

Hampshire Pension Fund

Audit results report

Year ended 31 March 2020

22 September 2020



Private and Confidential

22 September 2020

Dear Audit Committee Members

We are pleased to attach our audit results report for the forthcoming meeting of the Audit Committee. This report summarises our preliminary audit conclusion in relation to the audit of Hampshire Pension Fund for 2019/20.

We have substantially completed our audit of Hampshire Pension Fund (HPF) for the year ended 31 March 2020.

As set out on pages 5 and 6 a number of issues have arisen as a result of covid-19 which will impact on our audit opinion

Subject to concluding the outstanding matters listed in our report, we confirm that we expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements, which as part of those concluding procedures may contain with emphasis of matter paragraphs relating to Valuation of property investments, in the form at section 3 before the accounts publication date.

We have no matters to report on your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources

This report is intended solely for the use of the Audit Committee, other members of the Pension Fund, and senior management. It should not be used for any other purpose or given to any other party without obtaining our written consent.

We would like to thank your staff for their help during the engagement.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the contents of this report with you at the Audit Committee meeting on 30 September 2020.

Yours faithfully

Kevin Suter

Associate Partner

For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP

Encl

Contents



Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) have issued a 'Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies'. It is available from the Chief Executive of each audited body and via the PSAA website (www.psaa.co.uk). This Statement of responsibilities serves as the formal terms of engagement between appointed auditors and audited bodies. It summarises where the different responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies begin and end, and what is to be expected of the audited body in certain areas.

The 'Terms of Appointment (updated April 2018)' issued by PSAA

Our Complaints Procedure – If at any time you would like to discuss with us how our service to you could be improved, or if you are dissatisfied with the service you are receiving, you may take the issue up with your usual partner or director contact. If you prefer an alternative route, please contact Steve Varley, our Managing Partner, 1 More London Place, London SE1 2AF. We undertake to look into any complaint carefully and promptly and to do all we can to explain the position to you. Should you remain dissatisfied with any aspect of our service, you may of course take matters up with our professional institute. We can provide further information on how you may contact our professional institute.



01

Executive Summary



Executive Summary

Scope update

In our audit planning report tabled at the February Audit Committee meeting, we provided you with an overview of our audit scope and approach for the audit of the financial statements. We carried out our audit in accordance with this plan, with the following exceptions:

Changes to reporting timescales

As a result of COVID-19, new regulations, the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 No. 404, have been published and came into force on 30 April 2020. This announced a change to publication date for final, audited accounts from 31 July to 30 November 2020 for all relevant authorities.

Changes to our risk assessment as a result of COVID-19:

- Valuation of Investments- financial markets have experienced some volatility even before the advent of COVID-19. The uncertain impact of the virus on markets has had an impact on pooled property funds with underlying property investments being subject to RICS 'material uncertainty' paragraphs in their valuation reports. There are also increased risks that market and economic trends may not be adequately reflected in assets classified as Level 3 – valued according to unobservable information. The Fund's officers have challenged valuations, especially those which are classified as level 3 (and are the most complex to value because of their nature, see p.12.) We considered level 3 investment valuations to be a significant risk when we planned the audit, and COVID-19 has exacerbated the position.
- Disclosures on Going Concern – Financial plans for 2020/21 and medium term financial plans will need revision for Covid-19. We considered the unpredictability of the current environment gave rise to a risk that the Local Authority would not appropriately disclose the key factors relating to going concern, underpinned by managements assessment with particular reference to Covid-19 and the Local Authority's actual year end financial position and performance.
- Events after the balance sheet date – We identified an increased risk that further events after the balance sheet date concerning the current Covid-19 pandemic will need to be disclosed. The amount of detail required in the disclosure needed to reflect the specific circumstances of the Local Authority.

Changes in materiality: In our Audit Planning Report, we communicated that our audit procedures would be performed using a materiality of £71.8m, with performance materiality, at 75% of overall materiality, of £53.9m, and a threshold for reporting misstatements (nominal amount) of £3.6m. We have considered whether any change to our materiality is required in light of Covid-19. Following this consideration we remain satisfied that the basis for planning materiality, performance materiality and our audit threshold for reporting differences reported to you in our Audit Planning Report remain appropriate.

The basis of our assessment has remained consistent with prior years at 1% of net assets.

A summary of our approach to the audit of the balance sheet including any changes to that approach from the prior year audit is included in Appendix A.



Executive Summary

Scope update

Information Produced by the Entity (IPE): We identified an increased risk around the completeness, accuracy, and appropriateness of information produced by the entity due to the inability of the audit team to verify original documents or re-run reports on-site from the Authority's systems. We undertook the following to address this risk:

- Used the screen sharing function of Microsoft Teams to evidence re-running of reports used to generate the IPE we audited; and
- Agree IPE to scanned documents or other system screenshots.

Additional EY consultation requirements concerning the impact on auditor reports because of Covid-19. The continued impact of the Covid-19 pandemic increases the risks to the material accuracy of financial statements and disclosures. To ensure we are providing the right assurances to the Authority and its stakeholders the firm has introduced a rigorous consultation process for all auditor reports to ensure that they include the appropriate narrative

The changes to audit risks, audit approach and auditor reporting requirements changed the level of work we needed to perform. We have set out the impact on our audit fee on page 30.



Executive Summary

Status of the audit

We have substantially completed our audit of HCC's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020 and have performed the procedures outlined in our Audit planning report. Subject to satisfactory completion of the following outstanding items we expect to issue an unqualified opinion on the Authority's financial statements in the form which appears at Section 4. However until work is complete, further amendments may arise.

