### Resources & Business Transformation

Service Director (Finance & Commercial Services) Richard Ambrose

## **Buckinghamshire County Council**

Finance & Commercial Services County Hall, Walton Street Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP20 1UD

> Telephone 0845 3708090 www.buckscc.gov.uk

> Date: 23 September 2014

Grant Thornton UK LLP Grant Thornton House Melton Street Euston Square LONDON NW1 2EP

Dear Sirs

# Buckinghamshire County Council Pension Fund - Financial Statements for the ended 31 March 2014

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Buckinghamshire County Council Pension Fund for the year ended 31 March 2014 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements show a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Fund during the year ended 31 March 2014, and of the amount and disposition at that date of its assets and liabilities, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the Fund year, in accordance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2013/14 (the Code).

#### **Financial Statements**

- 1 We have fulfilled our responsibilities for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Code; in particular the financial statements show a true and fair view in accordance therewith, and for keeping records in respect of contributions received in respect of active members.
- 2 We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal control to prevent and detect error and fraud.
- 3 Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- 4 Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the Code.



- 5 All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the Code requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
- 6 We believe that the Pension Scheme's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the Pension Scheme's needs. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the Pension Scheme's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.
- 7 We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.
- 8 We acknowledge our responsibilities for making the accounting estimates included in the financial statements. Where it was necessary to choose between estimation techniques that comply with the Code, we selected the estimation technique considered to be the most appropriate to the Pension Fund's particular circumstances for the purpose of giving a true and fair view. Those estimates reflect our judgment based on our knowledge and experience about past and current events and are also based on our assumptions about conditions we expect to exist and courses of action we expect to take.

#### Information Provided

- 9 We have provided you with:
  - a. 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;
  - b. additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of your audit; and
  - c. unrestricted access to persons from whom you determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- 10 We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 11 All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 12 We are not aware of any fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Fund involving:
  - a. management;
  - b. employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - c. others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 13 We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Fund's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

- 14 We are not aware of any instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 15 We have disclosed to you the identity of the Fund's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

#### Other

We confirm that the Fund is a Registered Pension Fund. We are not aware of any reason why the tax status of the Fund should change.

#### Approval

The approval of this letter of representation was minuted by the Council's Regulatory and Audit Committee at its meeting on 23 September 2014.

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Yours faithfully

Signed		Signed	
Name	Richard Ambrose	Name	Zahir Mohammed
Position	Service Director (Finance & Commercial Services)	Position	Chairman of Regulatory & Audit Committee
Date		Date	



