

**EXTERNAL AUDIT – AUDIT RESULTS REPORT (ISA 260)
AND LETTER OF REPRESENTATION**

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To allow the Audit Committee to review the draft Audit Results Report – ISA260 from the External Auditors and agree the letter of representation.

2. Recommendations/for decision

- | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>2.1 The Committee is asked to receive the External Auditors' report to those charged with governance and to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Note the matters raised in the report and any other comments made by the External Auditors in its introduction to the item.(ii) to note and agree the contents of the letter of representation and associated schedule to be signed by the Chairman of the Audit Committee |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

3. Supporting information

- 3.1 The Council is required to receive the report from the External Auditors to those charged with governance at a formal committee meeting before the end of September 2017.
- 3.2 In addition the committee is required to approve the content of the letter of representation which has to be signed by the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

This report is an integral part of the independent external audit review process.

5. Resource implications

None.

Aylesbury Vale District
Council

Audit results report

Year ended 31 March 2017

Private and Confidential

8 September 2017

Dear Audit Committee Members

We have substantially completed our audit of Aylesbury Vale District Council (the Authority) for the year ended 31 March 2017.

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 30th September 2017. 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 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 look forward to discussing with you any aspects of this report or any other issues arising from our work.

Yours faithfully

Maria Grindley
Executive Director

For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP

United Kingdom

Contents

01 Executive Summary

02 Areas of Audit Focus

03 Audit Report

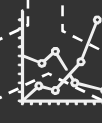
04 Audit Differences

05 Value for Money

06 Other Reporting Issues

07 Assessment of Control Environment

08 Appendices



In April 2015 Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) issued "Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies". It is available via the PSAA website (www.PSAA.co.uk).

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, other members of the Authority and management of Aylesbury Vale District Council in accordance with the statement of responsibilities. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Audit Committee, other members of the Authority and management of Aylesbury Vale District Council 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, other members of the Authority and management of Aylesbury Vale District Council for this report or for the opinions we have formed. It should not be provided to any third-party without obtaining our written consent.



01

Executive Summary



Executive Summary

Overview of the audit

Scope and materiality

In our Audit Plan presented at the 23rd January 2017 Audit Committee meeting, we gave you an overview of how we intended to carry out our responsibilities as your auditor. We carried out our audit in accordance with this plan. We note the following changes:

We planned our procedures using a materiality of £1.962m. We reassessed this using the actual year-end figures which have decreased this amount to £1.910m. The threshold for reporting audit differences has decreased from £98k to £96k. The basis of our assessment of materiality has remained consistent with prior years at 2% of Gross Revenue Expenditure.

We also identified areas where misstatement at a lower level than materiality might influence the reader and developed a specific audit strategy for them. They include:

- Remuneration disclosures including any severance payments, exit packages and termination benefits.
- Related party transactions.

Status of the audit

We have substantially completed our audit of Aylesbury Vale District Council's financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2017 and have performed the procedures outlined in our Audit plan. Subject to satisfactory completion of the following outstanding items, we expect to issue an unqualified opinion on the Authority's financial statements in the form which appears at Section 3. However until the following work is complete and final tasks reviewed, further amendments may arise:

- review of the final version of the financial statements;
- completion of subsequent events review; and
- receipt of the signed management representation letter.



Executive Summary

Executive summary (continued)

Status of the audit (continued)

We expect to issue the audit certificate at the same time as the audit opinion.

Audit differences

We identified one audit difference in the draft financial statements which management has chosen not to adjust. We ask that it be corrected or a rationale given as to why it is not corrected to be approved by the Audit Committee and included in the Letter of Representation. The aggregated impact of unadjusted audit differences is £650k. We agree with management's assessment that the impact is not material.

We have also identified a number of audit differences which have been adjusted by management. Details can be found in Section 4 Audit Differences.

Areas of audit focus

Our Audit Plan identified key areas of focus for our audit of Aylesbury Vale District Council's financial statements. This report sets out our observations and conclusions, including our views on areas which might be conservative, and where there is potential risk and exposure. We summarise our consideration of these matters, and any others identified, in the "Key Audit Issues" 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;
- You agree with the resolution of the issue; 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 the attention of the Audit Committee.



Executive Summary

Executive summary (continued)

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 have considered if we were required to perform the procedures required by the National Audit Office (NAO) on the Whole of Government Accounts submission. We found that Aylesbury Vale District Council was under the threshold for detailed testing.

We have no other matters to report.

