal control.

We have not identified any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of an internal control that might result in a material misstatement in your financial statements of which you are not aware.





# Confirmation



We confirm that there are no changes in our assessment of independence since our confirmation in our Audit Planning Board report dated 28 February 2018.

We complied with the FRC Ethical Standards and the requirements of the PSAA's Terms of Appointment. In our professional judgement the firm is independent and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff has not been compromised within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements.

We consider that our independence in this context is a matter which you should review, as well as us. It is important that you and your Audit Committee consider the facts known to you and come to a view. If you would like to discuss any matters concerning our independence, we will be pleased to do this at the meeting of the Audit Committee on 30 July 2018.

# Independence Fee analysis

As part of our reporting on our independence, we set out below a summary of the fees paid for the year ended 31 March 2018. We confirm that we have not undertaken non-audit work outside the PSAA Code requirements.

	Final Fee	Planned Fee	Scale Fee	Final Fee
	2017/18	2017/18	2017/18	2016/17
Total Audit Fee - Code work	£21,000	£21,000	£21,000	£21,000





# Audit approach update

We summarise below our approach to the audit of the balance sheet and any changes to this approach from the prior year audit.

Our audit procedures are designed to be responsive to our assessed risk of material misstatement at the relevant assertion level. Assertions relevant to the balance sheet include:

- Existence: An asset, liability and equity interest exists at a given date
- Rights and Obligations: An asset, liability and equity interest pertains to the entity at a given date
- Completeness: There are no unrecorded assets, liabilities, and equity interests, transactions or events, or undisclosed items
- Valuation: An asset, liability and equity interest is recorded at an appropriate amount and any resulting valuation or allocation adjustments are appropriately recorded
- Presentation and Disclosure: Assets, liabilities and equity interests are appropriately aggregated or disaggregated, and classified, described and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. Disclosures are relevant and understandable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework

Net Assets Statement category	Audit Approach in current year	Audit Approach in prior year	Explanation for change
Investment Assets and Liabilities	Substantively tested all relevant assertions	Substantively tested all relevant assertions	N/A
Current Assets (excluding cash)	Substantively tested all relevant assertions	Immaterial - Substantively tested assertion for presentation and disclosure	N/A
Cash	Substantively tested all relevant assertions	Substantively tested all relevant assertions	N/A
Current Liabilities	Immaterial - Substantively tested assertion for presentation and disclosure	Immaterial - Substantively tested assertion for presentation and disclosure	N/A



# Required communications with the Audit Committee

There are certain communications that we must provide to the Audit Committees of UK clients. We have detailed these here together with a reference of when and where they were covered:

		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Terms of engagement	Confirmation by the Audit Committee of acceptance of terms of engagement as written in the engagement letter signed by both parties.	The statement of responsibilities serves as the formal terms of engagement between the PSAA's appointed auditors and audited bodies.
Our responsibilities	Reminder of our responsibilities as set out in the engagement letter.	Audit planning report 28 February 2018
Planning and audit approach	Communication of the planned scope and timing of the audit, any limitations and the significant risks identified.	Audit planning report 28 February 2018
Significant findings from the audit	<ul> <li>Our view about the significant qualitative aspects of accounting practices including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures</li> <li>Significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit</li> <li>Significant matters, if any, arising from the audit that were discussed with management</li> <li>Written representations that we are seeking</li> <li>Expected modifications to the audit report</li> <li>Other matters if any, significant to the oversight of the financial reporting process</li> </ul>	Audit planning report 28 February 2018



		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Going concern	<ul> <li>Events or conditions identified that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, including:</li> <li>Whether the events or conditions constitute a material uncertainty</li> <li>Whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements</li> <li>The adequacy of related disclosures in the financial statements</li> </ul>	Audit results report 26 July 2018  No conditions or events were identified, either individually or together to raise any doubt about Havering Pension Fund's ability to continue for the 12 months from the date of our report
Misstatements	<ul> <li>Uncorrected misstatements and their effect on our audit opinion</li> <li>The effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods</li> <li>A request that any uncorrected misstatement be corrected</li> <li>Material misstatements corrected by management</li> </ul>	Audit results report 26 July 2018
Subsequent events	• Enquiry of the Audit Committee where appropriate regarding whether any subsequent events have occurred that might affect the financial statements.	Audit results report 26 July 2018
Fraud	<ul> <li>Enquiries of the Audit Committee to determine whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud affecting the Authority</li> <li>Any fraud that we have identified or information we have obtained that indicates that a fraud may exist</li> <li>Unless all of those charged with governance are involved in managing the Authority, any identified or suspected fraud involving: <ul> <li>a. Management;</li> <li>b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or</li> <li>c. Others where the fraud results in a material misstatement in the financial statements.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The nature, timing and extent of audit procedures necessary to complete the audit when fraud involving management is suspected</li> <li>Any other matters related to fraud, relevant to Audit Committee responsibility.</li> </ul>	Audit results report 26 July 2018



