

Audit Completion Report

West Yorkshire Pension Fund – year ended 31 March 2015

September 2015

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Governance and Audit Committee Members
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
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September 2015

Dear Members

Audit Completion Report – Year ended 31 March 2015

We are delighted to present our Audit Completion Report for the year ended 31 March 2015. The purpose of this document is to summarise our audit conclusions.

The scope of our work, including identified significant audit risks and areas of management judgement was outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum which we presented on 26 June 2015. We have reviewed our Audit Strategy Memorandum and concluded that the original significant audit risks and areas of management judgement remain appropriate.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to your officers for their assistance during the course of our audit.

If you would like to discuss any matters in more detail then please do not hesitate to contact me on 0113 387 8850 or mark.kirkham@mazars.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mark Kirkham

Partner, for and on behalf of Mazars LLP

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Our reports are prepared in the context of the Audit Commission's 'Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies'. Reports and letters prepared by appointed auditors and addressed to members or officers are prepared for the sole use of the audited body and we take no responsibility to any member or officer in their individual capacity or to any third party.

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01 Executive summary

Purpose of this document

This document has been prepared to communicate the findings of our audit for the year ended 31 March 2015 to the Governance and Audit Committee and forms the basis for discussion at the Committee meeting on 25 September 2015.

Our communication with you is important to:

- share information to assist both the auditor and those charged with governance to fulfil our respective responsibilities;
- provide you with constructive observations arising from the audit process;
- ensure, as part of the two-way communication process, we gain an understanding of your attitude and views in respect of the internal and external operational, financial, compliance and other risks facing West Yorkshire Pension Fund; and
- receive feedback from yourselves on the performance of the engagement team.

As outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum, our audit has been conducted in accordance with International Standards of Auditing (UK and Ireland) which means we focus on audit risks that we have assessed as resulting in a higher risk of material misstatement. Section 2 of this report includes our conclusions on the significant risks and areas of management judgement that we set out in our Audit Strategy Memorandum.

We also set out details of internal control recommendations in section 3 and a summary of misstatements discovered as part of the audit in section 4.

Status and audit opinion

We have substantially completed our audit of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015.

At the time of preparing this report, the following significant matters remain outstanding:

- review of events after the balance sheet date; and
- completion of our review procedures.

We will provide an update to you in relation to the significant matters outstanding above by issuing a follow up letter.

Subject to the satisfactory conclusion of the remaining audit work, we anticipate issuing an unqualified opinion, without modification, on your financial statements.

Our proposed audit report is set out in Appendix B.

02 Commentary on the financial statements

Fund Account

The statement shows the Fund's dealings with pension fund members, employers, returns on investments and management expenses for the year. Expenditure has increased by £186m largely due to a bulk transfer of £170m to Greater Manchester Pension Fund for probation service members following changes in national arrangements.

The presentation of management expenses in the Fund Account has changed from last year following CIPFA guidance designed to promote greater comparability in presentation among local government pension schemes.

Net Assets Statement

The statement shows the assets and liabilities of the Fund at the end of the financial year. Net assets have increased by £950m on last year. In accordance with standard accounting practice no liabilities for future pensions or other benefits are recognised in the Net Asset Statement although the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits as assessed by the actuary is disclosed at Note 13.

03 Significant findings

Set out below are the significant findings from our audit. These findings include:

- our audit conclusions regarding the significant risks outlined in the Audit Strategy Memorandum;
- our comments in respect of the accounting policies and disclosures that you have adopted in the financial statements. On page 6 we have concluded whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework and commented on any significant accounting policy changes that have been made during the year; and
- any significant difficulties we experienced during the audit.

Significant risks and key areas of management judgement

Management override of controls

Description of the risk

International Standards on Auditing 240 – *The auditor's responsibility to consider fraud in an audit of financial statement* (ISA 240) requires us to consider the potential for management override because controls that may be sufficient to detect error may not be effective in detecting fraud.

In all entities, management at various levels within an organisation is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of their ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. Due to the unpredictable way in which such override could occur, we consider there to be a risk of material misstatement due to fraud and thus a significant risk on all audits.

This does not imply that we suspect actual or intended manipulation but that we approach the audit with due professional scepticism.

How we addressed this risk

We addressed this risk by:

- evaluating and testing the basis for material accounting estimates included in the financial statements;
- reviewing unusual or significant transactions outside the normal course of business; and
- testing journals recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparation of the financial statements.

