





CONTENTS

1	Introduction	
	Welcome	1
2	Executive summary	
	Overview	2
	The numbers	4
	Other matters	5
	Audit risks overview	6
	Management override of controls	7
	Pension liability valuation	8
	Fair value of investments (infrastructure and private equity)	9
	Valuation of investments (Other)	10
	Contributions receivable	11
	Benefits Payable	12
	Matters requiring additional consideration	13
3	Audit differences	
	Audit differences	15

	4	Other reporting matters	
		Reporting on other information	16
	5	Control environment	
		Other deficiencies	17
6	6	Audit Report	
		Audit report overview	18
		Independence	19
		Fees	20
	7	Appendices contents	21-30

WELCOME

Contents

ntroduction

Welcome

Executive summary

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

We have pleasure in presenting our Audit Completion Report to the Audit Committee. This report is an integral part of our communication strategy with you, a strategy which is designed to ensure effective two-way communication throughout the audit process with those charged with governance.

It summarises the results of our audit of London Borough of Haringey Pension Fund for the year ended 31 March 2021, including areas requiring further discussion and/or the attention of the Pension Committee. At the completion stage of the audit it is essential that we engage with the Audit Committee on the results of our audit of the financial statements comprising: audit work on key risk areas, including significant estimates and judgements made by management, critical accounting policies, any significant deficiencies in internal controls, and the presentation and disclosure in the financial statements.

We look forward to discussing these matters with you at the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee meeting and to receiving your input. In the meantime if you would like to discuss any aspects in advance of the meeting we would be happy to do so.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the management and staff of the Pension Fund for the co-operation and assistance provided during the audit.

Ciaran McLaughlin, Partner for and on behalf of **BDO LLP**, Appointed Auditor

25 November 2024



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The contents of this report relate only to those matters which came to our attention during the conduct of our normal audit procedures which are designed primarily for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. This report has been prepared solely for the use of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee and Those Charged with Governance. In preparing this report we do not accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person. For more information on our respective responsibilities please see the appendices.

OVERVIEW

Executive summary

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Contributions receivable

Benefits Payable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

This summary provides an overview of the audit matters that we believe are important to the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee in reviewing the results of the audit of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

It is also intended to promote effective communication and discussion and to ensure that the results of the audit appropriately incorporate input from those charged with governance.



Overview

Our audit work on the financial statements has been concluded.

Circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditor's report

There has been a deterioration in the timeliness of local audit in recent years leading to a persistent and significant backlog of audit opinions. Across England, the backlog of outstanding audit opinions stood at 771 at 31 December 2023 and was estimated to increase to around 1,000 this year. In February 2024, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published 'Local audit delays: Joint statement on update to proposals to clear the backlog and embed timely audit'. This joint statement confirmed that:

"The issues facing local audit are widely recognised as multi-faceted and complex with no single cause or solution".

The factors contributing to the delay in issuing an audit opinion on the financial statements of London Borough of Haringey Council for the year ended 31 March 2021 include, but are not limited to:

- increased regulator expectations on auditors
- difficulties in attracting, developing and retaining staff to perform local audit work
- the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic
- The Pension Fund decided to no longer provide audit evidence or respond to audit queries in 2024 as a result of the backstop.

OVERVIEW

Executive summary

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Contributions receivable

Benefits Payable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

Over the last year, organisations involved in the regulation and oversight of local body financial reporting and audit have been working collectively to agree a proposed solution to clear the outstanding historical audit opinions and ensure that delays do not return.

To clear the backlog of historical accounts and 'reset' the system, the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 require local bodies to publish audited financial statements for all outstanding years up to and including 2022/23 by 13 December 2024 ('the backstop date'). In addition, the National Audit Office has made changes to the Code of Audit Practice to require local auditors to comply with backstop dates by giving their opinions in time for audited accounts to be published.

The backstop date has created time constraints that have impeded us from completing all necessary procedures to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence to support the opinion and fulfil the objectives of all relevant ISAs (UK). Consequently, this prevents us from meeting the overall objectives of an audit as set out in ISA (UK) 200 'Overall Objectives of the Independent Auditor and the Conduct of an Audit in Accordance with International Standards on Auditing'. Therefore, the backstop date has created circumstances which require us to consider modifying our opinion on pinsert name of local authority p's financial statements.

Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

ISAs (UK) require us to report to you any significant difficulties we have encountered during the audit. As previously outlined, the backstop date has created time constraints that have impeded us from completing all necessary procedures to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence to support the opinion and fulfil the objectives of all relevant ISAs (UK). Therefore, the backstop date represents a significant difficulty that we have encountered during the audit.

