



**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough  
Combined Authority  
Audit results report**

Year ended 31 March 2019

9 July 2019



9 July 2019

Dear Audit & Governance Committee Members

We are pleased to attach our audit results report for the forthcoming meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee. This report summarises our preliminary audit conclusion in relation to the audit of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (the Authority) for 2018/19. Our audit remains in progress. Owing to resourcing issues there is a possibility that we will not have completed our audit by the 31 July. We will provide a verbal update to the Committee.

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 4 of this report. We also have no matters to report on your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources

This report is intended solely for the use of the Audit and Governance 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.

We would like to thank your staff for their help during the engagement.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the contents of this report with you at the Audit and Governance Committee meeting on 19 July 2019.

Yours faithfully

Suresh Patel

Associate Partner

For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP

Encl

# Contents



Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) have issued a 'Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies'. It is available from the Chief Executive of each audited body and via the PSAA website ([www.psaa.co.uk](http://www.psaa.co.uk)). This 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 April 2018)' issued by 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 statute, and covers matters of practice and procedure which are of a recurring nature.

This report is prepared in the context of the Statement of responsibilities. It is addressed to the Members of the audited body, and is prepared for their sole use. We, as appointed auditor, take no responsibility to any third party.

**Our Complaints Procedure** – If at any time you would like to discuss with us how our service to you could be improved, or if you are dissatisfied with the service you are receiving, you may take the issue up with your usual partner or director contact. If you prefer an alternative route, please contact Steve Varley, our Managing Partner, 1 More London Place, London SE1 2AF. We undertake to look into any complaint carefully and promptly and to do all we can to explain the position to you. Should you remain dissatisfied with any aspect of our service, you may of course take matters up with our professional institute. We can provide further information on how you may contact our professional institute.



01

# Executive Summary

## Executive Summary

### Scope update

In our Final Audit Plan presented to the March 2019 Audit and Governance Committee meeting, we provided you with an overview of our audit scope and approach for the audit of the financial statements. We carried out our audit in accordance with this plan, with the following exceptions:

- Changes in materiality - We updated our planning materiality assessment using the draft statement of accounts and have also reconsidered our risk assessment. Based on our materiality measure of 2% of gross expenditure on provision of services, we have updated our overall materiality assessment to £1.423 million (audit plan – £1.99 million). This results in updated performance materiality, at 75% of overall materiality, of £1.069 million, and an updated threshold for reporting misstatements of £0.071 million.

### Status of the audit

Our audit of the Authority's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019 remains in progress. We are performing the procedures outlined in our Audit Plan. At the date of this report we have commenced the majority of our audit procedures and are working to complete them over the next few weeks. However, owing to resourcing issues there is a possibility that we will not complete the audit by the 31 July. We will provide a verbal update to the Committee. Subject to their satisfactory completion we anticipate issuing an unqualified opinion in the form which appears at Section 3. However until work is complete, further amendments may arise. We are currently completing audit procedures on:

• Capital grant expenditure	• Cash	• Debtors and creditors
• Investments	• Other expenditure	• Cash
• Disclosures	• Provisions	• MiRS
• Financing & investment income	• Senior officer remuneration	• Related party transactions

Once we have completed the above procedures we will need to:

- Review of the final version of the financial statements
- Complete a subsequent events review
- Review the signed management letter of representation
- Issue a final version of this Audit Results Report.

### Audit differences

At the date of this report there are no unadjusted audit differences and one adjustment which was identified by management after the preparation of the draft accounts. This relates to an adjustment of £0.881 million between REFCUS and Other expenditure (i.e. recoding some other expenditure that qualified as REFCUS back to REFCUS). We provide details in Section 5 and will update the Committee on any further audit differences.

## Executive Summary

### Areas of audit focus

Our audit plan identified key areas of focus for our audit of the Authority's financial statements. In total we have identified two significant risks and three areas of audit focus. We summarise below our latest findings.

Significant risk	Findings & conclusions
Misstatements due to fraud or error - management override	We have completed our testing of journals, sought evidence of bias in material estimates and remained alert to unusual transactions. We have found no indications that management have overridden controls to deliver a desired financial outturn.
Misstatements due to fraud or error - incorrect treatment of capital expenditure as revenue	We are currently completing our testing of a sample of capital expenditure, including Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS) to verify that revenue costs have not been inappropriately treated as capital. We are also verifying that adjustments between the accounting basis and funding basis have been correctly made in accordance with the Code, and reflected appropriately in the Authority's Movement in Reserves Statement (the MiRS). We have yet to complete this work to form a conclusion.