Audit conclusion

We found no evidence of management override of controls.

Our sample testing of journals posted throughout the year and at year end identified no inappropriate or unexplained journals.

We evaluated a sample of adjustments made in preparing the financial statements and our work did not identify any matters to bring to your attention.

We reviewed key areas of management judgement and concluded that, taking account of materiality, our work did not identify any matters to bring to your attention.

We found no significant transactions that we considered outside the normal course of business within the context of the pension fund.

We also evaluated the impact of the errors we identified during the audit and concluded there was no pattern to the errors that might indicate manipulation.

Valuation of unquoted investments for which a market price is not readily available

Description of the risk

As at 31 March 2015, the fair value of unquoted investments was £1.89 billion, which accounted for 17% of the Fund's total investments. As prices for these investments are not quoted in active markets, the values included in the accounts are based on those provided by investment managers, who use a variety of valuation techniques. Where the valuations do not coincide with the Fund's year end, an adjustment may be made for cashflows since the investment manager valuation. The high estimation uncertainty results in an increased risk of material misstatement.

How we addressed this risk

In addition to our standard programme of work in this area we completed the following tests:

- review the management controls in place to assess the reasonableness of the valuation;
- agree the valuation to supporting documentation including investment manager valuation statements and cashflows for any adjustments made to the investment manager valuation;
- agree the investment manager valuation to audited accounts. Where these are not available, agree the investment manager valuation to other independent supporting documentation;
- where audited accounts are available, check that they are supported by a clean opinion; and
- where available, review any independent control assurance reports and confirm that they do not highlight any risks of material mis-statement.

Audit conclusion

Management estimate the value of unquoted investments based on the best available information of the year end value at the time the financial statements are prepared. We obtained additional information from external fund managers relating to the year end value which was not available at the time the financial statements were prepared.

Based on sample testing, the net assets value statements at 31 March 2015 obtained from investment managers indicate a higher valuation by £9.43 million than the estimates included in the financial statements. Our extrapolation indicates a potential difference of £22.4 million if the sample results were true for the whole population. We consider the extrapolation does not indicate a risk of material misstatement.

Actuary's report disclosure

Description of the risk

The disclosure note sets out the Fund's actuarial position at the most recent triennial valuation as at 31 March 2013 and the contribution rate to be paid by participating bodies from 1 April 2014.

Although no accounting entries are associated with this disclosure, the triennial valuation determines future employer contribution rates and the disclosure itself is material. The calculation of these figures can be subject to significant volatility and includes estimates based upon a complex interaction of actuarial assumptions. There is a risk of material misstatement due to high estimation uncertainty.

How we addressed this risk

In addition to our standard program of work we:

- reviewed the management controls you have in place over the source data;
- considered the reasonableness of the Actuary's output, using our expert's report on all actuaries nationally which is commissioned annually by the Audit Commission; and
- reviewed source data on a sample basis.

Audit conclusion

We have identified no matters to report arising from our work the actuary's report disclosure.

Accounting policies and disclosures

We have reviewed West Yorkshire Pension Fund's accounting policies and disclosures and concluded they comply with the material requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2014/15 ('the Code').

The draft financial statements included for the first time an investment category ('listed alternatives') that does not fit CIPFA's standard investment classifications as set out in the Code. We agreed an amendment with management to reclassify 'listed alternatives' as 'equities' being the most appropriate classification permitted by the Code.

As a result the classification of some investments for the comparative period was also amended to better reflect the nature of the investments. A third column showing the revised classifications for the beginning of the comparative period has been added to the Net Assets Statement in accordance with the Code. An additional disclosure note has been presented to explain the reason for the restatement of prior period figures. There is no impact on the Fund's financial performance or position as the change only affects classification.

Significant difficulties during the audit

During the course of the audit we did not encounter any significant difficulties and we have had the full co-operation of management.

04 Internal control recommendations

The purpose of our audit is to express an opinion on the financial statements. As part of our audit we considered the internal controls in place relevant to the preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures to allow us to express an opinion on the financial statements but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control or to identify any significant deficiencies in their design or operation.

We have identified no matters to report. If we had performed more extensive procedures on internal control we might have identified deficiencies to be reported. Our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all deficiencies that may exist or improvements that could be made.