The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 require Haringey Pension Fund to publish audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 by 13 December 2024. We have not able to obtain all the necessary audit evidence upon which to form an opinion since there was insufficient time to perform all necessary audit procedures by this date. As a result, we are unable to conclude that Haringey Pension Fund's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 as a whole are free from material misstatement. We have concluded that the possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements arising from this matter could be both material and pervasive.

Audit report

We anticipate issuing a disclaimer of opinion on the financial statements as set out on page 28.

THE NUMBERS

Executive summary

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

 ${\it Management\ override\ of\ controls}$

Valuation of investments
(infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments ((other)

Pension liability valuation

Benefits Payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

Final materiality

Financial materiality was determined based on 1% of net assets. Specific materiality (at a lower level) was set for the fund account balances (excluding changes in market value of investments) and this was based on 5% of contribution receivable in the Fund Account.

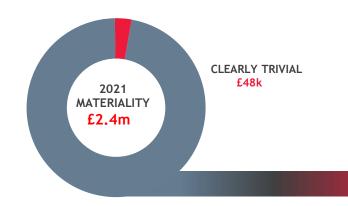
Following the receipt of the draft financial statements for audit, materiality was unchanged at £16 million.

Specific materiality for the Fund Account was £2.4 million and reflects actual gross expenditure recognised in the statement of accounts presented for audit. The percentage threshold applied remained at 5%.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MATERIALITY



FUND ACCOUNT MATERIALITY



Material misstatements

Two misstatements were identified which exceed the clearly trivial threshold. Refer to page 14.

OTHER MATTERS

Executive summary

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments
(infrastructure and private equity))

Valuation of investments ((other)

Pension liability valuation

Benefits Payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

Financial reporting

- We have not identified any non-compliance with accounting policies or the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21
- No significant accounting policy changes have been identified impacting the current year
- · Going concern disclosures are deemed sufficient
- The Annual Report and other information included in the Statement of Accounts with the financial statements is consistent with the financial statements and our knowledge acquired in the course of the audit.

Other matters that require discussion or confirmation

- Control deficiency identified in relation to logical access controls over the Altair IT applications (see page 20)
- Confirmation on fraud, contingent liabilities and subsequent events
- Letter of representation (see page 31)

Independence

We confirm that the firm and its partners and staff involved in the audit remain independent of the Council in accordance with the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC's) Ethical Standard.



AUDIT RISKS OVERVIEW

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Benefits Payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

As identified in our Audit Planning Report dated 8 November 2021 we assessed the following matters as being the most significant risks of material misstatement in the financial statements. These include those risks which had the greatest effect on: the overall audit strategy, the allocation of resources in the audit and the direction of the efforts of the engagement team.

Audit Risk	Risk Rating	Significant Management Judgement Involved	Use of Experts Required	Error Identified	Control Findings to be reported	Discussion points / Letter of Representation
Management override of controls	Significant	Yes	No	No	No	No
Valuation of investments (infrastructure and private equity)	Significant	Yes	Yes	Yes, unadjusted	No	No
Pension Liability Valuation	Significant	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Valuation of investments (other)	Normal	No	No	No	No	No
Contribution receivable	Normal	No	No	No	No	No
Benefits payable	Normal	No	No	No	No	No



MANAGEMENT OVERRIDE OF CONTROLS

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (Infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Benefits payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

ISA (UK) 240 notes that management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud

Significant risk

Normal risk

Significant management judgement

Use of experts

Unadjusted error

Adjusted error

Additional disclosure required

Significant control findings to

be reported

Letter of representation point

Risk description

Management has the ability to manipulate accounting records and override controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. We are required to consider this as a significant risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

Work performed

We carried out the following planned audit procedures:

- Reviewed and verified journal entries made in the year, agreeing the journals to supporting documentation; determined key risk characteristics to filter the population of journals; and used our IT team to assist with the journal extraction
- Reviewed estimates and judgements applied by management in the financial statements to assess their appropriateness and the existence of any systematic bias
- Reviewed unadjusted audit differences for indications of bias or deliberate misstatement.

Results

Our work was not able to be concluded as noted earlier in the report.

PENSION LIABILITY VALUATION

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Fair value of investments

(Infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Benefits Payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

The valuation of the pension liability is a significant risk as it involves a high degree of estimation uncertainty.

Significant risk

Normal risk

Significant management judgement

Use of experts

Unadjusted error

Adjusted error

Additional disclosure required

Significant control findings to

be reported

Letter of representation point

Risk description

An actuarial estimate of the pension fund liability to pay future pensions is calculated by an independent firm of actuaries with specialist knowledge and experience. The estimate is based on the most up to date membership data held by the Pension Fund and has regard to local factors such as mortality rates and expected pay rises along with other assumptions around inflation when calculating the liability.