Area of audit focus	Findings & conclusions
New accounting standards	We have considered management's impact assessment and are satisfied that the Authority has implemented the new standards appropriately.
Severance payment to outgoing Chief Executive	We completed our review of the severance payment and reported our findings to the March 2019 Audit and Governance Committee. We were satisfied that proper processes had been followed.
Governance and Financial arrangements for the Business Board	We are satisfied with the way the Authority has accounted for the Business Board in the statement of accounts.

This report sets out our observations and conclusions on the above matters, and any others identified, in the "Areas of Audit Focus" section of this report. We ask you to review these and any other matters in this report to ensure:

- ▶ There are no other considerations or matters that could have an impact on these issues; and
- ▶ You agree with the resolution of the issues; and there are no other significant issues to be considered.

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

## Executive Summary

### Control observations

We have adopted a fully substantive approach, so have not tested the operation of controls. From our audit we have not identified any significant deficiencies in the in Authority's internal controls.

### Value for money

We have considered your arrangements to take informed decisions; deploy resources in a sustainable manner; and work with partners and other third parties. In our Final Audit Plan we identified four significant risks. We have included in Section 6 the detailed work we carried out in response to these risks. We include a summary below.

VFM risk	Outcome	VFM risk	Outcome
1. Proper arrangements - In the 2017/18 VFM conclusion we reported that some expected arrangements needed to be operating throughout the year	We have revisited the proper arrangements put in place during 2017/18 and obtained evidence that the Authority has embedded expected arrangements during 2018/19.	3. Risk of accelerated delivery of projects	We have not identified any projects where during 2018/19 delivery processes have been accelerated. We have no matters to report.
2. Governance & Financial Arrangements for The Business Board	We have reviewed the documented arrangements put in place by the Authority to ensure effective governance of the Business Board. We have no matters to report.	4. Robustness of the budget and MTFS	We have reviewed the findings of the independent external review and found them to be consistent with our own review of the budget and MTFS.

### Other reporting issues

We have reviewed the information presented in the Annual Governance Statement for consistency with our knowledge of the Authority. We have no matters to report as a result of this work.

We are not required to carry out any procedures on the Authority's Whole of Governance Accounts (WGA) submission as the Authority falls below the National Audit Office (NAO) threshold.

### Independence

We have no matters relating to our Independence to bring to your attention. Section 08 includes our update.



02

## Areas of Audit Focus



## Areas of Audit Focus

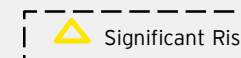
### Significant risk

#### Risk of misstatements due to fraud or error – management override of controls

##### What is the risk?

The financial statements as a whole are not free of material misstatements whether caused by fraud or error.

As identified in ISA (UK) 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.



##### What did we do and what judgements did we focus on?

We:.

- ▶ Identified fraud risks during the planning stages.
- ▶ Enquired of management about risks of fraud and the controls put in place to address those risks.
- ▶ Understood the oversight given by those charged with governance of management's processes over fraud.
- ▶ Considered the effectiveness of management's controls designed to address the risk of fraud.
- ▶ Tested journals at year-end to ensure that there were no unexpected or unusual postings.
- ▶ Reviewed accounting estimates for evidence of management bias.
- ▶ Looked for and investigated any unusual transactions.

We used our data analytics capabilities to assist with our work, including journal entry testing. We assessed journal entries for evidence of management bias and evaluated for business rationale. We specifically reviewed any elements where judgement could influence the financial position or performance of the Authority in a more positive or more favourable way.

##### What are our conclusions?

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 or management bias. We did not identify any other transactions during our audit which appeared unusual or outside the normal course of business.



## Areas of Audit Focus

### Significant risk

#### Misstatements due to fraud or error – the incorrect capitalisation of revenue expenditure and REFCUS

##### What is the risk?

The Authority has a revenue budget it needs to operate within. Manipulating expenditure is a key way to achieve this objective.