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 Audit Plan we did not identify a VFM significant risk.

We have no matters to report about your arrangements to secure economy efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.



Executive Summary

Executive summary (continued)

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 performed detailed testing on the operation of controls.

During the audit we identified observations and/or improvement recommendations for management's financial processes and controls. We provide further information at Section 7 Control Observations within this report.

We have also identified an issue where the advertisement in respect of the public inspection period. Although covering 30 working days, the inspection period did not fully include the mandatory period (3-14 July) per the NAO.

Independence

Please refer to Appendix B for our update on Independence.





02 Areas of Audit Focus





Areas of Audit Focus

Audit issues and approach: Revenue and Expenditure Recognition

Revenue and Expenditure Recognition

What are our conclusions?

Our testing has not identified any material misstatements from revenue and expenditure recognition.

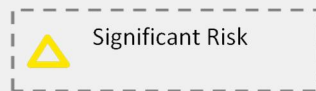
Overall our audit work did not identify any material issues or unusual transactions to indicate any misreporting of the Authority's financial position.

What is the risk?

Risk of fraud in revenue recognition

Under ISA240 there is a presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to improper recognition of revenue. In this public sector this requirement is modified by Practice Note 10, issued by the Financial Reporting Council, which states that auditors should also consider the risk that material misstatements may occur by manipulating expenditure recognition.

One particular area of focus will be the capitalisation of revenue expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment given the extent of the Council's capital programme.



What did we do?

- ▶ We reviewed and tested revenue and expenditure recognition policies;
- ▶ We reviewed and discussed with management any accounting estimates on revenue or expenditure recognition for evidence of bias;
- ▶ We developed a testing strategy to test material revenue and expenditure streams;
- ▶ We reviewed and tested revenue cut-off at the period end date; and
- ▶ We reviewed and tested Capital spend to ensure the appropriateness of capital/revenue spending and coding.



Areas of Audit Focus

Audit issues and approach: Management Override

Management override

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.

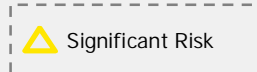
We did not identify any other transactions during our audit which appeared unusual or outside the Authority's normal course of business.

We noted a number of material errors in PPE but none which were indicative of management override. Further details of these errors can be found at Sections 4 and 7 within this report.

What is the risk?

Risk of management override

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



What did we do?

- We tested the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparing the financial statements;
- We reviewed accounting estimates for evidence of management bias; and
- We evaluated the business rationale for any significant unusual transactions.



Areas of Audit Focus

Audit issues and approach: Reliance on experts

Reliance on experts

Reliance on experts highlighted in the Audit Plan

We identified two major areas in our Audit Plan where we place reliance on experts: Pensions Valuation and Property Valuation. This also fitted with our top 'Other Areas of Audit Focus: Pensions Valuation and Property Valuation.

In accordance with Auditing Standards, we have evaluated each specialist's professional competence and objectivity, considering their qualifications, experience and available resources, together with the independence of the individuals performing the work.

We have also considered the work performed by the specialist in light of our knowledge of Aylesbury Vale District Council's environment and processes and our assessment of audit risk in the particular area. As part of this work we have performed the following procedures:

- ▶ Analysed source data and make inquiries as to the procedures used by the expert to establish whether the source data is relevant and reliable;
- ▶ Assessed the reasonableness of the assumptions and methods used;
- ▶ Considered the appropriateness of the timing of when the specialist carried out the work; and
- ▶ Assessed whether the substance of the specialist's findings are properly reflected in the financial statements.

We set out our findings in relation to the two specialists we have relied on below:

Pension disclosures:

We have assessed and are satisfied with the competency and objectivity of the Council's actuary: Barnett Waddingham. EY Pensions team and PwC (Consulting Actuary to the NAO) have reviewed the work of the actuaries. We challenged the significant movement in the actuarial valuation and found no indication of management bias in this estimate. We have noted that PwC as part of their central review have reported that the discount rate applied by Barnett Waddingham falls outside the top end of their expected range. Our EY pensions team agree with this conclusion. In respect of Barnett Waddingham their conclusion was that 'the methodologies used to derive the discount rate and RPI inflation assumptions are not robust as they do not take adequate account of the duration of the schemes liabilities. In future years this could lead to unacceptable assumptions'. We noted no specific issue for Aylesbury Vale District Council in the current year as their estimated duration of scheme liabilities fell within the accepted range.