The outstanding items are:

- 1 Bank Confirmation
- Review of going concern assessment covering 12 months from the anticipated date of the auditor report
- Receipt of final report from EY Valuation experts on investment property
- Completion of mandatory internal consultation on going concern
- Receipt and review of the final version of the financial statements
- Completion of subsequent events review
- Receipt of the signed management representation letter – template to be provided by EY
- Final review procedures by senior manager and associate partner

Our audit opinion may emphasise the following:

Investment Valuation– including an emphasis of matter paragraph on valuation of property investments as a result of COVID-19 drawing the attention of a reader to the Pension Fund's disclosure on the material uncertainty caveats included in valuer reports in light of the impacts of C-19.

Audit differences

Subject to completion of the above, we have identified one unadjusted audit difference of £20.8m in relation to valuation of alternative investments. Further detail is provided on page 13.



Executive Summary

Areas of audit focus

Our Audit Planning Report identified key areas of focus for our audit of HPF's financial statements. This report sets out our observations and conclusions, including our views on areas which might be conservative, and where there is potential risk and exposure. We summarise our consideration of these matters, and any others identified, in the "Key Audit Issues" section of this report.

Audit findings and conclusions: Misstatements due to fraud or error

- We have no findings to report to the Audit Committee

Audit findings and conclusions: Valuation of complex investments (Level 3 Fair Value Hierarchy)

- We have engaged EY Valuations experts to assist in the testing of property investments given the additional uncertainty caused by COVID-19. We are awaiting their final report but no issues have been noted thus far in our testing

Audit findings and conclusions: Non quoted pooled & property investments (Level 2 Fair Value Hierarchy)

- We note that in the 2019/20 financial statements, pooled property assets and freehold & leasehold properties were redefined as level 3 assets (from level 2 in previous years).
- We have no findings to report to the Audit Committee

Audit findings and conclusions: Going Concern

- We have no findings to report to the Audit Committee

Audit findings and conclusions: PBSE

- We have reviewed the disclosures in the Statement of Accounts for HPF to ensure they sufficiently disclose the impact of any events, COVID-19 or otherwise, occurring after the balance sheet date of 31 March 2020.



Executive Summary

Areas of audit focus, continued

We ask you to review these and any other matters in this report to ensure:

- There are no other considerations or matters that could have an impact on these issues
- You agree with the resolution of the issue
- There are no other significant issues to be considered.

There are no matters, apart from those reported by management or disclosed in this report, which we believe should be brought to the attention of the Audit Committee.

Control observations

We have not identified any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of an internal control that might result in a material misstatement in your financial statements and which is unknown to you.

Independence

Please refer to Section 10 for our update on Independence.



02 Areas of Audit Focus



Areas of Audit Focus

Significant risk

Misstatements due to fraud or error

What is the risk?

The financial statements as a whole are not free of material misstatements whether caused by fraud or error.

As identified in ISA (UK and Ireland) 240, management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of its ability to manipulate accounting records directly or indirectly and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. We identify and respond to this fraud risk on every audit engagement.

What judgements are we focused on?

The risk of management override at the HPF is mainly through the possibility that management could override controls and manipulate in-year financial transactions which intend to adjust the entity's reported Fund Account.

This could be done through manipulation of estimates including investment valuation, or through journals amending the values in the production of the financial statements from those provided by the custodian or fund managers.

What did we do?

- We enquired of management about risks of fraud and the controls put in place to address those risks.
- We gained an understanding of the oversight given by those charged with governance of management's processes over fraud.
- We tested the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparing the financial statements;
- We reviewed accounting estimates for evidence of management bias; and
- We evaluated the business rationale for any significant unusual transactions
- We utilised our data analytics capabilities to assist with our work, including journal entry testing. We assessed journal entries for evidence of management bias and evaluate for business rationale.

What are our conclusions?

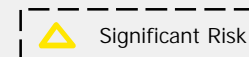
We have not identified any material weaknesses in controls or evidence of material management override.

We have not identified any instances of inappropriate judgements being applied.

Our journal testing did not identify any journal entries without a valid business purpose.

We did not identify any other transactions during our audit which appeared unusual or outside HPF's normal course of business.

We identified no unexplained differences between the fund's investment values provided by the custodian or fund managers, to those presented in the financial statements.





Areas of Audit Focus

Significant risk

Valuation of pooled property investments and freehold & leasehold properties (level 3)

What is the risk?

Investments at Level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the asset's valuation is not based on observable market data.

Significant judgements are made by the Investment Managers or administrators to value these investments whose prices are not publicly available.

The material nature of Investments means that any error in judgement could result in a material valuation error.

Market volatility means such judgments can quickly become outdated, especially when there is a significant time period between the latest available audited information and the fund year end. Such variations could have a material impact on the financial statements. The COVID-19 pandemic is such an event.

What judgements are we focused on?

Market volatility means such judgments can quickly become outdated, especially when there is a significant time period between the latest available audited information and the fund year end. Such variations could have a material impact on the financial statements.

The judgements we are focussed on are the date of the data and prices used when not information not publicly available. For these we have performed analytical procedures and obtained third party confirmations to verify.

What did we do?

We:

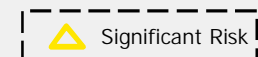
- reviewed the latest available audited accounts for the relevant funds and ensuring there are no matters arising that highlight weaknesses in the fund's valuation;
- where the latest audited accounts were not as at 31 March 2020, we performed analytical procedures and other procedures to assess the valuation for reasonableness against our own expectations; and
- tested that accounting entries were correctly processed in the financial statements.
- We note that in the 2019/20 financial statements, pooled property assets and freehold & leasehold properties were redefined as level 3 assets (from level 2 in previous years). As a result of the impact of COVID-19 on investments, many property valuers are issuing valuations for the underlying property assets including material uncertainty paragraphs in their valuation report, which increases the risk around valuation of these funds.

What are our conclusions?

Due to the inclusion of material uncertainty paragraphs in the RICs valuers report, we may include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph in our audit report. This is not a qualification, but draws attention to your disclosures regarding this issue for the readers understanding of the accounts.

We have engaged EY Valuations experts to assist in the testing of pooled property investments and the freehold & leasehold properties redefined as level 3 assets given the additional uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

We are awaiting their final report but no issues have been noted thus far in our testing.