		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Related parties	Significant matters arising during the audit in connection with the Authority's related parties including, when applicable:  Non-disclosure by management Inappropriate authorisation and approval of transactions Disagreement over disclosures Non-compliance with laws and regulations Difficulty in identifying the party that ultimately controls the Authority	Audit results report 26 July 2018
Independence	Communication of all significant facts and matters that bear on EY's, and all individuals involved in the audit, objectivity and independence.  Communication of key elements of the audit engagement partner's consideration of independence and objectivity such as:  The principal threats  Safeguards adopted and their effectiveness  An overall assessment of threats and safeguards  Information about the general policies and process within the firm to maintain objectivity and independence  Communications whenever significant judgments are made about threats to objectivity and independence and the appropriateness of safeguards put in place.	Audit planning report 28 February 2018  Audit results report 26 July 2018



		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
External confirmations	<ul> <li>Management's refusal for us to request confirmations</li> <li>Inability to obtain relevant and reliable audit evidence from other procedures.</li> </ul>	Audit results report 26 July 2018 We have received all requested confirmations
Consideration of laws and regulations	<ul> <li>Subject to compliance with applicable regulations, matters involving identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, other than those which are clearly inconsequential and the implications thereof. Instances of suspected non-compliance may also include those that are brought to our attention that are expected to occur imminently or for which there is reason to believe that they may occur.</li> <li>Enquiry of the Audit Committee into possible instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements and that the Audit Committee may be aware of.</li> </ul>	Audit results report 26 July 2018  We have asked management and those charged with governance. We have not identified any material instances or noncompliance with laws and regulations



		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance	Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance	Audit results report 26 July 2018
Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise	Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise	Audit results report 26 July 2018
Auditors report	Any circumstances identified that affect the form and content of our auditor's report	Audit results report 26 July 2018
Fee Reporting	<ul> <li>Breakdown of fee information when the audit planning report is agreed</li> <li>Breakdown of fee information at the completion of the audit</li> <li>Any non-audit work</li> </ul>	Audit planning report 28 February 2018  Audit results report 26 July 2018



## Management Rep Letter

[To be prepared on the entity's letterhead] [Date]

Ernst & Young [Address]

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Havering Pension Fund ("the Fund") for the year ended 31 March 2018. We recognise that obtaining representations from us concerning the information contained in this letter is a significant procedure in enabling you to form an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Fund during the period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 and of the amount and disposition of the Fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2018, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the period, have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of the Fund's financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK), which involves an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, and is not designed to identify - nor necessarily be expected to disclose – all fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Accordingly, we make the following representations, which are true to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

- A. Financial Statements and Financial Records
- 1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, under the relevant statutory authorities, for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18
- 2. We confirm that the Fund is a Registered Pension Scheme. We are not aware of any reason why the tax status of the scheme should change.
- 3. We acknowledge, as members of management of the Fund, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements. We believe the financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position and the financial performance of the Fund in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, and are free of material misstatements, including omissions. We have approved the financial statements.
- 4. The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are appropriately described in the financial statements.
- 5. As members of management of the Fund, we believe that the Fund has a system of internal controls adequate to enable the preparation of accurate financial statements in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- 6. There are no unadjusted audit differences identified during the current audit and pertaining to the latest period presented.