We consider the risk applies to capitalisation of revenue expenditure and revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute (REFCUS). Management could manipulate revenue expenditure by incorrectly capitalising expenditure which is revenue in nature and should be charged to the comprehensive income and expenditure account.

##### What judgements are we focused on?

We have identified a risk of expenditure misstatement due to fraud or error that could affect the income and expenditure accounts.

We have focused on the Authority's judgement that an item is capital expenditure in nature and the judgement that expenditure treated as REFCUS is associated to an asset not owned by the Authority.

##### What did we do?

Our approach focused on:

- Testing a sample of capital expenditure, including Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS) to verify that revenue costs have not been inappropriately treated as capital.
- Verifying adjustments between the accounting basis and funding basis have been correctly made in accordance with the Code, and reflected appropriately in the Authority's Movement in Reserves Statement (the MiRS).

##### What are our conclusions?

We carried out testing against this risk as part of the interim audit and found no issues. We are currently completing our year end testing and will report our findings and conclusions when complete.





## Areas of Audit Focus

### New accounting standards

The Code requires the Authority to comply with the requirements of two new accounting standards for 2018/19 and make preparations for another new standard for 2020/21. These standards are:

► IFRS 9 - Financial instruments    ► IFRS 15 - Revenue from contracts    ► IFRS 16 - Leases

There is an inherent risk in relation to implementing new accounting standards and carrying out a sufficient assessment and evaluation.

Standard	Audit Findings
IFRS 9 - Financial Instruments	Our audit procedures for financial instruments did not identify any audit issues.
IFRS 15 - Revenue from Contracts	Our audit procedures for revenue from contracts did not identify any audit issues.
IFRS 16 - Leases	The Authority will need to consider the operating leases it currently holds.

In addition, changes have been made to the CIPFA/LAASAC Code for 2019/20, as noted below:

- The revised IASB Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting (Conceptual Framework), the main elements being (2019/20 Code Cpt 2.1 refers);
  - new definitions of assets, liabilities, income and expenses
  - updates for the inclusion of the recognition process and criteria and new provisions on de-recognition
  - enhanced guidance on measurement bases
- Guidance in the treatment of the Apprenticeship Levy (2019/20 Code Cpt 2.11 refers)
- Updated guidance on IFRS 9 Financial Instruments: Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation & LOBOs (2019/20 Code Cpt 2.11 refers)
- Clarifications for the disclosure requirements with respect to interests in entities within the scope of IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations (2019/20 Code Cpt 9 refers).

### Severance payment to the outgoing Chief Executive

In March 2019 we reviewed the relevant information from the Authority's Monitoring Officer including legal advice and the rationale for the calculation and composition of the severance payment. We reported to the Committee that we had no issues to report.

We have carried an initial review of the related disclosure in the 2018/19 statement of accounts and have no further matters to report.

### Governance and accountability arrangements for The Business Board

We have confirmed that the financial transactions of The Business Board are included in the statement of accounts of the Authority. We have no matters to report.



03

## Audit Report



# Audit Report

## Our draft opinion on the financial statements

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority for the year ended 31 March 2019 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The financial statements comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Movement in Reserves Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, the related notes 1 to 46, and the Statement of Accounting Policies.

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 2018/19.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority as at 31 March 2019 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19.

#### 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 Authority 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) AGN01, 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 Financial Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Chief Financial Officer has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Authority'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.



# Audit Report

## Our draft opinion on the financial statements

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts 2018/19, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Chief Financial 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.

### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, having regard to the guidance issued by the C&AG in November 2017, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2019.

### Matters on which we report by exception

We report to you if:

- in our opinion the annual governance statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information forthcoming from the audit or our knowledge of the Authority;
- 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.



# Audit Report

## Our draft opinion on the financial statements

### Responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the 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 2018/19, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for assessing the Authority'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 Authority either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

### 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.

### Scope of the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in November 2017, as to whether Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people. The C&AG determined this criterion as that necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2019.



# Audit Report

## Our draft opinion on the financial statements

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, Peterborough City Council had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements.

We report if significant matters have come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority, 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.