Areas of Audit Focus

Significant risk

Valuation of Alternative Investments (Level 3)

What is the risk?

Investments at Level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the asset's valuation is not based on observable market data.

Significant judgements are made by the Investment Managers or administrators to value these investments whose prices are not publicly available.

The material nature of Investments means that any error in judgement could result in a material valuation error. Market volatility means such judgments can quickly become outdated, especially when there is a significant time period between the latest available audited information and the fund year end. Such variations could have a material impact on the financial statements. The COVID-19 pandemic is such an event.

What judgements are we focused on?

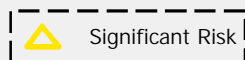
Market volatility means such judgments can quickly become outdated, especially when there is a significant time period between the latest available audited information and the fund year end. Such variations could have a material impact on the financial statements.

The judgements we are focussed on are the date of the data and prices used when not information not publicly available. For these we have performed analytical procedures and obtained third party confirmations to verify.

What did we do?

We:

- reviewed the latest available audited accounts for the relevant funds and ensuring there are no matters arising that highlight weaknesses in the fund's valuation;
- reviewed the updated valuations received from the investment managers that take COVID-19 into consideration;
- where the latest audited accounts were not as at 31 March 2020, we performed analytical procedures and other procedures to assess the valuation for reasonableness against our own expectations; and
- tested that accounting entries were correctly processed in the financial statements.



What are our conclusions?

We have noted a difference of £20.8m in our assessment of the adjustments made to alternative investments to reflect the impact of COVID-19.

Management made an estimate of the C-19 impact based on the appropriate category using information from investment managers and adjusted private equity investments by 20% .

We engaged EY valuation specialists to review the impact of Covid-19 to develop our own estimation range. We based this on two sources:

- Firstly we surveyed recent research that attempts to benchmark private assets against public markets, which has a consensus that private equity does reduce but is somewhat less sensitive to a downturn than a portfolio with the same amount of leverage applied to public equity;
- Secondly we sourced private capital returns from Burgiss, a market data provider. Burgiss calculates pooled results from transaction data obtained directly from investment funds the preliminary data for Q1 shows that returns were negative for all asset classes covered.

Based on the above we agreed a reduction in the value was appropriate, but estimated the adjustment for private equity investments should be within the range of 6-15%.

Therefore, using the top of the range at 15%, this results in our estimate varying to management's estimate by £20.8m. Management have chosen not to adjust this judgemental difference based on materiality.



Areas of Audit Focus



Valuation methods applied

What is the risk/area of focus?	What did we do?
<p><u>Valuation of non-quoted pooled investments (level 2)</u></p> <p>We consider the valuation of non-quoted pooled investments to be of a higher degree of inherent risk because of the extent of estimation uncertainty.</p>	<p>We have:</p> <p>Non-quoted investments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">► Reconciled the valuation of the non-quoted assets provided by the custodian and fund manager► Verified the fund manager unit valuation to recent unit sales using externally available market information► Performed an analytical review of the pooled funds movement in year against the specific market movements the fund is invested in <p>Conclusion: We have completed our testing and have not noted any issues with the judgements used in the valuation of level 2 investments.</p>



Areas of Audit Focus

What is the risk/area of focus?	What did we do?
<p>Going Concern ISA 570 was revised in September 2019. The revised standard increases the work we are required to perform when assessing whether an entity is a going concern and means UK auditors will follow significantly stronger requirements than those required by current international standards. Whilst the standard is effective for audits of financial statements for periods commencing on or after 15 December 2019, EY have revised current audit procedures, recognising the importance of the forthcoming revisions.</p> <p>Financial plans for 2020/21 and medium term financial plans may need revision for Covid-19. We considered the unpredictability of the current environment gave rise to a risk that the financial statements may not appropriately disclose the key factors relating to going concern, underpinned by managements assessment with particular reference to Covid-19 and the Pension Fund's year end financial position and performance</p>	<p>Procedures we are performing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtaining Management's going concern assessment and reviewing for any evidence of bias and consistency with the accounts;• Reviewing the financial modelling and forecasts prepared by HPF. We considered and tested key assumptions, focusing on the reasonableness of the liquidity forecasts up to a date of 12 months after the signing date of the accounts and opinion. This assessment therefore needs to extend beyond the 2020/21 financial year, and into 2021/22;• Ensuring that an appropriate going concern disclosure has been made within the financial statements;• Reviewing the HPF's approach to identifying and disclosing events after the balance sheet date; and• Considering the impact on our audit report and comply with EY consultation requirements. <p>Conclusion: We have reviewed the forecasts prepared by Hampshire Pension Fund along with the disclosures in the accounts and deem the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts to be appropriate.</p>



03 Audit Report



Audit Report

Draft audit report – example only

Note this is an illustrative draft of the audit report

Our opinion on the financial statements

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

Opinion

We have audited the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The pension fund financial statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes 1 to 25. 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 2019/20.

In our opinion the pension fund financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2020 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2020; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. 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 the Comptroller and Auditor General's (C&AG) AGN01, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Director of Corporate Resources' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Director of Corporate Resources has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the pension fund's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Emphasis of matter – Material uncertainty regarding the valuation of Property Assets

We draw attention to Note X of the financial statements, which describes the valuation uncertainty the Authority is facing as a result of COVID-19 in relation to property valuations. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Director of Corporate Resources is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we report by exception

We report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make written recommendations to the audited body under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or • we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects



Audit Report

Draft audit report - example only

Our opinion on the financial statements

Responsibility of the Director of Corporate Resources

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Responsibilities set out on pages X, the Director of Corporate Resources 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 2019/20, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

In preparing the financial statements, the Director of Corporate Resources 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 the Pension Fund either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of Hampshire Pension Fund as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. 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.