Property valuations:

We have assessed and are satisfied with the competency and objectivity of the valuers, Wilks Head & Eve

We have undertaken appropriate audit procedures to verify and challenge critically the basis of valuation adopted by the valuer in relation to the Authority's assets, focusing in particular on specialist assets valued on a depreciated replacement costs basis. Our work in this area is concluded and we have not identified any issues that we need to report to you.



03 Audit Report



Draft audit report

Our opinion on the financial statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Opinion on the Authority's financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of Aylesbury Vale District Council for the year ended 31 March 2017 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The financial statements comprise the:

- Aylesbury Vales District Council and Group Movement in Reserves Statement,
- Aylesbury Vale District Council and Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement,
- Aylesbury Vale District Council and Group Balance Sheet,
- Aylesbury Vale District Council and Group Cash Flow Statement,
- Related Notes to support the financial statements 1 to 43, and
- Collection Fund and the related notes 1 to 4

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 2016/17.

This report is made solely to the members of Aylesbury Vale District 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 Aylesbury Vale District Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Audit Report

Draft audit report (continued)

Our opinion on the financial statements

Respective responsibilities of the Director and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director's Responsibilities set out on page 6, the Director with responsibility for Finance 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 2016/17, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to Aylesbury Vale District Council and Group's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Director with responsibility for Finance; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Statement of Accounts 2016/17 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Aylesbury Vale District Council and Group as at 31 March 2017 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 2016/17.



Audit Report

Draft audit report (continued)

Our opinion on the financial statements

Opinion on other matters

In our opinion, the information given in the Statement of Accounts 2016/17 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

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 Council;
- 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.

Conclusion on Aylesbury Vale District Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Authority's responsibilities

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.



Audit Report

Draft audit report (continued)

Our opinion on the financial statements

Auditor's responsibilities

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.

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 2016, as to whether Aylesbury Vale District Council 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 Comptroller and Auditor General determined this criterion as that necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether Aylesbury Vale District Council put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2017.

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, Aylesbury Vale District Council had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.



Audit Report

Draft audit report (continued)

Our opinion on the financial statements

Conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance issued by the C&AG in November 2016, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Aylesbury Vale District Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2017.

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts of Aylesbury Vale District Council and Group in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

*Maria Grindley (senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Appointed Auditor
Reading
25th September 2017*

The following foot note should be added to the audit report when it is published or distributed electronically:

The maintenance and integrity of the Aylesbury Vale District Council web site is the responsibility of the directors; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the web site.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.



04

Audit Differences



Audit Differences

Audit differences

In any audit, we may identify misstatements between amounts we believe should be recorded in the financial statements and 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

We have included all known amounts greater than £1.433m relating to Aylesbury Vale District Council in our summary of misstatements table below.

We highlight the following misstatements in the financial statements or disclosures identified during the audit. These have been corrected by management:

- We noted that the revised revaluation figures had been input incorrectly into the Fixed Asset Register. The values should have been input split in line with their asset category i.e. Land or Buildings. Instead they had all been input as either Land or Buildings. As a result all of the revaluations had to be removed and re-input correctly. The total value of revalued assets was approximately £37.5m.
- We also identified a number of assets which should have been revalued and had not. These were subsequently revalued after the balance sheet date and were revalued at an increased value. The total value of assets which needed to be subsequently revalued was £9.729m. The asset classification of these assets was also changed from Surplus Assets to Other Land and Buildings.

There was one uncorrected misstatement.

We highlight the following misstatement in the financial statements and/or disclosures which were not corrected by management. We ask you to correct these uncorrected misstatements or give a rationale as to why they have not been corrected. This should be considered and approved by the Audit Committee and included in the Letter of Representation:

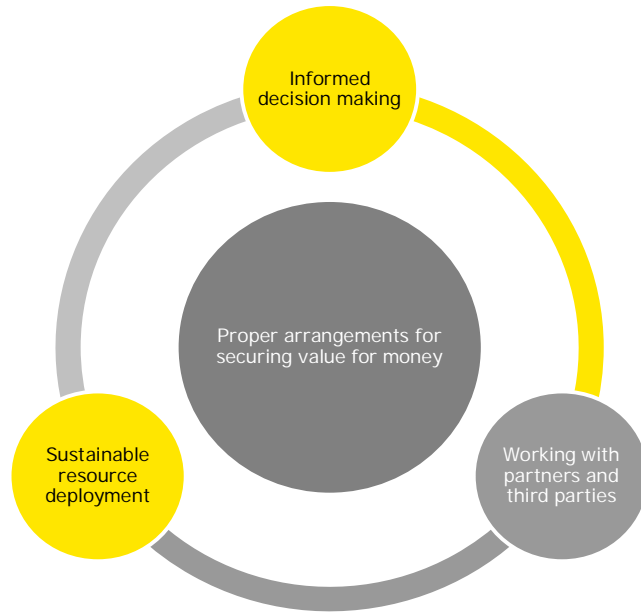
This was in respect of the overstatement of car park assets post revaluation. This occurred because of an incorrect entry on revaluations. The value of this error is approximately £650k with the Land element of a number of car parks being overstated post revaluation. In line with statutory requirements we have asked management and the Audit Committee to specify the reason/s for non-adjustment in the Letter of Representation.



