

North Norfolk District Council

Annual Audit Letter

2012/13

Government and
Public Sector

October 2013

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Code of Audit Practice and Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Bodies

In April 2010 the Audit Commission issued a revised version of the 'Statement of responsibilities of auditors and of audited bodies'. It is available from the Chief Executive of each audited body. The purpose of the statement is to assist auditors and audited bodies by explaining where the responsibilities of auditors begin and end and what is to be expected of the audited body in certain areas. Our reports and management letters are prepared in the context of this Statement. Reports and letters prepared by appointed auditors and addressed to members or officers are prepared for the sole use of the audited body and no responsibility is taken by auditors to any Member or officer in their individual capacity or to any third party.

An audit is not designed to identify all matters that may be relevant to those charged with governance. Accordingly, the audit does not ordinarily identify all such matters.

Introduction

The purpose of this letter

This letter summarises the results of our 2012/13 audit work for members of the Authority.

We have already reported the detailed findings from our audit work to the Audit Committee in the following reports:

- Audit opinion for the 2012/13 financial statements, incorporating conclusion on the proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources;
- Report to those charged with Governance (ISA (UK&I) 260); and
- Annual Certification Report (to those charged with governance).

The matters reported here are the most significant for the Authority

Scope of Work

The Authority is responsible for preparing and publishing its Statement of Accounts, accompanied by the Annual Governance Statement. It is also responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Our 2012/13 audit work has been undertaken in accordance with the Audit Plan that we issued in March 2013 and is conducted in accordance with the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice, International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and other guidance issued by the Audit Commission.

We met our responsibilities as follows:

Audit Responsibility	Results
<i>Perform an audit of the accounts in accordance with the Auditing Practice Board's International Standards on Auditing (ISAs (UK&I)).</i>	We reported our findings to those charged with governance on 17 September 2013 in our 2012/13 Report to those charged with governance (ISA (UK&I) 260). On 19 September 2013 we issued an unqualified audit opinion.
<i>Report to the National Audit Office on the accuracy of the consolidation pack the Authority is required to prepare for the Whole of Government Accounts.</i>	We reported our findings to the National Audit Office on 19 September 2013.
<i>Form a conclusion on the arrangements the Authority has made for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.</i>	On 19 September 2013 we issued an unqualified value for money conclusion.

Audit Responsibility Results

Consider the completeness of disclosures in the Authority's annual governance statement, identify any inconsistencies with the other information of which we are aware from our work and consider whether it complies with CIPFA / SOLACE guidance.



There were no issues to report in this regard.

Consider whether, in the public interest, we should make a report on any matter coming to our notice in the course of the audit.



There were no issues to report in this regard.

Determine whether any other action should be taken in relation to our responsibilities under the Audit Commission Act.



There were no issues to report in this regard.

Audit Responsibility Results

Issue a certificate that we have completed the audit in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Practice issued by the Audit Commission.



We issued our completion certificate on 19 September 2013.

Audit Findings

Accounts

We audited the Authority's accounts in line with approved Auditing Standards and issued an unqualified audit opinion on 19 September 2013.

Use of Resources

We carried out sufficient, relevant work in line with the Audit Commission's guidance, so that we could conclude on whether the Authority had in place, for 2012/13, proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

In line with Audit Commission requirements, our conclusion was based on two criteria:

- the organisation has proper arrangements in place for securing financial resilience; and
- the organisation has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

To reach our conclusion, we carried out a programme of work that was based on our risk assessment.

We issued an unqualified conclusion.

Annual Governance Statement

Local authorities are required to produce an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) that is consistent with guidance issued by CIPFA/SOLACE. The AGS accompanies the Statement of Accounts.

We reviewed the AGS to consider whether it complied with the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance and whether it might be misleading or inconsistent with other information known to us from our audit work. We found no areas of concern to report in this context.

Whole of Government Accounts

We undertook our work on the Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack as prescribed by the Audit Commission. The audited pack was submitted on 19 September 2013. We found no areas of concern to report in this context.

Certification of Claims and Returns

We presented our most recent Annual Certification Report for 2011/12 to those charged with governance in January. We certified 4 claims worth £56,284,722. In 1 case a qualification letter was required to set out the issues arising from the certification of the claim. We will issue the Annual Certification Report for 2012/13 in December.

Final Fees

Final Fees for 2012/13

We reported our fee proposals in our audit plan.

Our actual fees for audit work performed under the Code of Audit Practice were in line with our proposals.

	2012/13 outturn	2012/13 fee proposal	2011/12 final outturn
Audit work performed under the Code of Audit Practice	74,350	74,350	118,750
- Statement of Accounts			
- Conclusion on the ability of the organisation to secure proper arrangements for the economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources			
- Whole of Government Accounts			
Certification of Claims and Returns	36,000 ¹	36,000	59,040
TOTAL	110,350	110,350	177,790

¹ Our fee for certification of claims and returns is yet to be finalised for 2012/13 and will be reported to those charged with governance in December within the 2012/13 Annual Certification Report.



In the event that, pursuant to a request which North Norfolk District Council has received under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, it is required to disclose any information contained in this report, it will notify PwC promptly and consult with PwC prior to disclosing such report. North Norfolk District Council agrees to pay due regard to any representations which PwC may make in connection with such disclosure and North Norfolk District Council shall apply any relevant exemptions which may exist under the Act to such report. If, following consultation with PwC, North Norfolk District Council discloses this report or any part thereof, it shall ensure that any disclaimer which PwC has included or may subsequently wish to include in the information is reproduced in full in any copies disclosed.

This document has been prepared only for North Norfolk District Council and solely for the purpose and on the terms agreed through our contract with the Audit Commission. We accept no liability (including for negligence) to anyone else in connection with this document, and it may not be provided to anyone else.

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