04 Audit Differences



Audit Differences

In the normal course of any audit, we identify misstatements between amounts we believe should be recorded in the financial statements and the disclosures and amounts actually recorded. These differences are classified as “known” or “judgemental”. Known differences represent items that can be accurately quantified and relate to a definite set of facts or circumstances. Judgemental differences generally involve estimation and relate to facts or circumstances that are uncertain or open to interpretation.

Summary of audit differences

As noted on page 13, we have identified one unadjusted audit difference. This would increase the value of alternative investments by £20.8m. We agree with management that it is not material.

There were a number of disclosure misstatements that were identified by EY and updated by management.



05 Other reporting issues

Other reporting issues

Consistency of other information published with the financial statements, including the Annual Governance Statement

We must give an opinion on the consistency of the financial and non-financial information in the Statement of Accounts 2019/20 with the audited financial statements

Financial information in the Statement of Accounts 2019/20 and published with the financial statements was consistent with the audited financial statements.

We have reviewed the other information and can confirm it is consistent with other information from our audit of the financial statements and we have no other matters to report.

Other powers and duties

We have a duty under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to consider whether to report on any matter that comes to our attention in the course of the audit, either for the Authority to consider it or to bring it to the attention of the public (i.e. "a report in the public interest"). We did not identify any issues which required us to issue a report in the public interest.

We also have a duty to make written recommendations to the Authority, copied to the Secretary of State, and take action in accordance with our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. We did not identify any issues.

Other reporting issues

Other matters

As required by ISA (UK&I) 260 and other ISAs specifying communication requirements, we must tell you significant findings from the audit and other matters if they are significant to your oversight of HCC's financial reporting process. They include the following:

- Significant qualitative aspects of accounting practices including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures;
- Any significant difficulties encountered during the audit;
- Any significant matters arising from the audit that were discussed with management;
- Written representations we have requested;
- Any other matters significant to overseeing the financial reporting process;
- Findings and issues around the opening balance on initial audits (if applicable);
- Related parties;
- External confirmations; and
- Consideration of laws and regulations.

We have no significant findings to communicate.



06

Assessment of Control Environment



Assessment of Control Environment

Financial controls

It is the responsibility of Hampshire Pension Fund to develop and implement systems of internal financial control and to put in place proper arrangements to monitor their adequacy and effectiveness in practice. Our responsibility as your auditor is to consider whether HPF has put adequate arrangements in place to satisfy itself that the systems of internal financial control are both adequate and effective in practice.

As part of our audit of the financial statements, we obtained an understanding of internal control sufficient to plan our audit and determine the nature, timing and extent of testing performed. As we have adopted a substantive approach we have therefore not tested the operation of any controls.

Although our audit was not designed to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control we are required to communicate to you significant deficiencies in internal control.

We have not identified any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of an internal control that might result in a material misstatement in your financial statements of which you are not aware.

We considered whether circumstances arising from COVID-19 resulted in a change to the overall control environment of effectiveness of internal controls, for example due to significant staff absence or limitations as a result of working remotely. We identified no issues which we wish to bring to your attention/details of issues noted.



07

Data Analytics



Use of Data Analytics in the Audit

► Data analytics

Analytics Driven Audit

Data analytics

We used our data analysers to enable us to capture entire populations of your financial data. These analysers:

- Help identify specific exceptions and anomalies which can then be the focus of our substantive audit tests; and
- Give greater likelihood of identifying errors than traditional, random sampling techniques.

In 2019/20 our use of these analysers in HPF's audit included testing journal entries to identify and focus our testing on those entries we deem to have the highest inherent risk to the audit.

We capture the data through our formal data requests and the data transfer takes place on a secured EY website. These are in line with our EY data protection policies which are designed to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of business and personal information.

Journal Entry Analysis

We obtain downloads of all financial ledger transactions posted in the year. We perform completeness analysis over the data, reconciling the sum of transactions to the movement in the trial balances and financial statements to ensure we have captured all data. Our analysers then review and sort transactions, allowing us to more effectively identify and test journals that we consider to be higher risk, as identified in our audit planning report.

