

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

24 September 2010

Dear Sirs

**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2010**

I confirm to the best of my knowledge and belief that the following representations are made on the basis of appropriate enquiries of other officers and members with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, of inspection of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy myself that I can properly make each of the following representations to you in respect of your audit of the above financial statements

- i I acknowledge my responsibilities for ensuring that financial statements are prepared which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council and the Group in accordance with the SoRP and for making accurate representations to you.
- ii As far as I am aware:
  - a there is no relevant audit information of which you are unaware
  - b I have taken all steps that I ought to have taken to make myself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information
- iii I have complied with the requirements of all statutory directions and these matters have been appropriately reflected and disclosed in the financial statements.
- iv All the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the Council have been properly recorded in the accounting records and reflected in the financial statements.
- v All other records and related information, including minutes of all Council and Committee meetings, have been made available to you
- vi I acknowledge my responsibilities for making the accounting estimates included in the financial statements. Where it was necessary to choose between estimation techniques that comply with the 2009 SoRP, I selected the estimation technique considered to be the most appropriate to the Council's particular circumstances for the purpose of giving a true and fair view. Those estimates reflect our judgment based on our knowledge and experience about past and current events and are also based on our assumptions about conditions I expect to exist and courses of action I expect to take.

- vii I confirm that I am satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the valuation of pension scheme liabilities for FRS 17 disclosures are consistent with my knowledge. I confirm that all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for. I also confirm that all significant retirement benefits have been identified and properly accounted for (including any arrangements that are statutory, contractual or implicit in the employer's actions, that arise in the UK or overseas, that are funded or unfunded)
- viii The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions
- ix I acknowledge my responsibility for the design and implementation of internal control to prevent and detect error and fraud
- x I have disclosed to you the results of my assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud
- xi I am not aware of any irregularities, including fraud, involving management or employees of the Council. I am not aware of any instances of actual or possible non-compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, agreements or the Council's constitution that might result in the Council suffering significant penalties, other loss or affecting the financial statements. No allegations of such irregularities, including fraud, or such non-compliance have come to my notice
- xii I have disclosed to you all related parties and there were no transactions with officers, members or other related parties which should be disclosed in the financial statements except as disclosed in notes 37 and 39.
- xiii Except as stated in the accounts:
  - a there are no unrecorded liabilities, actual or contingent
  - b none of the assets of the Council has been assigned, pledged or mortgaged
  - c there are no material prior year charges or credits, nor exceptional or non-recurring items requiring separate disclosure
- xiv There are no claims, legal proceedings or other matters which may lead to a loss falling on the Council or which could result in the creation of an unrecorded asset, that should be disclosed in the financial statements
- xv The Council has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There has been no non-compliance with requirements of regulatory authorities that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance
- xvi I have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements, other than as required by the restatement of accounts under International Financial Reporting Standards in accordance with the 2010 Code.
- xvii No significant events having an effect on the financial position of the Council have taken place since the balance sheet date which necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto.

xviii I believe that the Council's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the Council's needs. I believe that no further disclosures relating to the Council's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

The financial statements have been fully explained to and discussed with me.

**Approval**

The approval of a draft of this letter of representation was given by the General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 23 September 2010.

Yours sincerely

Julie Parker

Director of Corporate Resources