The most recent actuarial valuation of the pension fund liability was carried out during the 2019/20 year to calculate the liability as at 31 March 2019. This involved the provision of membership and cash flow data from the pension fund to the actuary, data cleansing by the actuary and re-setting the financial and actuarial assumptions related to the valuation. The estimate of the pension fund liability at 31 March 2021 is based on a roll-forward of data from the 2019 triennial valuation, updated where necessary.

There is a risk the valuation disclosed in the notes to the Pension Fund accounts is not based on appropriate membership data (where there are any significant changes) or uses inappropriate assumptions to value the liability.

Work performed

We carried out the following planned audit procedures:

- Reviewed the controls in place to ensure that the data provided from the fund to the actuary is complete and accurate;
- Tested a sample of membership and cash flow data sent to the actuary for existence and accuracy, and reconcile the membership data sent to the actuary to the membership administration system for completeness;
- Reviewed the reasonableness of the assumptions used in the calculation against other local government pension fund actuaries and other observable data. We used the PwC consulting actuary report for the review of the methodology of the actuary and reasonableness of the assumptions;
- Checked whether any significant changes in membership data have been communicated to the actuary; and
- Agreed the disclosure to the information provided by the actuary.

Results and conclusions

Our work was not able to be concluded as noted earlier in the report. We were not able to test the Pension liability valuation key assumptions so cannot conclude on the reasonableness of assumptions.

FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS (INFRASTRUCTURE AND PRIVATE EQUITY)

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Fair value of investments

(Infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Contributions receivable

Benefits Payable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

The valuation of Infrastructure and private equity holdings is a significant risk as it involves a high degree of estimation uncertainty

Significant risk

Normal risk

Significant management judgement

Use of experts

Unadjusted error

Adjusted error

Additional disclosure required

Significant control findings to

be reported

Letter of representation point

Risk description

The investment portfolio includes unquoted infrastructure and private equity holdings valued by the fund manager. The valuation of private equity assets may be subject to a significant level of assumption and estimation and valuations may not be based on observable market data.

In some cases, the valuations are provided at dates that are not coterminous with the Pension Fund's year end and need to be updated to reflect cash transactions (additional contributions or distributions received) since the latest available valuations.

As a result, we consider there to be a significant risk that investments may not appropriately valued in the financial statements

Work performed

We carried out the following planned audit procedures:

- Obtained direct confirmation of investment valuations from the fund managers and requested copies of the audited financial statements (and member allocations) from the fund; and confirmed that appropriate adjustments have been made to the valuations in respect of additional contributions and distributions with the funds where the financial statement date supporting the valuation is not coterminous with the Pension Fund's year end
- Where the financial statement date supporting the valuation was not conterminous with the pension fund's year end, we confirmed that appropriate adjustments have been made to the valuations in respect of additional contributions and distributions with the funds; and
- Ensured investments have been correctly valued in accordance with the relevant accounting policies.

Results

We identified one unadjusted error as reported on page 15.

Our work was not able to be concluded as noted earlier in the report.

VALUATION OF INVESTMENTS (OTHER)

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments
(Infrastructure and private equity))

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Contributions Receivable

Benefits Payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

There is a risk that investments may not be appropriately valued and correctly recorded in the financial statements.

Significant risk

Normal risk

Significant management judgement

Use of experts

Unadjusted error

Adjusted error

Additional disclosure required

Significant control findings to

be reported

Letter of representation point

Risk description

The fair value of other funds (principally unit trusts and pooled investments held through unitised insurance policies) is provided by individual fund managers and reviewed by the Custodian and reported on a quarterly basis.

These funds are quoted on active markets. There is a risk that investments may not be appropriately valued and correctly recorded in the financial statements.

Work performed

We carried out the following planned audit procedures:

- Obtain direct confirmation of investment valuations from the fund managers and Custodian and agree valuations, where available, to readily available observable data (such as Bloomberg);
- Ensure that investments have been correctly valued in accordance with the relevant accounting policies; and
- Obtain independent assurance reports over the controls operated by both the fund managers and custodian for valuations and existence of underlying investments in the funds.

Results and conclusions

Our work was not able to be concluded as noted earlier in the report.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (Infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Contributions receivable

Benefits Payable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

There is a risk that employers may not be calculating contributions correctly or the pension fund does correctly charge costs arising on pension strain for early retirements and augmented pensions

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J	151		cu	116	1131	

Normal risk

Significant management judgement

Use of experts

Unadjusted error

Adjusted error

Additional disclosure required

Significant control findings to be reported

Letter of representation point

Risk description

Employers are required to deduct amounts from employee pensionable pay based on tiered pay rates and to make employer normal and deficit contributions in accordance with rates agreed with the actuary. Additional contributions are also required against pension strain for unreduced pensions for early retirements and augmentation of pensions. There is a risk that employers may not be calculating contributions correctly, not paying over the full amount due to the pension fund or failing to charge employers the capital cost of pension strain due to early retirement.