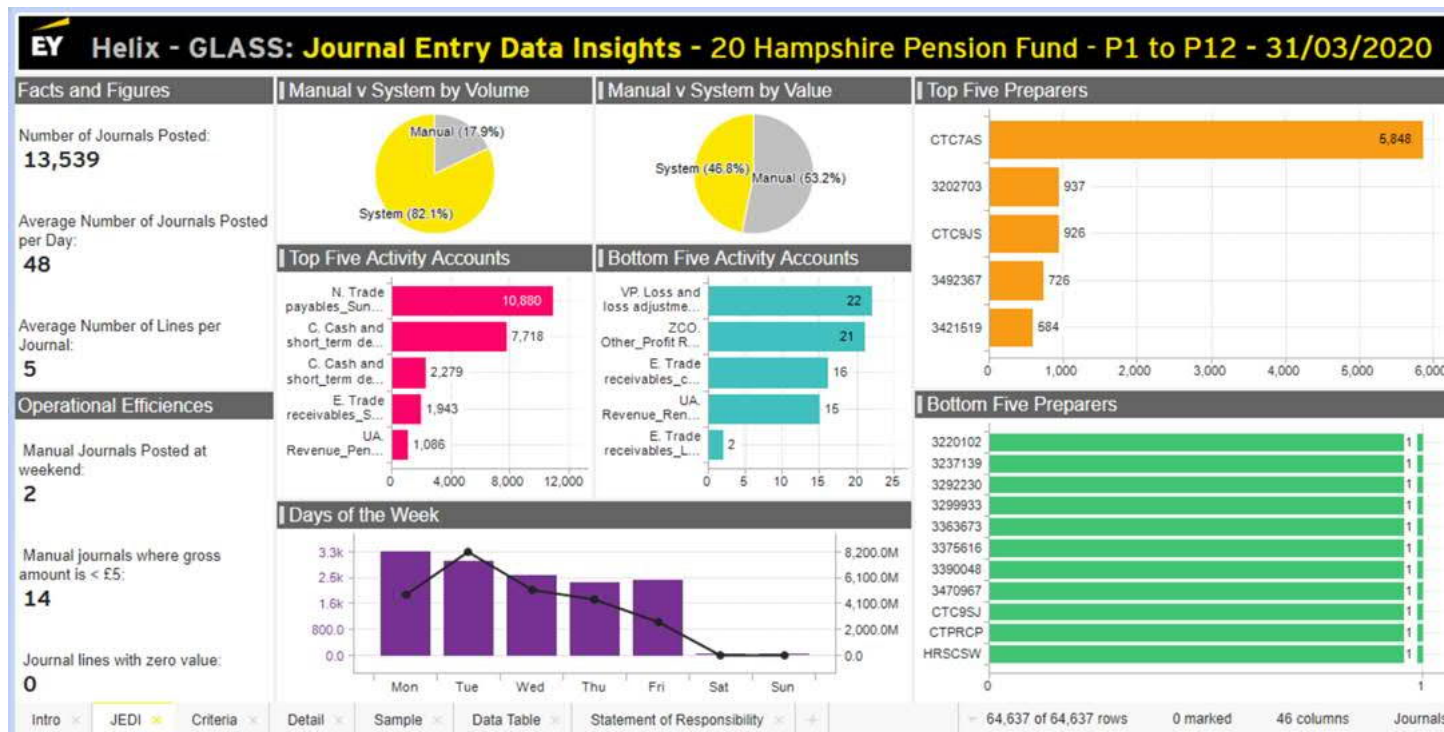


Data Analytics

Journal Entry Data Insights

The graphic outlined below summarises the journal population for 2019/20. We review journals by certain risk based criteria to focus on higher risk transactions, such as journals posted manually by management, those posted around the year-end, those with unusual debit and credit relationships, and those posted by individuals we would not expect to be entering transactions.

The purpose of this approach is to provide a more effective, risk focused approach to auditing journal entries, minimising the burden of compliance on management by minimising randomly selected samples.





Journal Entry Testing

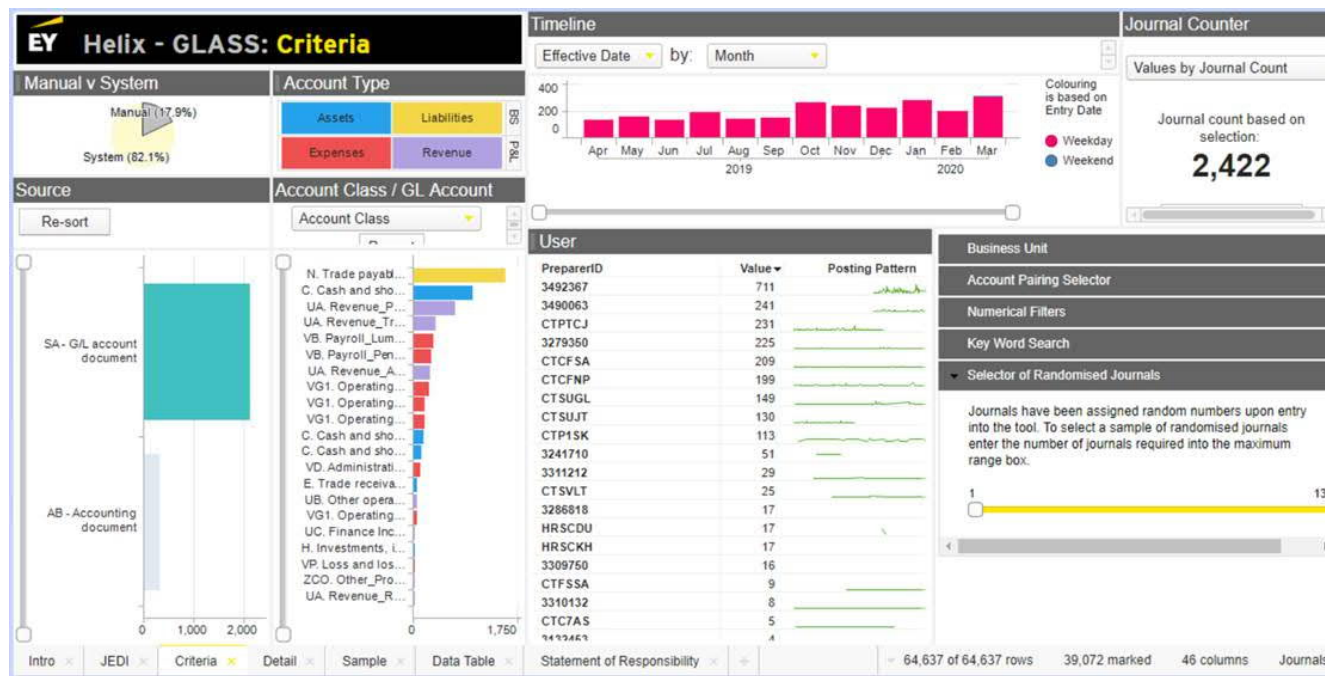
What is the risk?

In line with ISA 240 we are required to test the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in the preparation of the financial statements.

Journal entry data criteria – 31 March 2020

What judgements are we focused on?

Using our analysers we are able to take a risk based approach to identify journals with a higher risk of management override, as outlined in our audit planning report.



What did we do?

We obtained general ledger journal data for the period and have used our analysers to identify characteristics typically associated with inappropriate journal entries or adjustments, and journals entries that are subject to a higher risk of management override.

We then performed tests on the journals identified to determine if they were appropriate and reasonable.

What are our conclusions?

We isolated a sub set of journals for further investigation and obtained supporting evidence to verify the posting of these transactions and concluded that they were appropriately stated.



08

Independence

Confirmation and analysis of Audit fees

We confirm there are no changes in our assessment of independence since our confirmation in our audit planning board report dated 28 January 2020.

We complied with the APB Ethical Standards. In our professional judgement the firm is independent and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff has not been compromised within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements.