## Management Rep Letter

- B. Non-compliance with laws and regulations including fraud
- 1. We acknowledge that we are responsible to determine that the Fund's activities are conducted in accordance with laws and regulations and that we are responsible to identify and address any non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.
- 2. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.
- 3. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 4. We have not made any reports to The Pensions Regulator, nor are we aware of any such reports having been made by any of our advisors.
- 5. There have been no other communications with The Pensions Regulator or other regulatory bodies during the Fund year or subsequently concerning matters of noncompliance with any legal duty. We have drawn to your attention all correspondence and notes of meetings with regulators.
- 6. We have no knowledge of any identified or suspected non-compliance with laws or regulations, including fraud that may have affected the Fund (regardless of the source or form and including without limitation, any allegations by "whistleblowers"), including non-compliance matters:
  - Involving financial improprieties
  - Related to laws or regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the Fund's financial statements
  - Related to laws and regulations that have an indirect effect on amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, but compliance with which may be fundamental to the operations of the Fund, its ability to continue, or to avoid material penalties

- Involving management, or employees who have significant roles in internal control, or others
- In relation to any allegations of fraud, suspected fraud or other noncompliance with laws and regulations communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
- C. Information Provided and Completeness of Information and Transactions
- 1. We have provided you with:
  - Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters.
  - Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- 2. You have been informed of all changes to the Fund rules.
- 3. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 4. We have made available to you all minutes of the meetings of members of the management of the Fund and committees of members of the management of the Fund (or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared) held through the period to the most recent meeting on the following date 31 July 2018.



## Management Rep Letter

- 5. We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding the identification of related parties. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Fund's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers of assets, liabilities and services, leasing arrangements, guarantees, non-monetary transactions and transactions for no consideration for the period ended, as well as related balances due to or from such parties at the period end. These transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.
- 6. We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding annuities held in the name of the members of the management of the Fund.
- 7. We have disclosed to you, and the Fund has complied with, all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.
- 8. No transactions have been made which are not in the interests of the Fund members or the Fund during the fund year or subsequently.
- 9. We believe that the significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- D. Liabilities and Contingencies
- 1. All liabilities and contingencies, including those associated with guarantees, whether written or oral, have been disclosed to you and are appropriately reflected in the financial statements.
- 2. We have informed you of all outstanding and possible litigation and claims, whether or not they have been discussed with legal counsel.

3. We have recorded and/or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities related litigation and claims, both actual and contingent, and confirm there are no guarantees that we have given to third parties.

#### E. Subsequent Events

1. There have been no events subsequent to period end which require adjustment of or disclosure in the consolidated and Council financial statements or notes thereto.

#### F. Other information

- 1. We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the other information. The other information comprises the Annual Report.
- 2. We confirm that the content contained within the other information is consistent with the financial statements.

#### G. Independence

1. We confirm that, under section 27 of the Pensions Act 1995, no members of the management of the Fund of the Scheme is connected with, or is an associate of, Ernst & Young LLP which would render Ernst & Young LLP ineligible to act as auditor to the Scheme.



## Management Rep Letter

#### H. Derivative Financial Instruments

- 1. We confirm that all investments in derivative financial instruments have been made after due consideration by the members of the management of the Fund of the limitations in their use imposed by The LGPS Management and Investment of Funds Regulations 2016. The Fund's Investment Strategy Statement has been duly reviewed to ensure that such investments comply with any limitations imposed by its provisions. The financial statements disclose all transactions in derivative financial instruments that have been entered into during the period, those still held by the members of the management of the Fund at the Fund's year end and the terms and conditions relating thereto.
- 2. Management has duly considered and deemed as appropriate the assumptions and methodologies used in the valuation of 'over the counter' derivative financial instruments which the Fund is holding, and these have been communicated to you.
- Pooling investments, including the use of collective investment vehicles and shared services
- We confirm that all investments in pooling arrangements, including the
  use of collective investment vehicles and shared services, meet the criteria
  set out in the November 2015 investment reform and criteria guidance
  and that the requirements of the LGPS Management and Investment of
  Funds Regulations 2016 in respect of these investments has been
  followed.

#### Management Rep Letter

#### J. Actuarial valuation

 The latest report of the actuary Hymans Robertson LLP as at 31 March 2016 and dated 31 March 2017 has been provided to you. To the best of our knowledge and belief we confirm that the information supplied by us to the actuary was true and that no significant information was omitted which may have a bearing on his report

#### K. Use of the Work of a Specialist

1. We agree with the findings of the specialists that we have engaged to value the Fund and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the financial statements and the underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to the specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an effect on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

Chief Operating Officer
Chairman of the Audit Committee

Yours faithfully,

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#### ED None

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