Work performed:

Our audit procedures included the following:

- Tested a sample of normal contributions due (and additional deficit contributions which included in a higher employer rate) for active members including checking to employer payroll records;
- Reviewed contributions receivable and ensured that income is recognised in the correct accounting period where the employer is making payments in the following month;
- Performed tests over capital cost due from employers for pension strain due to early retirement; and
- Carried out audit procedures to review contributions income in accordance with the Actuary's Rates and Adjustments Certificate, including specified increased rates to cover the minimum contributions to be paid as set out in the Certificate.

Result and conclusions

Our work was not able to be concluded as noted earlier in the report.

BENEFITS PAYABLE

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (Infrastructure and private equity)

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Benefits Payable

Contributions receivable

Benefits Payable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

There is a risk that
Benefits payable may
not be correct based
on accrued benefits of
members or may not
be calculated in
accordance with the
scheme regulations

Significant risk

Normal risk

Significant management judgement

Use of experts

Unadjusted error

Adjusted error

Additional disclosure required

Significant control findings to be reported

Letter of representation point

Risk description

Benefits payable may not be correct based on accrued benefits of members or may not be calculated in accordance with the scheme regulations. Payment to wrong or non-existent members will result in loss of assets and risk of reputational damage.

Work performed

We carried out the following planned audit procedures:

- For members leaving the scheme and deferring their pension and members becoming entitled to receive pension during the year, substantively tested a sample of calculations of pension entitlement;
- Checked the correct application of annual pension uplift for members in receipt of benefits;
- Checked a sample of pensioners in receipt of pensions to underlying records to confirm the existence of the member and also reviewed the results of the checks undertaken by ATMOS on the existence of pensioners;
- Reviewed the results of the latest National Fraud Initiative (NFI) data matching exercise of members in receipt of benefits with the records of deceased persons and what actions have been taken to resolve potential matches;
- Reviewed any life certification exercises undertaken for members that are excluded from the National Fraud Initiative; and
- Agreed amounts recorded in the ledger for benefits paid to the pensioner payroll reports.

Result and conclusions

Our work was not able to be concluded as noted earlier in the report.

MATTERS REQUIRING ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Overview

The numbers

Other matters

Audit risks overview

Management override of controls

Valuation of investments (Infrastructure and private equity))

Valuation of investments (Other)

Pension liability valuation

Contributions Receivable

Benefits payable

Contributions receivable

Matters requiring additional consideration

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents

Fraud

Whilst the Council (as administrating authority) and the Director of Finance have ultimate responsibility for prevention and detection of fraud, we are required to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, including those arising as a result of fraud. Our audit procedures did not identify any fraud. We will seek confirmation from you whether you are aware of any known, suspected or alleged frauds since we last enquired when presenting the Audit Planning Report on 2 December2021.

Laws and regulations

The most significant considerations for your organisation are the:

- Local Government Acts of 1972 and 2003
- Local Government Finance Acts of 1988, 1992 and 2012
- Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014
- Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
- VAT legislation
- · PAYE legislation.

We did not identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations that could have a material impact on the financial statements.

Internal audit

We reviewed the audit work of the Council's internal audit function to assist our risk scoping at the planning stage.

Related parties

Whilst you are responsible for the completeness of the disclosure of related party transactions in the financial statements, we are also required to consider related party transactions in the context of fraud as they may present greater risk for management override or concealment or fraud. We did not identify and significant matters in connection with related parties. We were however, not able to complete our work as noted earlier in the report.

Service auditor reports

We reviewed the service auditor reports in respect of the following Pension Fund functions that are outsourced to, or hosted by, other bodies:

All investments are managed by Fund Managers

We reviewed all of the relevant service auditor control reports and identified some control reports with a number of exceptions during their control testing. We performed additional work for two of the service organizations to obtained additional assurance where the controls reports could not be relied upon,

AUDIT DIFFERENCES

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Audit differences

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Appendices contents



We are required to bring to your attention unadjusted differences and we request that you correct them.

As noted earlier in the report, we were not able to complete our audit work in response to the risks identified. We will, identified one uncorrected misstatements which exceed the clearly trivial level (£0.32m) and one corrected misstatement:

Error 1: For two samples were not provided audit evidence to support the pension benefit recalculation resulting in an understatement of Expenditure and overstatement of Net assets available to fund benefits by £0.687m).