05 Summary of misstatements

We set out below the misstatements identified during the course of the audit, above the trivial level (£1,383,000), for adjustment. The first table outlines the misstatements that were identified during the course of our audit which management has assessed as not being material either individually or in aggregate to the financial statements and does not currently plan to adjust.

The second table outlines the misstatements that have been adjusted by management during the course of the audit.

Unadjusted misstatements 2014/15

		Fund Account		Net Assets Statement	
		Debit £'000	Credit £'000	Debit £'000	Credit £'000
1	Debit: Investment assets	-	-	22,359	-
	Credit: Profit and losses on disposal of and changes in the market value of investments	-	22,359	-	-
<p>This is the difference between the estimated valuation of unquoted investments at 31 March 2015 included in the accounts and a later estimate of year end valuation using more up to date information available at time of audit. The figure is extrapolated from the results of sample testing to the whole population. The actual difference identified is £9,430,000.</p>					

Adjusted misstatements 2014/15

		Fund Account		Net Assets Statement	
		Debit £'000	Credit £'000	Debit £'000	Credit £'000
1	Debit: Investment assets – equities	-	-	84,689	-
	Credit: Investment assets – listed alternatives	-	-	-	84,689
<p>The adjustment ensures that the types of investment category shown in the Net Assets Statement match the standard categories specified by CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2014/15. The adjustment does not impact on the Fund's stated financial position or performance for the year.</p>					

Disclosure amendments

Adjusted misstatements

1. Current liabilities (Note 23)

Liabilities of £3,960,000 relating to PAYE have been reclassified as liabilities to 'central government bodies' rather than liabilities owed to 'bodies external to government'. The adjustment relates solely to the presentation of liabilities within the disclosure note and does not impact on the primary statements showing the Fund's financial performance for the year and financial position at year end.

2. Prior period adjustment (Note 6)

An additional disclosure note has been added to explain the reclassification of some investments to better reflect the nature of the investment as assessed by management. The reclassification of investments in prior periods does not impact on the Fund's past financial performance or financial position.

3. Payments to and on account of leavers (Note 9)

Additional narrative has been added to explain the bulk transfer (£170,253,000) to Greater Manchester Pension Fund for probation service members.

4. Related party transactions (Note 25)

Additional narrative has been added to clarify the disclosure and improve overall presentation.

5. Other minor presentational changes

We also agreed a small number of minor presentational changes to the disclosure notes to improve clarity for readers of the financial statements.

Appendix A – Draft management representation letter

To:

Mazars LLP
Mazars House
Gelderd Road
Leeds
LS27 7JN

West Yorkshire Pension Fund - audit for year ended 31 March 2015

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of West Yorkshire Pension Fund (the Pension Fund) for the year ended 31 March 2015 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 (the Code).

I confirm that the following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, inspection of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that I can properly make each of the following representations to you.

My responsibility for the financial statements and accounting information

I believe that I have fulfilled my responsibilities for the true and fair presentation and preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Code and relevant legislation and International Financial Reporting Standards.

My responsibility to provide and disclose relevant information

I 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 material;
- additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- unrestricted access to individuals within the Pension Fund you determined it was necessary to contact in order to obtain audit evidence.

I confirm as Director of Finance that I have taken all the necessary steps to make me aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you, as auditors, are aware of this information.

As far as I am aware there is no relevant audit information of which you, as auditors, are unaware.

Accounting records

I confirm that all transactions that have a material effect on the financial statements have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements. All other records and related information, including minutes of all Committee meetings, have been made available to you.

Accounting policies

I confirm that I have reviewed the accounting policies applied during the year in accordance with the Code and International Accounting Standard 8 and consider these policies to faithfully represent the effects of transactions, other events or conditions on the Council's financial position, financial performance and cash flows

Accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value

I confirm that any significant assumptions used by the Pension Fund in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable. I confirm that disclosures related to accounting estimates are complete and that no subsequent event requires adjustment to the accounting estimates and disclosures included in the financial statements.

Contingencies

There are no material contingent losses including pending or potential litigation that should be accrued where:

- information presently available indicates that it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability had been incurred at the balance sheet date; and
- the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated.

There are no material contingent losses that should be disclosed where, although either or both the conditions specified above are not met, there is a reasonable possibility that a loss, or a loss greater than that accrued, may have been incurred at the balance sheet date.