05 Value for Money



Value for Money



Economy, efficiency and effectiveness

We must consider whether you have 'proper arrangements' to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources. This is known as our value for money conclusion.

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 use the CIPFA/SOLACE framework for local government to ensure that our assessment is made against an already existing mandatory framework which you use in documents such as your Annual Governance Statement.

Overall conclusion

We did not identify any significant risks around these criteria

We therefore expect having no matters to report about your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.



Value for Money

VFM risks

We are only required to determine whether there is any risk 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 did not identify a VFM Significant Risk.

What are our findings?

We noted as part of our review that the financial sustainability of Aylesbury Vale District Council has remained consistent year on year in respect of the Usable Reserves at the disposal of the Council. General Fund Balances (including Earmarked Reserves) decreased slightly from £36.011m to £35.711m. This gives Aylesbury Vale District Council a degree of certainty in uncertain times. This position is supplemented by a strong cash and short-term investment position of approximately £43m. We note from discussions with officers that a number of different options are being investigated in respect of optimising returns on investments assets and wider income generation.

We note the Aylesbury Vale Transformation programme which commenced in 2016/17 and will conclude in 2017/18. This will bring considerable pressures on internal teams as the new structures develop and embed within the organisation. We also note that the impact of the Transformation programme is adequately reflected in the corporate risk register. This will need to continue to be actively monitored in the coming financial year and closely monitored against key Internal Audit Reports to assess any potential impact on the control environment. Discussions with officers in respect of this significant change have confirmed that this is an area which will be closely monitored in the coming year. We will revisit this area as part of our annual audit in 2017/18.

The next few years will undoubtedly bring further challenges including, but not limited to, a further reduction in core Government grants such as the Revenue Support Grant and New Homes Bonus as well as further continued pressures on areas of income previously classed as significant. Other challenges and uncertainty include the proposed retention of NDR which was announced by the then Chancellor at the time George Osborne. Recent performance has highlighted that the Council continues to respond well to the challenges it faces and will need to apply such an aptitude in the coming years as well. The Corporate Risk Register details those risks with clearer evidence that the Risk Register being used effectively to manage the risk environment in which the Council operates.



06

Other reporting issues



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 2016/17 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 2016/17 and published with the financial statements was consistent with the audited financial statements.

We have reviewed 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.

Whole of Government Accounts

Alongside our work on the financial statements, we also review and report to the National Audit Office on your Whole of Government Accounts return. The extent of our review, and the nature of our report, is specified by the National Audit Office. As Aylesbury Vale District Council was under the threshold for Whole of Government Accounts detailed work, we have nothing 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.



Other reporting issues

Other reporting 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;
- Related parties;
- External confirmations;
- Going concern;
- Consideration of laws and regulations; and
- Group audits

We have nothing significant to report in respect of these areas here. We do highlight some findings and recommendations at *Section 7 Assessment of Control Environment*



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 identified the following in respect of Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE):

There were a number of errors identified this year, and previous years, in respect of the accounting for and financial reporting of PPE within the financial statements. There was also an internal audit report which raised some findings on PPE. Given some of the staffing changes within the Finance team, it is vital that this area of the financial statements is appropriately managed and controlled to ensure that the errors identified are not replicated in future years. Below, we note the key findings and recommendations:

1. 5 Year Valuation Policy:

An approved 5 year valuation plan should be prepared and reviewed to ensure that all assets are scheduled to be revalued within a 5 year cycle. We noted this year a number of assets which were outside that cycle and so had to be reviewed on ad hoc basis during the summer.