The following audit difference was adjusted in the revised statements of account, however we have not audited this correction:

Error 2: During our testing we identified a £11.12m understatement of Investment Assets relating to Pantheon and overstatement of Liabilities by the same amount.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

We comment below on other reporting required to be considered in arriving at the final content of our audit report:

Introduction
Executive summary
Audit Differences
Other reporting matters
Reporting on other information
Control environment
Audit Report
Appendices contents

Contents

Matter	Comment
We are required to report on whether the financial and non-financial information in the Narrative Report is consistent with the financial statements and the knowledge acquired by us in the course of our audit.	We have not been able to complete our audit work and as a result we are unable to conclude on whether the other information in the Narrative Report is consistent with the financial statements. We can confirm from our knowledge, based on the work we have completed that we are not aware of any inconsistencies.

OTHER DEFICIENCIES

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Audit Differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Other deficiencies

Audit Report

Appendices contents

As the purpose of the audit is for us to express an opinion on the Council's financial statements, you will appreciate that our audit cannot necessarily be expected to disclose all matters that may be of interest to you and, as a result, the matters reported may not be the only ones which exist.

As part of our work, we considered internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such that we were able to design appropriate audit procedures. This work was not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control.

Area	Observation & implication	Recommendation	Management response
Altair - Absence of user access reviews being performed	During our review, it was noted that user access reviews has not been performed for Altair in-scope applications and/or evidence thereof retained in order to validate the appropriateness of system level access and user activities.	User access reviews are a second line of defence control where the operation of the preventative control surrounding the joiners and leavers process fails. It is therefore recommended that user access reviewed are performed at annually due to the size of the business and number of users and should include:	Management is in agreement with the finding and will work towards implementing the recommendation.
	There is a risk that user accounts may not be disabled/removed in a timely manner. This increases the risk that unauthorised access via this open account may occur which may result in incorrect and unapproved changes to key data.	 Both administrator and standard user accounts; and User group and individual customised levels of access reviews to identify any users who do not possess an appropriate level of access; Evidence of user access reviews should be retained to demonstrate effective and continuous operation and control. 	

OTHER DEFICIENCIES

Observation & implication

well result in compromised IPE being used by

controls on change management environment

the audit team as BDO could not test the

Area

Introduction
Executive summary
Audit differences
Other reporting matters
Control environment
Other deficiencies
Audit Report
Appendices contents

Contents

Altair - Inadequate Password policy settings on the systems that enforce strong passwords being set.	The password complexity and enforce password history settings are not enabled. There is a risk that user passwords can be guessed or become known over time to other users. As a result, user accounts are at an increased risk of being used by persons other than the legitimate account owner. Crystallisation of this risk may have resulted in a material misstatement or fraud because user accounts may have been used to: 1) process unauthorised, fraudulent or inaccurate transactions, and 2) bypass controls designed or required to segregate duties.	Management should consider strengthening the existing password settings to be in line with good practice.	Management is in agreement with the finding and will work towards implementing the recommendation.
Altair - Lack of SOC report from third party managing Altair change management for Infrastructure and application	We noted that a third-party, Heywood, are managing infrastructure and application changes could not provide a SOC report and thus, we could not obtain assurance over the adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment of Heywood. There is a risk of unauthorised changes being made and undetected that might lead in compromised financial data and transactions, this might as	Management should consider engaging with the third part to include SOC reports as party of the service package provided by third party.	A SOC report (type 1 or type 2) is designed to provide assurances about the effectiveness of the controls in place that are relevant to the security, availability or processing integrity of the system used to process clients' information or the confidentiality or privacy of that information. With regards to Altair, these systems and the data held within them are hosted in a data centre (provided by BlueChip). System changes are driven solely by user demand through the CLASS user group, which is comprised of representatives of Altair

Recommendation

Management response

for the third party.

users from across the LGPS. Minutes of these meetings

provider has a SOC2 report in place and we have

SOC report.

provided a copy of BlueChip's SOC2 Report and the BlueChip SOC2 Bridging Letter. It is therefore not necessary for Heywood's to also hold a SOC report. However we will commit to discuss with other Altair users, through the CLASS group, whether there is a consensus that Heywood should investigate obtaining a

record issues raised and agreed actions. The data centre

AUDIT REPORT OVERVIEW

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary
Unadjusted disclosure and
omissions and improvements

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Audit report overview

Independence

Fees

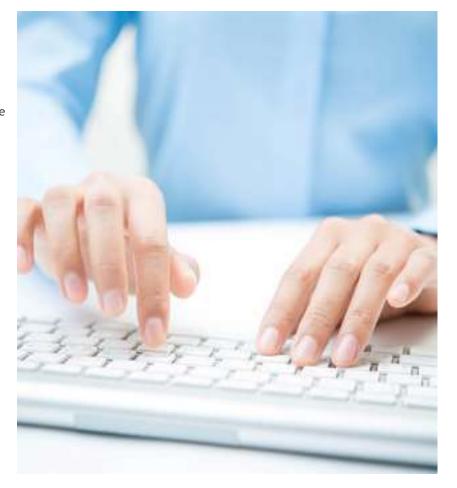
Appendices contents

Opinion on financial statements

We anticipate issuing a disclaimer opinion on the financial statements.