*Suresh Patel (Key Audit Partner)*  
*Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor)*  
*Cambridge*  
*XXXX 2019*



## 04 Audit Differences



## 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 adjusted differences

To date there is one adjusted difference, identified by management after they prepared the draft accounts. It relates to an adjustment of £0.881 million between REFCUS and Other expenditure (i.e. recoding some other expenditure that qualified as REFCUS back to REFCUS).

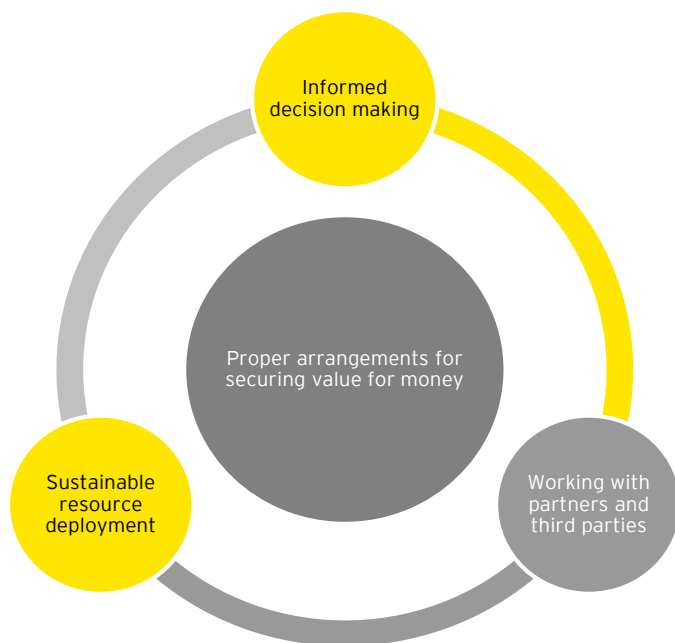


05

## Value for Money Risks



# Value for Money



## Background

We are required to consider whether the Authority has put in place 'proper arrangements' to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness on its use of resources. This is known as our value for money conclusion.

For 2018/19 this is based on the overall evaluation criterion:

"In all significant respects, the audited body had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people"

Proper arrangements are defined by statutory guidance issued by the National Audit Office. They comprise your arrangements to:

- Take informed decisions;
- Deploy resources in a sustainable manner; and
- Work with partners and other third parties.

In considering your proper arrangements, we will draw on the requirements of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework for local government to ensure that our assessment is made against a framework that you are already required to have in place and to report on through documents such as your annual governance statement.

## Overall conclusion

In our Final Audit Plan of March 2019 we identified four significant risks around these arrangements. The tables below present our findings in response to those risks.

Overall we have no matters to include in the auditor's report about your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.



# Value for Money Risks

We are only required to determine whether there are any risks that we consider significant within the Code of Audit Practice, where risk is defined as:  
*"A matter is significant if, in the auditor's professional view, it is reasonable to conclude that the matter would be of interest to the audited body or the wider public"*

Our risk assessment supports the planning of enough work to deliver a safe conclusion on your arrangements to secure value for money, and enables us to determine the nature and extent of any further work needed. If we do not identify a significant risk we do not need to carry out further work.

We present below the findings of our work in response to the risks areas in our audit plan as well as the additional risk identified since then.

What is the significant value for money risk?	What arrangements did the risk affect?	What are our findings?
<b>1. Proper arrangements</b> In 2017/18 we concluded that the Authority had the relevant proper arrangements in place to secure effective use of its resources. However, we reported that in light of the relatively short time since the Authority was established, there were aspects of the Authority's arrangements that had only been put into place at the end of the financial year. For 2018/19 we will revisit those arrangements to seek assurance from the Authority that they are not only in place but also demonstrating the outcomes that they have been designed to deliver.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informed decision making</li><li>• Deploying resources in a sustainable manner</li><li>• Working with partners and other third parties</li></ul>	We have reviewed minutes of board and committee meetings, obtained a significant volume of policy documents, held discussions with management and considered the work of internal audit. We have obtained sufficient evidence from the Authority to demonstrate that the proper arrangements put in place during 2017/18 are now operating as designed.
<b>2. Governance &amp; Financial arrangements for The Business Board (TBB)</b> The Authority established TBB on 1 April 2018. It needs to ensure that the arrangements enable it to secure effective use of its resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informed decision making</li><li>• Deploying resources in a sustainable manner</li><li>• Working with partners and other third parties</li></ul>	We have reviewed the minutes of the TBB meetings throughout the year and considered accompanying policy documents. We have also held discussions with management in respect of the governance and financial activity of TBB.  We have obtained evidence that the Authority has put in place adequate arrangements in respect of the use of resources in relation to TBB.