2. Valuation Postings:

Checking of valuation adjustments should be completed by an appropriately qualified member of staff to ensure that postings can be agreed back to the valuers report. We noted this year a number of errors in this area and as a result additional work had to be completed internally and externally to correct these. As we move towards the Faster Close Arrangements for the 2017/18 audit and timescales become tighter, it will be vital that errors are minimised where possible to ensure certification of the audit on time.

3. Economic Lives:

We also noted an issue in respect of how useful lives were being used to calculate depreciation. Depreciation was being calculated on updated asset lives determined at the year end. The correct treatment should have been to use the brought forward useful lives. As a result the depreciation postings had to be unwound, re-input and re-assessed.




08 Appendices





Appendix B

Required communications with the Audit Committee

There are certain communications that we must provide to the Audit Committees of UK clients. We have done this by:



 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.
Planning and audit approach	Communication of the planned scope and timing of the audit, including any limitations.	We presented our Audit Plan to the Audit Committee meeting on 23 January 2017
Significant findings from the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our view of the 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 	We presented our Audit Results Report to the Audit Committee meeting on 25 September 2017
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"> ▶ Whether the events or conditions constitute a material uncertainty ▶ Whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements ▶ The adequacy of related disclosures in the financial statements 	No conditions or events were identified, either individually or together to raise any doubt about Aylesbury Vale District Council's ability to continue for the 12 months from the date of our report.
Misstatements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Uncorrected misstatements and their effect on our audit opinion ▶ The effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods ▶ A request that any uncorrected misstatement be corrected ▶ Significant corrected misstatements, in writing 	We presented our Audit Results Report to the Audit Committee meeting on 25 September 2017



Appendix B

Our Reporting to you

Required communications	What is reported?	  When and where
Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Asking the audit committee whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud affecting the Authority ▶ Unless all those charged with governance are involved in managing the entity, any fraud identified or information obtained indicating that a fraud may exist involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) management; (b) employees with significant roles in internal control; or (c) others where the fraud results in a material misstatement in the financial statements. ▶ A discussion of any other matters related to fraud, relevant to Audit Committee responsibility. 	We have asked management and those charged with governance about arrangements to prevent or detect fraud. We have not become aware of any fraud or illegal acts during our audit.
Related parties	<p>Significant matters arising during the audit in connection with the Authority's related parties including, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Non-disclosure by management ▶ Inappropriate authorisation and approval of transactions ▶ Disagreement over disclosures ▶ Non-compliance with laws and/or regulations ▶ Difficulty in identifying the party that ultimately controls the entity 	We have no matters to report.
Subsequent events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Where appropriate, asking the audit committee whether any subsequent events have occurred that might affect the financial statements. 	We have asked management and those charged with governance. We have no matters to report.
Other information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Where material inconsistencies are identified in other information included in the document containing the financial statements, but management refuses to make the revision. 	We have no matters to report.
External confirmations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Management's refusal for us to request confirmations ▶ We were unable to obtain relevant and reliable audit evidence from other procedures. 	We have received all requested confirmations.
Consideration of laws and/or regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Audit findings of non-compliance where it is material and believed to be intentional. This communication is subject to compliance with legislation on "tipping off" ▶ Asking the audit committee about possible instances of non-compliance with laws and/or regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and known to the audit committee. 	We have asked management and those charged with governance. We have not identified any material instances or non-compliance with laws and regulations.



Appendix B

Our Reporting to you

Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit. 	Audit Results Report and Annual Audit Letter presented to the Audit Committee on 25 September 2017.
Group Audits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ An overview of the type of work to be performed on the financial information of the components ▶ An overview of the group audit team’s planned involvement in the component auditors’ work on the financial information of significant components ▶ Instances where the group audit team’s evaluation of a component auditor’s work of gave rise to a concern about its quality Any limitations on the group audit, for example, where the group engagement team’s access to information may have been restricted ▶ Fraud or suspected fraud involving group or component management, employees with significant roles in group-wide controls, or others where the fraud resulted in a material misstatement of the group financial statements. 	We presented our Audit Plan to the Audit Committee meeting on 23 January 2017 and the Audit Results Report to the Audit Committee on 25 September 2017.
Independence	<p>Communication of all significant facts and matters that have a bearing on EY’s objectivity and independence.</p> <p>Communicating key elements of the audit engagement partner’s consideration of independence and objectivity such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The principal threats ▶ Safeguards adopted and their effectiveness ▶ An overall assessment of threats and safeguards ▶ Information on the firm’s general policies and processes for maintaining objectivity and independence <p>Communications whenever significant judgments are made about threats to objectivity or independence and the appropriateness of safeguards,</p>	We presented our Audit Plan to the Audit Committee meeting on 23 January 2017 and the Audit Results Report to the Audit Committee on 25 September 2017.
Fee Reporting	<p>Breakdown of fee information when the audit plan is agreed</p> <p>Breakdown of fee information at the completion of the audit</p> <p>Any non-audit work</p>	We presented our Audit Plan to the Audit Committee meeting on 23 January 2017 and the Audit Results Report to the Audit Committee on 25 September 2017.
Certification work	Summary of certification work	We will report on our certification work after the certification deadline of 30 th November 2017.