Other information

We have not been able to complete our review of Other information therefore cannot conclude on this area.



INDEPENDENCE

Contents

Introduction

Executive summary

Audit differences

Other reporting matters

Control environment

Audit Report

Audit report overview

Independence

Fees

Appendices contents

Under ISAs (UK) and the FRC's Ethical Standard we are required, as auditors, to confirm our independence.

Under ISAs (UK) and the FRC's Ethical Standard, we are required as auditors to confirm our independence.

We have embedded the requirements of the Standards in our methodologies, tools and internal training programmes. Our internal procedures require that audit engagement partners are made aware of any matters which may reasonably be thought to bear on the integrity, objectivity or independence of the firm, the members of the engagement team or others who are in a position to influence the outcome of the engagement. This document considers such matters in the context of our audit for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Details of services, other than audit, provided by us to the Council during the period and up to the date of this report are set out on the following page and were provided in our Audit Planning Report. We understand that the provision of these services was approved by the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee in advance in accordance with the Council's policy on this matter.

Details of rotation arrangements for key members of the audit team and others involved in the engagement were provided in our Audit Planning Report.

We have not identified any relationships or threats that may reasonably be thought to bear on our objectivity and independence.

We confirm that the firm, the engagement team and other partners, directors, senior managers and managers conducting the audit comply with relevant ethical requirements including the FRC's Ethical Standard or the IESBA Code of Ethics as appropriate and are independent of the Council.

We also confirm that we have obtained confirmation of independence from external audit experts involved in the audit and that they comply with relevant ethical requirements including the FRC's Ethical Standard and are independent of the Council.

Should you have any comments or queries regarding any independence matters we would welcome their discussion in more detail.

FEES

c
Contents
Introduction
incroduction
Executive summary
ŕ
Audit differences
Other reporting matters
Control environment
4 P. D
Audit Report
Audit report overview
Addit report overview
Independence
Fees
. 200
Appendices contents

Fees summary	2020/21	2020/21	2019/20
	Actual	Planned	Actual
	£	£	£
Fees			
Code audit fee (3)	£28,000	£16,710	£16,710
Additional audit fee ⁽¹⁾	£0	£5500	£5,000
Additional audit fee: Covid-19 remote working (2)	£0	£4,000	£4,000
Total fees	£28,000	£25,170	£28,170

(1) Assurance fees

The 2019/20 audit included cyclical costs relating to the audit of the 2019 triennial actuarial data cleansing exercise. These should not be necessary again until the 2022/23 audit.

(2) Covid-related costs

This represents an estimate of the additional resource time and costs necessary when audits are undertaken remotely. The 15% is at the lowest end of the 15-20% range experienced by BDO and the other audit firms. If we are able to undertake some key work on site, the time reflected here should reduce and the fee level decrease accordingly.

(3) Note that PSAA will approve the scale of the audit fees in relation to 2020/21.



Content Our responsibilities Communication with you Outstanding matters Audit Report Letter of representation Audit quality

APPENDICES CONTENTS

Dur	responsibilities	
	Our responsibilities	24
	Additional matters we are required to report	25
Con	nmunication with you	
	Communication with you	26
Out	standing matters	
	Outstanding matters	27
Audit Report		
	Audit report	28
	Audit Report 2	29
	Audit Report 3	30
ett	er of representation	
	Letter of Representation	31
	letter of Representation 2	32
	letter of Representation 3	33

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities and reporting

Content

Our responsibilities

Additional matters

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Audit Report

Letter of representation

Audit quality

Our responsibilities and reporting

We are responsible for performing our audit under International Standards on Auditing (UK) to form and express an opinion on your financial statements. We report our opinion on the financial statements to officers of the Council.

We read and consider the 'other information' contained in the Statement of Accounts such as the Annual report. We will consider whether there is a material inconsistency between the other information and the financial statements or other information and our knowledge obtained during the audit.

What we don't report

Our audit is not designed to identify all matters that may be relevant to the Audit Committee and cannot be expected to identify all matters that may be of interest to you and, as a result, the matters reported may not be the only ones which exist.