There are no contingent gains which should be disclosed.

All material matters, including unasserted claims, that may result in litigation against the Pension Fund have been brought to your attention. All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to you and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the Code and relevant legislation and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Laws and regulations

I confirm that I have disclosed to you all those events of which I am aware which involve known or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, together with the actual or contingent consequences which may arise therefrom.

I confirm the Pension Fund has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

Fraud and error

I acknowledge my responsibility as Director of Finance for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error.

I have disclosed to you:

- all the results of my assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud;
- all knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Pension Fund's financial statements involving:
 - management and those charged with governance;
 - employees who have significant roles in internal control; and
 - others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

I have disclosed to you all information in relation to any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Pension Fund's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

Related party transactions

I confirm that all related party relationships, transactions and balances, have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the Code and relevant legislation and International Financial Reporting Standards.

I have disclosed to you the identity of the Pension Fund's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware.

Future commitments

I am not aware of any plans, intentions or commitments that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities or give rise to additional liabilities.

Subsequent events

I confirm all events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the Code, relevant legislation and International Financial Reporting Standards require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.

Should further material events occur after the date of this letter which may necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto, I will advise you accordingly.

Going concern

To the best of my knowledge there is nothing to indicate that the Pension Fund will not continue as a going concern in the foreseeable future. The period to which I have paid particular attention in assessing the appropriateness of the going concern basis is not less than twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Unadjusted misstatement

I confirm that the effect of the uncorrected misstatement is non-material to the financial statements as a whole.

Specific representation on unquoted investments

Unquoted investments are included in the net assets statement at the value estimated by the general partner managing each fund in accordance with the guidelines used by the industry, and based on the latest information to hand at the time of the valuation. I am satisfied, based on the knowledge I have, with the valuations, and am not aware of any subsequent events that would have a material impact on the estimated value of the unquoted investments.

Signed

For and on behalf of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council.

Appendix B – Draft audit report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Opinion on the Council's financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council for the year ended 31 March 2015 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The financial statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and Collection Fund and the related notes. 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 2014/15.

This report is made solely to the members of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Council and the Council's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance's Responsibilities, the Director of 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, 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 the Authority's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Director of Finance; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the explanatory foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. 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 City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council as at 31 March 2015 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 2014/15.

Opinion on other matters

In our opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword 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 does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE in June 2007 and the December 2012 addendum;
- we issue a report in the public interest under section 8 of the Audit Commission Act 1998;
- we designate under section 11 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 any recommendation as one that requires the Council to consider it at a public meeting and to decide what action to take in response; or

- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under the Audit Commission Act 1998.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Opinion on the Pension Fund financial statements

We have audited the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The Pension Fund financial statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes. 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 2014/15.

This report is made solely to the members of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance's Responsibilities, the Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts, which includes the Pension Fund financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, 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 the fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Director of Finance; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the explanatory foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on Pension Fund financial statements

In our opinion the Pension Fund's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2015 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2015 other than liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the end of the scheme year; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15.

Opinion on other matters

In our opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

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

Respective responsibilities of the Council and the auditor

The Council 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.

We are required under Section 5 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements, having regard to relevant criteria specified by the Audit Commission.

We report if significant matters have come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Council 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 Council'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 audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria, published by the Audit Commission, as to whether the Council has proper arrangements for:

- securing financial resilience; and
- challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The Audit Commission has determined these two criteria as those necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the Council put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015.

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

Conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Certificate of audit completion

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.

Appendix C – Draft consistency report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THE PENSION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have examined the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015, which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Finance and the auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance's Responsibilities, the Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund's financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the pension fund financial statements within the pension fund annual report with the pension fund financial statements in the statement of accounts of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, and its compliance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15.

We also read the other information contained in the pension fund annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the pension fund financial statements.

We conducted our work in accordance with guidance issued by the Audit Commission. Our report on the administering authority's full annual statement of accounts describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the pension fund financial statements are consistent with the full annual statement of accounts of City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council for the year ended 31 March 2015 and comply with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15.

Appendix D – Independence

As part of our ongoing risk assessment we monitor our relationships with you to identify any new actual or perceived threats to our independence within the regulatory or professional requirements governing us as your auditors.

We can confirm that no new threats to independence have been identified since issuing the Audit Strategy Memorandum and therefore we remain independent.