Appendix B

Independence

We confirm that there are no changes in our assessment of independence since our confirmation in our audit planning board report dated 23 January 2017.

We complied with the APB 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 25th September 2017.

As part of our reporting on our independence, we set out below a summary of the fees paid for the year ended 31 March 2017.

We confirm that we have not undertaken non-audit work outside the PSAA Code requirements in 2016/17.

Description	Final Fee 2016/17	Planned Fee 2016/17	Scale Fee 2016/17	Final Fee 2015/16
Audit Fee – code work	56,785	56,785	56,785	56,785
Additional Fee*	TBC	0	0	0
Total Audit Fee – code work	TBC	56,785	56,785	56,785

Additional Fee*




As a result of errors identified during the audit in respect of Property, Plant and Equipment we needed additional resource beyond that originally planned. We will discuss this with senior officers in advance of being billed. In line with the requirements of the PSAA this will need to be formally approved by the PSAA before being confirmed and billed.



Appendix C

Outstanding matters

The following items are outstanding at the date of this report:

Item 	Actions to resolve 	Responsibility 
Final review of audited accounts incorporating agreed audit adjustments	Final review of audited accounts incorporating agreed audit adjustments	EY and management
Management representation letter	Receipt of signed management representation letter	Management
Subsequent events review	Completion of subsequent events procedures to the date of signing the audit report	EY and management
Outstanding Issues	Completion of any outstanding issues	EY and management





Appendix D

Accounting and regulatory update

Accounting update

Since the date of our last report to the Audit Committee, new accounting standards and interpretations have been issued. The following table provides a high level summary of those that have the potential to have the most significant impact on you:

Name	Summary of key measures 	Impact on Aylesbury Vale District Council 
<i>IFRS 9 Financial Instruments</i>	<p>Applicable for local authority accounts from the 2018/19 financial year and will change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How financial assets are classified and measured • How the impairment of financial assets are calculated • Financial hedge accounting • The disclosure requirements for financial assets. <p>• Transitional arrangements are included within the accounting standard, however as the 2018/19 Accounting Code of Practice for Local Authorities has yet to be issued it is unclear what the impact on local authority accounting will be and whether any accounting statutory overrides will be introduced to mitigate any impact.</p>	<p>Although some initial thoughts on the approach to adopting IFRS 9 have been issued by CIPFA, until the Code is issued and any statutory overrides are confirmed there remains some uncertainty. However, what is clear is that the Council will have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassify existing financial instrument assets • Remeasure and recalculate potential impairments of those assets; and • Prepare additional disclosure notes for material items <p>The Council is awaiting clarification of the exact requirements before investing time in the above work.</p>



Appendix D

<p><i>IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i></p>	<p>Applicable for local authority accounts from the 2018/19 financial year. This new standard deals with accounting for all contracts with customers except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leases;• Financial instruments;• Insurance contracts; and• for local authorities; Council Tax and NDR income. <p>The key requirements of the standard cover the identification of performance obligations under customer contracts and the linking of income to the meeting of those performance obligations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are transitional arrangements within the standard; however as the 2018/19 Accounting Code of Practice for Local Authorities has yet to be issued it is unclear what the impact on local authority accounting will be.	<p>As with IFRS 9, some initial thoughts on the approach to adopting IFRS 15 have been issued by CIPFA. However, until the Code is issued there remains some uncertainty. However, what is clear is that for all material income sources from customers the Council will have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disaggregate revenue into appropriate categories• Identify relevant performance obligations and allocate income to each• Summarise significant judgements <p>The Council is awaiting clarification of the exact requirements before investing time in the above work.</p>
<p><i>IFRS 16 Leases</i></p>	<p>IFRS 16 will be applicable for local authority accounts from the 2019/20 financial year.</p> <p>Whilst the definition of a lease remains similar to the current leasing standard; IAS 17, for local authorities who lease in a large number of assets the new standard will have a significant impact, with nearly all current leases being included on the balance sheet.</p> <p>There are transitional arrangements within the standard, although as the 2019/20 Accounting Code of Practice for Local Authorities has yet to be issued it is unclear what the impact on local authority accounting will be or whether any statutory overrides will be introduced.</p>	<p>Until the 2019/20 Accounting Code is issued and any statutory overrides are confirmed there remains some uncertainty in this area.</p> <p>However, what is clear is that the Council will need to undertake a detailed exercise to classify all of its leases and therefore must ensure that all lease arrangements are fully documented.</p> <p>The Council is as yet to commence work in this area due to the timing of implementation.</p>