ADDITIONAL MATTERS WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT

Contents			
Our responsibilities			
Additional matters			
Communication with you			
Outstanding matters			
Audit report			
Letter of representation			
Audit Quality			

	Issue	Comments	
1	Significant difficulties encountered during the audit.	The Council determined that no further information or responses to queries were to be provided as a result of the backstop	
2	Written representations which we seek.	We enclose a copy of our draft representation letter.	
3	Any fraud or suspected fraud issues.	No exceptions to note.	
4	Any suspected non-compliance with laws or regulations.	No exceptions to note.	
5	Significant matters in connection with related parties.	No exceptions to note.	



COMMUNICATION WITH YOU

Contents

Our responsibilities

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Audit report

Letter of representation

Audit quality

Those Charged with Governance (TCWG)

References in this report to Those Charged With Governance (TCWG) are to the Pension Fund as a whole. For the purposes of our communication with those promote two-way communication throughout the audit process and to ensure charged with governance you have agreed we will communicate primarily with the Audit Committee.

Communication, meetings and feedback

We request feedback from you on our planning and completion report to that all risks are identified and considered; and at completion that the results of the audit are appropriately considered.

We have met with management throughout the audit process. We have issued regular updates driving the audit process with clear and timely communication, bringing in the right resource and experience to ensure efficient and timely resolution of issues.

Communication	Date (to be) communicated	To whom
Audit Planning Report	2 December 2021	Pensions Committee and Board
Audit Completion Report	3 December 2024	Audit Committee

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Contents

Our responsibilities

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Audit report

Letter of representation

Audit quality

We have substantially completed our audit work in respect of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021. The following matters are outstanding at the date of this report and could impact our audit opinion.

- Management letter of representation to be approved and signed.
- EQCR and RI sign off once Management letter of representation received.



AUDIT REPORT

Contents

Our responsibilities

Additional matters

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Audit report

Audit report 2

Letter of representation

Audit quality

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HARINGEY PENSION FUND

Disclaimer of opinion

We do not express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements of the pension fund. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for disclaimer of opinion section of our report, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements.

We were engaged to audit the pension fund financial statements of London Borough of Haringey pension fund ("the pension fund") administered by Hymans Robertson ("the Authority") for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the fund account, the net assets statement and notes to the pension fund financial statements, including material accounting information. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the pension fund financial statements is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

Basis for disclaimer of opinion

The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 ('the Regulations') require the Authority to publish audited pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 by 13 December 2024 ('the backstop date'). The backstop date has been put in law with the purpose of clearing the backlog of historical financial statements. The conditions created by backstop arrangements have resulted in us not being able to obtain all the necessary audit evidence upon which to form an opinion since there was insufficient time to perform all necessary audit procedures by the backstop date. We scoped and planned our audit, identified risks of material statement and began to perform audit procedures in response to those risks. However, we were unable to complete all of these audit procedures. As a result, we are unable to conclude that the Authority's pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 as a whole are free from material misstatement. We have concluded that the possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements arising from this matter could be both material and pervasive.

Other information

The Director of Finance is responsible for the other information. The other information includes all other information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the pension fund financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Code of Audit Practice 2024 requires auditors to report on whether other information published together with the financial statements is consistent with the financial statements. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for disclaimer of opinion section of our report, we have been unable to form an opinion on whether the other information published together with the financial statements is consistent with the financial statements.

Responsibilities of Director of Finance and Haringey Council ("the Council") as administering authority of the pension fund

As explained more fully in the Statement of Accounts - Statement of Responsibilities, the Director of Finance for is responsible for the preparation of the 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 the financial statements give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the Chamberlain determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the pension fund financial statements, the Director of Finance is responsible for assessing the pension fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they have been informed by the relevant national body of the intention to dissolve the pension fund without the transfer of its services to another public sector entity.

AUDIT REPORT 2

Contents

Our responsibilities

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Audit report

Audit report 2

Audit report 3

Letter of representation

Audit quality

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the pension fund financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and to issue an auditor's report.

However, because of the matters described in the basis for disclaimer of opinion section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements.

We are independent of the pension fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of Hymans Robertson, as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in the Responsibilities of the Audited Body and Responsibility of the Auditor within Chapter 2 of the Code of Audit Practice. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Authority those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 Authority and the Authority's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Ciaran McLaughlin, Key Audit Partner

For and on behalf of BDO LLP, Appointed Auditor

Ipswich, UK

[Insert date]

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

LETTER OF REPRESENTATION

Haringey Pension Fund/address To be printed on letter headed paper

BDO LLP

First Floor, Franciscan House 51 Princes Street Ipswich IP1 1UR

Contents

Our responsibilities

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Audit report

Letter of representation

Letter of representation 2

Letter of representation 3

Audit quality

Dear Sir

Financial statements of Haringey Pension Fund for the year ended 31 March 2021

We confirm that the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of the Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 are made to the best of our knowledge and belief, and after having made appropriate enquiries of other officers and members of the Council.