We consider that our independence in this context is a matter that should be reviewed by both you and ourselves. It is therefore important that you and your Audit Committee consider the facts of which you are aware and come to a view. If you wish to discuss any matters concerning our independence, we will be pleased to do so at the forthcoming meeting of the Audit Committee on 30 September 2020.

As part of our reporting on our independence, we set out below a summary of the fees you have paid us in the year ended 31 March 2020.

Description	Final Fee 2018/19 £	Planned Fee 2019/20 £	Final Fee 2019/20 £
Total Audit Fee – Code work	24,442	24,442	TBC

2019/20 Fees:

We are not yet able to provide a final fee for the 2019/20 audit. This is for two reasons:

- The audit as not fully complete, as noted in the list of outstanding procedures set out on page 7 of this report.
- We have not been able to conclude our fee discussions with PSAA regarding the rebasing of the scale fee, as we discussed at the previous Audit Committee, and previously with management on 19 May 2020.

The areas in which we have completed additional work and as such we will be proposing a fee variation to the base scale fee are:

- Investment Properties, including RICS related material uncertainty related to COVID-19
- Going concern assessment and disclosure
- EY consultation on auditor's report on the statements involving EY professional practice directorate to ensure the auditor's report is appropriate.

Once we have completed the audit will we assess the final fee, discuss with management and provide an update to the Audit Committee.

Relationships, services and related threats and safeguards



The FRC Ethical Standard requires that we provide details of all relationships between Ernst & Young (EY) and your Authority, senior management and its affiliates, including all services provided by us and our network to your Authority, senior management and its affiliates, and other services provided to other known connected parties that we consider may reasonably be thought to bear on the our integrity or objectivity, including those that could compromise independence and the related safeguards that are in place and why they address the threats.

There are no relationships from insert start of financial year to the date of this report, which we consider may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and objectivity.

New UK Independence Standards

The Financial Reporting Council (FRC) published the Revised Ethical Standard 2019 in December and it will apply to accounting periods starting on or after 15 March 2020. A key change in the new Ethical Standard will be a general prohibition on the provision of non-audit services by the auditor (and its network) which will apply to UK Public Interest Entities (PIEs). A narrow list of permitted services will continue to be allowed.

Summary of key changes

- Extraterritorial application of the FRC Ethical Standard to UK PIE and its worldwide affiliates
- A general prohibition on the provision of non-audit services by the auditor (or its network) to a UK PIE, its UK parent and worldwide subsidiaries
- A narrow list of permitted services where closely related to the audit and/or required by law or regulation
- Absolute prohibition on the following relationships applicable to UK PIE and its affiliates including material significant investees/investors:
 - Tax advocacy services
 - Remuneration advisory services
 - Internal audit services
 - Secondment/loan staff arrangements
- An absolute prohibition on contingent fees.
- Requirement to meet the higher standard for business relationships i.e. business relationships between the audit firm and the audit client will only be permitted if it is inconsequential.
- Permitted services required by law or regulation will not be subject to the 70% fee cap.
- Grandfathering will apply for otherwise prohibited non-audit services that are open at 15 March 2020 such that the engagement may continue until completed in accordance with the original engagement terms.
- A requirement for the auditor to notify the Audit Committee where the audit fee might compromise perceived independence and the appropriate safeguards.
- A requirement to report to the audit committee details of any breaches of the Ethical Standard and any actions taken by the firm to address any threats to independence. A requirement for non-network component firm whose work is used in the group audit engagement to comply with the same independence standard as the group auditor. Our current understanding is that the requirement to follow UK independence rules is limited to the component firm issuing the audit report and not to its network. This is subject to clarification with the FRC.

Next Steps

We will continue to monitor and assess all ongoing and proposed non-audit services and relationships to ensure they are permitted under FRC Revised Ethical Standard 2016 which will continue to apply until 31 March 2020 as well as the recently released FRC Revised Ethical Standard 2019 which will be effective from 1 April 2020. We will work with you to ensure orderly completion of the services or where required, transition to another service provider within mutually agreed timescales. We do not provide any non-audit services which would be prohibited under the new standard.

Other communications

EY Transparency Report 2019

Ernst & Young (EY) has policies and procedures that instil professional values as part of firm culture and ensure that the highest standards of objectivity, independence and integrity are maintained.

Details of the key policies and processes in place within EY for maintaining objectivity and independence can be found in our annual Transparency Report which the firm is required to publish by law. The most recent version of this Report is for the year end 30 June 2019:

https://assets.ey.com/content/dam/ey-sites/ey-com/en_uk/about-us/transparency-report-2019/ey-uk-2019-transparency-report.pdf






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Appendices

Appendix A

Summary of communications




Date 	Nature 	Summary 
January 2020	Report	The audit planning report, including confirmation of independence, was issued to the Audit Committee.
February 2020	Meeting	The Associate Partner and Senior Manager met with the Audit Committee and senior members of the management team to discuss the audit planning report.
July 2020	Report	An audit progress report was issued to the Audit Committee
July 2020	Meeting	The Associate Partner met with the Audit Committee and senior members of the management team to discuss the progress of the audit and implications of COVID-19 on proposed audit strategy.
September 2020	Report	The audit results report, including confirmation of independence, was issued to the Audit Committee.
September 2020	Meeting	The partner in charge of the engagement, accompanied by other senior members of the audit team, met with the Audit Committee and senior members of the management team to discuss the audit results report.

In addition to the above specific meetings and letters the audit team met with the management team multiple times throughout the audit to discuss audit findings.