Appendix D

Accounting and regulatory update (continued)

Progress report on implementation of new standards and regulations

In previous reports to the Audit Committee, we highlighted the issue of new accounting standards and regulatory developments. The following table summarises progress on implementation:

Name	Summary of key measures	Impact on Aylesbury Vale District Council  
<i>Earlier deadline for production and audit of the financial statements from 2017/18</i>	The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 introduced a significant change in statutory deadlines from the 2017/18 financial year. From that year the timetable for the preparation and approval of accounts will be brought forward with draft accounts needing to be prepared by 31 May and the publication of the audited accounts by 31 July.	<p>We acknowledge the work completed by the Council's staff in achieving a hard close to the accounts and preparation of the draft financial statements by 31st May 2017. The council achieved this by critically reviewing and amending the closedown process to achieve draft accounts production by 31st May for 2016/17;</p> <p>To build on this achievement and prepare for this change in 2017/18 the Council could undertake a number of steps as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamlining the Statement of Accounts removing all non-material disclosure notes; • Bringing forward the commissioning and production of key externally provided information such as IAS 19 pension information, asset valuations; • Provided training to departmental finance staff regarding the requirements and implications of earlier closedown; • Re-ordering tasks from year-end to monthly/quarterly timing, reducing year-end pressure; • Establishing and agreeing working materiality amounts with external audit. <p>As auditors, nationally we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued a thought piece on early closedown; • As part of the strategic Alliance with CIPFA jointly presented accounts closedown workshops across England, Scotland and Wales ; • Presented at CIPFA early closedown events and on the subject at the Local Government Accounting Conferences in July 2017. <p>Locally we have had regular discussions through the year on the Council's proposals to bring forward the closedown timetable</p> <p>Together with the Council we agreed areas for early work which have included testing of major income and expenditure streams at month 9, reviewing calculation and allocation of depreciation charges, discussing and agreeing material estimation procedures by end of March. We also tested other areas of the accounts where possible including, for example, exit packages.</p>



Appendix E

Management representation letter

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

[To be prepared on the entity's letterhead]

25th September 2017

Maria Grindley
EY LLP
Apex Plaza
Forbury Road
Reading
RG1 1YE

Dear Maria,

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the consolidated and council financial statements of Aylesbury Vale District Council ("the Group and Council") for the year ended 31 March 2017. 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 consolidated and council financial statements give a true and fair view of the Group and Council financial position of Aylesbury Vale District Council as of 31 March 2017 and of its financial performance (or operations) and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of our consolidated and council financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, 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.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

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 2016/17.
2. We acknowledge, as members of management of the Group and Council, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the consolidated and council financial statements. We believe the consolidated and council financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance (or results of operations) and cash flows of the Group in accordance with [the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17 and are free of material misstatements, including omissions. We have approved the consolidated and council financial statements.
3. The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the Group and Council financial statements are appropriately described in the Group and Council financial statements.
4. As members of management of the Group and Council, we believe that the Group and Council have 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 2016/17 for the Group and Council that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
5. We believe that the effects of any unadjusted audit differences, summarised in the accompanying schedule, accumulated by you during the current audit and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the consolidated and council financial statements taken as a whole. We have not corrected these differences identified by and brought to the attention from the auditor because we consider that a wider review of the way in which car parks have previously been valued is necessary in order to improve consistency.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

It was therefore agreed that a full revaluation of the Council's car parks will be undertaken in 2017/18 to ensure consistency of approach and correction of the issue identified by the auditors..

B. Fraud

1. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.
2. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the consolidated and council financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
3. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud involving management or other employees who have a significant role in the Group or Council's internal controls over financial reporting. In addition, we have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud involving other employees in which the fraud could have a material effect on the consolidated or council financial statements. We have no knowledge of any allegations of financial improprieties, including fraud or suspected fraud, (regardless of the source or form and including without limitation, any allegations by "whistleblowers") which could result in a misstatement of the consolidated or council financial statements or otherwise affect the financial reporting of the Group or Council.

C. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

1. We have disclosed to you all identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the consolidated and council financial statements.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

D. 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; and
 - Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
2. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the consolidated and council financial statements.
3. We have made available to you all minutes of the meetings of the Council, Cabinet and Audit Committees held throughout the year up to the 25th September 2017.
4. We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding the identification of related parties. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Group and Council'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 year ended, as well as related balances due to or from such parties at the year end. These transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the consolidated and council financial statements.
5. We believe that the significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

6. We have disclosed to you, and the Group and Council has complied with, all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the consolidated and council financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.

E. 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 consolidated and council 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.

F. Subsequent Events

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

G. Other information

1. We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the other information. The other information comprises Narrative Report and the Annual Governance Statement 2016/17.
2. We confirm that the content contained within the other information is consistent with the financial statements.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

H. SERCOP Re-statement

Comparative information – comparative financial statements

In connection with your audit of the comparative financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2107, we represent, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following:

1. The comparative amounts have been correctly restated to reflect the above matter and appropriate note disclosure of this restatement has also been included in the current year's financial statements.
2. There have been no significant errors or misstatements, or changes in accounting policies, other than the matters described above, that would require a restatement of the comparative amounts in the current year's financial statements. Other differences in the amounts shown as comparative amounts from the amounts in the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2017 are solely the result of reclassifications for comparative purposes.

I. Ownership of Assets

1. Except for assets capitalised under finance leases, the Group and Council has satisfactory title to all assets appearing in the balance sheet(s), and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Group and Council's assets, nor has any asset been pledged as collateral. All assets to which the Group and Council has satisfactory title appear in the balance sheet(s).
2. All agreements and options to buy back assets previously sold have been properly recorded and adequately disclosed in the consolidated and council financial statements.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

3. We have no plans to abandon lines of product or other plans or intentions that will result in any excess or obsolete inventory, and no inventory is stated at an amount in excess of net realisable value.
4. There are no formal or informal compensating balance arrangements with any of our cash and investment accounts. We have no other line of credit arrangements.

J. Reserves

1. We have properly recorded or disclosed in the consolidated and council financial statements the useable and unusable reserves.

K. Contingent Liabilities

1. We are unaware of any violations or possible violations of laws or regulations the effects of which should be considered for disclosure in the consolidated and council financial statements or as the basis of recording a contingent loss (other than those disclosed or accrued in the consolidated and council financial statements).
2. We are unaware of any known or probable instances of non-compliance with the requirements of regulatory or governmental authorities, including their financial reporting requirements, and there have been no communications from regulatory agencies or government representatives concerning investigations or allegations of non-compliance, except as follows:
 - (1) Matters of routine, normal, recurring nature (e.g., examinations by bank and insurance examiners, examinations by taxing authorities), none of which involves any allegations of noncompliance with laws or regulations that should be considered for disclosure in the consolidated and council financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

L. Use of the Work of a Specialist

1. We agree with the findings of the specialists that we engaged to evaluate the valuation of property, plant and equipment and the valuation of IAS 19 actuarial valuations of pension fund liabilities and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the consolidated and council 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.

M. Estimates

Pensions Liability and Property Plant and Equipment Valuations

1. We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimates have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.
2. We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the estimates in respect of the property, plant and equipment and pensions liability valuation estimates appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.
3. We confirm that the disclosures made in the consolidated and council financial statements with respect to the accounting estimates are complete and made in accordance with CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.
4. We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimates and disclosures in the consolidated and Council financial statements due to subsequent events.



Appendix E

Management representation letter (continued)

Aylesbury Vale District Council Management Representation Letter 2016-17

Management Rep Letter

N. Retirement benefits

1. On the basis of the process established by us and having made appropriate enquiries, we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the scheme liabilities are consistent with our knowledge of the business. All significant retirement benefits and all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Small – Director of Finance

Councillor Kevin Hewson - Chairman of the Audit Committee

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.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

© 2017 EYGM Limited.

All Rights Reserved.

ED None

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com

Aylesbury Vale District Council

Unadjusted Summary of Audit Differences Schedule 2016-17

Car Park Revaluations (NB Car Parks Overstated)

DR	Revaluation Reserve	£649,500
CR	Other Land and Buildings	(£649,500)