The Director of Finance has fulfilled her responsibilities for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements as set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and in particular that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Pension Fund as of 31 March 2021 and of its income and expenditure and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

We have fulfilled our responsibilities on behalf of the Council, as set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, to make arrangements for the proper administration of the Pension Fund's financial affairs, to conduct a review at least once in a year of the effectiveness of the system of internal control and approve the Annual Governance Statement, to approve the Statement of Accounts (which include the financial statements), and for making accurate representations to you.

We have provided you with unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence. In addition, all the accounting records of the Pension Fund have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the Pension Fund have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of management and other meetings have been made available to you.

Going concern

We have made an assessment of the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements were approved for release. As a result of our assessment we consider that the Pension Fund is able to continue to operate as a going concern and that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Furthermore, we confirm that the disclosures included in note 2 to the financial statements are sufficient.

In making our assessment we did not consider there to be any material uncertainty relating to events or conditions that individually or collectively may cast significant doubt on the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern.

Laws and regulations

In relation to those laws and regulations which provide the legal framework within which the Pension Fund's business is conducted and which are central to our ability to conduct our business, we have disclosed to you all instances of possible non-compliance of which we are aware and all actual or contingent consequences arising from such instances of non-compliance.

Post balance sheet events

Other than those disclosed in the financial statements, there have been no events since the balance sheet date which either require changes to be made to the figures included in the financial statements or to be disclosed by way of a note. Should any material events of this type occur, we will advise you accordingly.

LETTER OF REPRESENTATION 2

Contents

Our responsibilities

Additional matters

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Letter of representation

letter of Representation 2

letter of Representation 3

Fraud and error

We are responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, designing, implementing and maintaining internal control, to, among other things, help assure the preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and preventing and detecting fraud and error.

We have considered the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated due to fraud and have identified no significant risks.

To the best of our knowledge we are not aware of any fraud or suspected fraud involving management or employees. Additionally, we are not aware of any fraud or suspected fraud involving any other party that could materially affect the financial statements.

To the best of our knowledge we are not aware of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the financial statements that have been communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or any other party.

Misstatements

We attach a schedule showing uncorrected misstatements that you have identified, which we acknowledge that you request we correct. Where appropriate we have explained our reasons for not correcting such misstatements below. In our opinion, the effects of not recording such identified financial statement misstatements are, both individually and in the aggregate, immaterial to the financial statements as a whole.

Related party transactions

We have disclosed to you the identity of all related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware. We have appropriately accounted for and disclosed such relationships and transactions in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

Other than as disclosed in note 23 to the financial statements, there were no loans, transactions or arrangements between the Pension Fund and Council members or their connected persons at any time in the year which were required to be disclosed.

Carrying value and classification of assets and liabilities

We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets or liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

Accounting estimates

The value at which investment assets are recorded in the net assets statement is the fair value. We are responsible for the reasonableness of any significant assumptions underlying the valuations, including consideration of whether they appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the scheme. Any significant changes in those values since the year end date have been disclosed to you.

None of the assets of the scheme has been assigned, pledged or mortgaged. The following key assumptions have been used to calculate the actuarial present value of future pension benefits disclosed in the financial statements:

- RPI increase 3.20%
- CPI increase 2.80%
- Salary increase 3.85%
- Pension increase 2.85%
- Discount rate 2.00%
- Mortality: Current pensioners male 21.7 years and female 24.2 years / future pensioners male 23.1 years and female 26 years
- Commutation: pre-April 2008 50% / post-April 2008 75%

We consider these assumptions to be appropriate for the purposes of estimating the pension liability in accordance with the Code and IAS 19 and IAS 26.

LETTER OF REPRESENTATION 3

Contents

Our responsibilities

Additional matters

Communication with you

Outstanding matters

Letter of representation

letter of Representation 2

letter of Representation 3

Litigation and claims

We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements and these have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of accounting standards.

Confirmation

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

We confirm that the financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.

We acknowledge our legal responsibilities regarding disclosure of information to you as auditors and confirm that so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information needed by you in connection with preparing your audit report of which you are unaware. Each director and member has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director or member of the Council in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information.

Yours faithfully

Taryn Eves
Director of Finance and Section 151 officer

Date:

Cllr Erdal Dogan Chair of the Audit Committee

Date:

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Ciaran McLaughlin, Partner

m +44 (0)7340 404154 e: ciaran.mclaughlin@bdo.co.uk The matters raised in our report prepared in connection with the audit are those we believe should be brought to your attention. They do not purport to be a complete record of all matters arising. This report is prepared solely for the use of the audited body and may not be quoted nor copied without our prior written consent. No responsibility to any third party is accepted.

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