Appendix B

Required communications with the Audit Committee





There are certain communications that we must provide to the Audit Committees of UK clients. We have detailed these here together with a reference of when and where they were covered:

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	 When and where
Terms of engagement	Confirmation by the audit committee of acceptance of terms of engagement as written in the engagement letter signed by both parties.	The statement of responsibilities serves as the formal terms of engagement between the PSAA's appointed auditors and audited bodies
Our responsibilities	Reminder of our responsibilities as set out in the engagement letter.	Audit planning report dated 28 January 2020
Planning and audit approach	Communication of the planned scope and timing of the audit, any limitations and the significant risks identified.	Audit planning report dated 28 January 2020
Significant findings from the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our view about the significant qualitative aspects of accounting practices including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures • Significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit • Significant matters, if any, arising from the audit that were discussed with management • Written representations that we are seeking • Expected modifications to the audit report • Other matters if any, significant to the oversight of the financial reporting process 	This Audit results report




Appendix B

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	  When and where
Public Interest Entities	<p>For the audits of financial statements of public interest entities our written communications to the audit committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A declaration of independence • The identity of each key audit partner • The use of non-member firms or external specialists and confirmation of their independence • The nature and frequency of communications • A description of the scope and timing of the audit • Which categories of the balance sheet have been tested substantively or controls based and explanations for significant changes to the prior year, including first year audits • Materiality • Any going concern issues identified • Any significant deficiencies in internal control identified and whether they have been resolved by management • Subject to compliance with regulations, any actual or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified relevant to the audit committee • Subject to compliance with regulations, any suspicions that irregularities, including fraud with regard to the financial statements, may occur or have occurred, and the implications thereof • The valuation methods used and any changes to these including first year audits • The scope of consolidation and exclusion criteria if any and whether in accordance with the reporting framework • The identification of any non-EY component teams used in the group audit • The completeness of documentation and explanations received • Any significant difficulties encountered in the course of the audit • Any significant matters discussed with management • Any other matters considered significant 	<p>Audit planning report dated 28 January 2020 And This Audit results report</p>





Appendix B

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	  When and where
Going concern	Events or conditions identified that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the events or conditions constitute a material uncertainty • Whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements • The adequacy of related disclosures in the financial statements 	This Audit results report No conditions or events were identified, either individually or together to raise any doubt about HPF's ability to continue for the 12 months from the date of our report
Misstatements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncorrected misstatements and their effect on our audit opinion • The effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods • A request that any uncorrected misstatement be corrected • Material misstatements corrected by management 	This Audit results report
Subsequent events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enquiry of the audit committee where appropriate regarding whether any subsequent events have occurred that might affect the financial statements. 	Attending Audit Committee – 30 September 2020
Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enquiries of the audit committee to determine whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud affecting the Authority • Any fraud that we have identified or information we have obtained that indicates that a fraud may exist • Unless all of those charged with governance are involved in managing the Authority, any identified or suspected fraud involving: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Management; b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or c. Others where the fraud results in a material misstatement in the financial statements. • The nature, timing and extent of audit procedures necessary to complete the audit when fraud involving management is suspected • Any other matters related to fraud, relevant to Audit Committee responsibility. 	Formal enquiry letter sent and response received from Chair of Audit Committee. and This Audit results report

Appendix B

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	 When and where
Related parties	Significant matters arising during the audit in connection with the Authority's related parties including, when applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-disclosure by management • Inappropriate authorisation and approval of transactions • Disagreement over disclosures • Non-compliance with laws and regulations • Difficulty in identifying the party that ultimately controls the Authority 	This Audit results report
Independence	Communication of all significant facts and matters that bear on EY's, and all individuals involved in the audit, objectivity and independence. Communication of key elements of the audit engagement partner's consideration of independence and objectivity such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principal threats • Safeguards adopted and their effectiveness • An overall assessment of threats and safeguards • Information about the general policies and process within the firm to maintain objectivity and independence Communications whenever significant judgments are made about threats to objectivity and independence and the appropriateness of safeguards put in place. For public interest entities and listed companies, communication of minimum requirements as detailed in the FRC Revised Ethical Standard 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships between EY, the company and senior management, its affiliates and its connected parties • Services provided by EY that may reasonably bear on the auditors' objectivity and independence • Related safeguards • Fees charged by EY analysed into appropriate categories such as statutory audit fees, tax advisory fees, other non-audit service fees • A statement of compliance with the Ethical Standard, including any non-EY firms or external experts used in the audit 	Audit planning report dated 28 January 2020 and This Audit results report

Appendix B

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	  When and where
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details of any inconsistencies between the Ethical Standard and Group's policy for the provision of non-audit services, and any apparent breach of that policy Details of any contingent fee arrangements for non-audit services Where EY has determined it is appropriate to apply more restrictive rules than permitted under the Ethical Standard The audit committee should also be provided an opportunity to discuss matters affecting auditor independence 	
External confirmations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management's refusal for us to request confirmations Inability to obtain relevant and reliable audit evidence from other procedures. 	We have received all requested confirmations
Consideration of laws and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to compliance with applicable regulations, matters involving identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, other than those which are clearly inconsequential and the implications thereof. Instances of suspected non-compliance may also include those that are brought to our attention that are expected to occur imminently or for which there is reason to believe that they may occur Enquiry of the audit committee into possible instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements and that the audit committee may be aware of 	We have asked management and those charged with governance. We have not identified any material instances or non-compliance with laws and regulations
Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit. 	This Audit results report

Appendix B

		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance 	This Audit results report
Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise 	This Audit results report
Auditors report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any circumstances identified that affect the form and content of our auditor's report 	This Audit results report
Fee Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakdown of fee information when the audit planning report is agreed Breakdown of fee information at the completion of the audit Any non-audit work 	Audit Planning Report dated 28 January 2020 and This Audit results report
Certification work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of certification work 	Certification Report

Management representation letter

Hampshire Pension Fund – anticipated draft, based on the current position of the audit. Further representations may be required.