# Value for Money Risks

What is the significant value for money risk?	What arrangements did the risk affect?	What are our findings?
<p><b><u>3. Accelerated delivery processes</u></b></p> <p>At the time of drafting the March 2019 Final Audit Plan there was a risk that the Authority was seeking to accelerate delivery processes to increase the speed of project activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informed decision making</li><li>• Deploying resources in a sustainable manner</li><li>• Working with partners and other third parties</li></ul>	<p>We made enquiries to management about the acceleration of delivery processes for projects. Management stated that no projects during 2018/19 had been accelerated through the relevant governance and approval processes.</p> <p>We also reviewed board and committee papers for any evidence that delivery processes were being accelerated. We found no such evidence.</p> <p>As a result, we have not carried out any specific procedures in relation to this risk.</p>
<p><b><u>4. Robustness of the budget and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)</u></b></p> <p>In late 2018 Members raised concerns over the robustness of the budget and the MTFS. As a result, the joint Chief Executives commissioned an independent external review of these items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informed decision making</li><li>• Deploying resources in a sustainable manner</li></ul>	<p>We have reviewed the findings of the independent external review and compared it to our own understanding of the Authority's 2018/19 budget and MTFS.</p> <p>We have not identified any matters which we deem necessary to report to the Audit and Governance Committee or management.</p>



## 06 Other reporting issues

## Other reporting issues

### Consistency of other information published with the financial statements, including the Annual Governance Statement

We must give an opinion on the consistency of the financial and non-financial information in the Statement of Accounts 2018/19 with the audited financial statements. We must also review the Annual Governance Statement for completeness of disclosures, consistency with other information from our work, and whether it complies with relevant guidance.

Financial information in the Statement of Accounts 2018/19 and published with the financial statements was consistent with the audited financial statements.

We have reviewed the latest version of the Annual Governance Statement and can confirm it is consistent with other information from our audit of the financial statements and we have no other matters to report.

### 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.



07

## Assessment of Control Environment



# 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.



08

## Independence



### Confirmation

We confirm that there are no changes in our assessment of independence since our confirmation in our audit plan dated 11 March 2019.

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 and Governance 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 19 July 2019.

We confirm we have not undertaken any non-audit work outside the NAO Code requirements in relation to our work.



### Relationships, services and related threats and safeguards

The FRC Ethical Standard requires that we provide details of all relationships between Ernst & Young (EY) and your Authority, and its directors and senior management and its affiliates, including all services provided by us and our network to your Authority, its directors and senior management and its affiliates, and other services provided to other known connected parties that we consider may reasonably be thought to bear on the our integrity or objectivity, including those that could compromise independence and the related safeguards that are in place and why they address the threats. There are no relationships from 1 April 2018 to the date of this report, which we consider may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and objectivity.

#### Services provided by Ernst & Young

The table overleaf includes a summary of the fees that you have paid to us in the year ended 31 March 2019 in line with the disclosures set out in FRC Ethical Standard and in statute.

As at the date of this report, there are no future services which have been contracted and no written proposal to provide non-audit services has been submitted.

## 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 2019.

We confirm that we have not undertaken non-audit work outside the NAO Code requirements. We have adopted the necessary safeguards in completing this work and complied with Auditor Guidance Note 1 issued by the NAO.

	Final fee 2018/19	Planned fee 2018/19	Scale fee 2018/19	Final Fee 2017/18
		£	£	£
Planned Code work	26,950	26,950	26,950	35,000
Additional Code work:				
- Capital accounting issues	-	-	-	1,700
- VFM risks*	3,500*	3,500	-	2,000
- CEO severance*	1,000	1,000	-	-
<b>Total Code work*</b>	<b>31,450</b>	<b>31,450</b>	<b>26,950</b>	<b>38,700</b>

*All fees exclude VAT*

\* We have performed additional work as a result of the risks identified in this audit results report. We reported planned fees in March 2019 and will confirm the final fee with the Chief Financial Officer on completion of the audit. Any additional fee is subject to agreement with PSAA. We will then report to the Audit & Governance Committee at a later date.





09

## Appendices

## Appendix A

# Required communications with the Audit and Governance 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 & Governance 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.	Final Audit Plan - March 2019
Planning and audit approach	Communication of the planned scope and timing of the audit, any limitations and the significant risks identified.	Final Audit Plan - March 2019
Significant findings from the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 Results Report - July 2019




## Appendix A

		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Going concern	<p>Events or conditions identified that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	No conditions or events were identified, either individually or together to raise any doubt about the Authority's ability to continue for the 12 months from the date of our report
Misstatements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 - July 2019
Subsequent events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Enquiry of the Audit &amp; Governance Committee where appropriate regarding whether any subsequent events have occurred that might affect the financial</li> </ul>	
Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Enquiries of the Audit &amp; Governance 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:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management;</li> <li>Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or</li> <li>Others where the fraud results in a material misstatement in the financial statements.</li> </ol> </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 &amp; Governance Committee responsibility.</li> </ul>	Audit Results Report - July 2019

## Appendix A

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	  When and where
Related parties	<p>Significant matters arising during the audit in connection with the Authority's related parties including, when applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Non-disclosure by management</li> <li>▶ Inappropriate authorisation and approval of transactions</li> <li>▶ Disagreement over disclosures, Non-compliance with laws and regulations</li> <li>▶ Difficulty in identifying the party that ultimately controls the Authority</li> </ul>	Audit Results Report - July 2019
Independence	<p>Communication of all significant facts and matters that bear on EY's, and all individuals involved in the audit, objectivity and independence.</p> <p>Communication of key elements of the audit engagement partner's consideration of independence and objectivity such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The principal threats</li> <li>▶ Safeguards adopted and their effectiveness</li> <li>▶ An overall assessment of threats and safeguards</li> <li>▶ Information about the general policies and process within the firm to maintain objectivity and independence</li> </ul> <p>Communications whenever significant judgments are made about threats to objectivity and independence and the appropriateness of safeguards put in place.</p> <p>For public interest entities and listed companies, communication of minimum requirements as detailed in the FRC Revised Ethical Standard 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Relationships between EY, the company and senior management, its affiliates and its connected parties</li> <li>▶ Services provided by EY that may reasonably bear on the auditors' objectivity and independence</li> <li>▶ Related safeguards</li> <li>▶ Fees charged by EY analysed into appropriate categories such as statutory audit fees, tax advisory fees, other non-audit service fees</li> <li>▶ A statement of compliance with the Ethical Standard, including any non-EY firms or external experts used in the audit</li> </ul>	Final Audit Plan - March 2019 and Audit Results Report - July 2019

## Appendix A

		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	  When and where
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Details of any inconsistencies between the Ethical Standard and Authority's policy for the provision of non-audit services, and any apparent breach of that policy</li> <li>▶ Details of any contingent fee arrangements for non-audit services</li> <li>▶ Where EY has determined it is appropriate to apply more restrictive rules than permitted under the Ethical Standard</li> <li>▶ The audit committee should also be provided an opportunity to discuss matters affecting auditor independence</li> </ul>	
External confirmations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Management's refusal for us to request confirmations</li> <li>▶ Inability to obtain relevant and reliable audit evidence from other procedures.</li> </ul>	We have received all requested confirmations
Consideration of laws and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 &amp; Governance committee may be aware of</li> </ul>	We have asked management and those charged with governance. We have not identified any material instances or non-compliance with laws and regulations
Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit.</li> </ul>	Audit Results Report - July 2019

## Appendix A

		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Written representations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance</li> </ul>	Audit Results Report - July 2019
Material inconsistencies or misstatements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise</li> </ul>	Audit Results Report - July 2019
Auditors report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any circumstances identified that affect the form and content of our auditor's report</li> </ul>	Audit Results Report - July 2019
Fee Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breakdown of fee information when the audit plan is agreed</li> <li>Breakdown of fee information at the completion of the audit</li> <li>Any non-audit work</li> </ul>	Final Audit Plan - March 2019 and Audit Results Report - July 2019



## Appendix C

# Management representation letter

### Management Rep Letter

## EY | Assurance | Tax | Transactions | Advisory

### About EY

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

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