Management Representation Letter

xx October 2020

Kevin Suter
Associate Partner
Ernst & Young LLP
Wessex House
19 Threefield Lane
Southampton
SO14 3QB

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Hampshire Pension Fund (“the Fund”) for the year ended 31 March 2020. We recognise that obtaining representations from us concerning the information contained in this letter is a significant procedure in enabling you to form an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Fund during the period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and of the amount and disposition of the Fund’s assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2020, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the period, have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of the Fund’s financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK), which involves an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, and is not designed to identify - nor necessarily be expected to disclose - all fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Accordingly, we make the following representations, which are true to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

A. Financial Statements and Financial Records

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, under the relevant statutory authorities, for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20.
2. We confirm that the Fund is a Registered Pension Scheme. We are not aware of any reason why the tax status of the scheme should change.
3. We acknowledge, as members of management of the Fund, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements. We believe the financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position and the financial performance of the Fund in accordance with the

Management representation letter

CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20, and are free of material misstatements, including omissions. We have approved the financial statements.

4. The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are appropriately described in the financial statements.

5. As members of management of the Fund, we believe that the Fund has a system of internal controls adequate to enable the preparation of accurate financial statements in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/2020 that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. We have disclosed to you any significant changes in our processes, controls, policies and procedures that we have made to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our system of internal controls

6. We believe that the effects of any unadjusted audit differences, summarised in the accompanying schedule, accumulated by you during the current audit and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole and have not adjusted.

B. Non-compliance with laws and regulations including fraud

1. We acknowledge that we are responsible for determining that the Fund's activities are conducted in accordance with laws and regulations and that we are responsible for identifying and addressing any non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

2. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.

3. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

4. We have not made any reports to The Pensions Regulator, nor are we aware of any such reports having been made by any of our advisors.

5. There have been no other communications with The Pensions Regulator or other regulatory bodies during the Fund year or subsequently concerning matters of noncompliance with any legal duty.

We have no knowledge of any identified or suspected non-compliance with laws or regulations, including fraud that may have affected the Fund (regardless of the source or form and including without limitation, any allegations by "whistleblowers"), including non-compliance matters:

- Involving financial improprieties
- Related to laws or regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the Fund's financial statements
- Related to laws and regulations that have an indirect effect on amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, but compliance with which may be fundamental to the operations of the Fund, its ability to continue, or to avoid material penalties
- Involving management, or employees who have significant roles in internal control, or others
- in relation to any allegations of fraud, suspected fraud or other non-compliance with laws and regulations communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others

C. Information Provided and Completeness of Information and Transactions

1. We 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 matters.
- Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
- Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Management representation letter

3. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements, including those related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 4. We have made available to you all minutes of the meetings of members of the management of the Fund and committees of members of the management of the Fund (or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared) held through 2019/20 to the most recent meeting of the Audit Committee on XXX.
 5. We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding the identification of related parties. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Fund's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers of assets, liabilities and services, leasing arrangements, guarantees, non-monetary transactions and transactions for no consideration for the period ended, as well as related balances due to or from such parties at the period end. These transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.
 6. We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding annuities held in the name of the members of the management of the Fund.
 7. We have disclosed to you, and the Fund has complied with, all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.
 8. No transactions have been made which are not in the interests of the Fund members or the Fund during the fund year or subsequently.
 9. We believe that the significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- D. Liabilities and Contingencies
1. All liabilities and contingencies, including those associated with guarantees, whether written or oral, have been disclosed to you and are appropriately reflected in the financial statements.
 2. We have informed you of all outstanding and possible litigation and claims, whether or not they have been discussed with legal counsel.
 3. We have recorded and/or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities relating to litigation and claims, both actual and contingent, and have disclosed in Note X to the financial statements all guarantees that we have given to third parties.
- E. Subsequent Events
1. Other than as disclosed in the financial statements, there have been no events (including events related to the COVID-19 pandemic) subsequent to period end which require adjustment of, or disclosure in, the financial statements or notes thereto.
- F. Other information
1. We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the other information. The other information comprises the Hampshire Pension Fund Annual Report 2019/20.
 2. We confirm that the content contained within the other information is consistent with the financial statements.

Management representation letter

[When not available prior to finalizing the auditor's report] We will provide to you the final version of documents when available [or X date] and prior to issuance by us, such that you can perform your procedures.

G. Independence

1. We confirm that, under section 27 of the Pensions Act 1995, no [members of the management of the Fund] of the Scheme is connected with, or is an associate of, Ernst & Young LLP which would render Ernst & Young LLP ineligible to act as auditor to the Scheme.

H. Derivative Financial Instruments

1. We confirm that the Fund has made no direct investment in derivative financial instruments.
2. Management has duly considered and deemed as appropriate the assumptions and methodologies used in the valuation of 'over the counter' derivative financial instruments which the Fund is holding, and these have been communicated to you.

I. Pooling investments, including the use of collective investment vehicles and shared services

1. We confirm that all investments in pooling arrangements, including the use of collective investment vehicles and shared services, meet the criteria set out in the November 2015 investment reform and criteria guidance and that the requirements of the LGPS Management and Investment of Funds Regulations 2016 in respect of these investments has been followed.

J. Actuarial valuation

1. The latest report of the actuary Aon as at 31 March 2019 and dated 31 March 2020 has been provided to you. To the best of our knowledge and belief we confirm that the information supplied by us to the actuary was true and that no significant information was omitted which may have a bearing on his report.

K. Use of the Work of a Specialist

1. We agree with the findings of the specialists that we have engaged to value the investments held by the Fund and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the financial statements and the underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to the specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an effect on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

L. Estimates

Valuation of investments

1. We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimate(s) have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/2020.

Management representation letter

2. We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the investment valuations appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out the obligations of the Fund on behalf of the entity.
3. We confirm that the disclosures made in the financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate are complete, including the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and made in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/2020.
4. We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimate(s) and disclosures in the financial statements due to subsequent events, including due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

M. Going concern

The financial statements disclose all the matters of which we are aware relevant to the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, including significant conditions and events, our plans for future action, and the feasibility of those plans.

Yours faithfully,

Director of Finance

Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee

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