

Audit Progress Report

Year ending 31 March 2015

Oxfordshire County Council

25 February 2015

Ernst & Young LLP



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25 February 2015

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Dear Members

Audit Progress Report 2014/15

We are pleased to attach our Audit Progress Report.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit Committee with an overview of the stage we have reached in your 2014/15 audit and ensure our audit is aligned with the Committee's expectations.

Our audit will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998, the Code of Audit Practice, the Audit Commission Standing Guidance, auditing standards and other professional requirements.

We provided our Audit Fee Letter to the Chief Executive and the Audit Committee in April 2014.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this report with you as well as understand whether there are other matters which you consider may influence our audit.

Yours faithfully

Maria Grindley
Director
For and Behalf of Ernst & Young LLP
UK

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1. Planned work

2013/14 Grant Claims

We have completed our certification of the Council's returns and claims. Our report will be presented to Members at the February 2015 Audit and Governance Committee.

2014/15 Planning

We will discuss our proposed work with Senior Managers before producing a draft plan for discussion with you at the April 2015 Committee.

Meetings

We will continue regular meetings with key officers as part of our ongoing audit process including:

- ▶ Fortnightly meetings with key finance staff during the opinion audit visit to discuss significant risks around the accounts, and updates on our work;
- ▶ Quarterly meetings with the Director of Finance and Senior Finance Officers to discuss the significant risks faced by the Council and our approach and progress with the audit.

Audit Committee

If members of the Audit Committee have any particular issues they want to discuss with us we would be pleased to discuss these with you.

2. Timetable

Audit and Governance Committee Timeline

We have set out below a timetable showing the key stages of the audit, including the value for money work and the whole of government accounts, and the deliverables we have agreed to provide to you through the 2014/15 Audit and Governance Committee cycle.

We will provide formal reports to the Audit and Governance Committee throughout our audit process as outlined below. Where required, we will issue an Interim Report, summarising the findings from our audit at that stage. From time to time matters may arise that require immediate communication with the Audit and Governance Committee and we will discuss them with the Audit and Governance Committee Chair as appropriate.

Following the conclusion of our audit we will prepare an Annual Audit Letter in order to communicate to the Council and external stakeholders, including members of the public, the key issues arising from our work.

Audit phase	Timetable	Deliverable
High level planning:	April 2014	Fee Letter provided to the Chief Executive and Chair of the Audit Committee in April 2014
Risk assessment and setting of scopes	March 2015	Audit Plan - Reported to Those Charged With Governance April 2015
Update on progress and interim feedback	March 2015	Progress report - Reported to Those Charged With Governance July 2015
Value for money conclusion	January/September 2015	Ongoing
Year-end audit	July – September 2015	Audit report (including our opinion on the financial statements and a conclusion as to whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources). Audit completion certificate Whole of Government Accounts Certification Report to Those Charged With Governance September 2015
Reporting	November 2015	Annual Audit Letter
Grant claims	January 2016	Report on the audit of grant claims

In addition to the above formal reporting and deliverables we will seek to provide practical business insights and updates on regulatory matters through our Sector Briefings.

Planning discussions

We will update our planning throughout the course of our audit.

Appendix A Audit Progress

Progress against key deliverables

Key deliverable	Timetable in plan	Status	Comments
2013/14 grant claim report	January 2015	Completed	Reported to the Audit Committee January 2015
Audit Plan	March 2015	not due	
Report to Those Charged with Governance	September 2015	not due	
Audit Report (including opinion and vfm conclusion)	September 2015	not due	
Audit Certificate	September 2015	not due	
WGA Certificate	October 2015	not due	
Annual Audit Letter	October 2015	not due	
Report on the Audit of Grant Claims	January 2016	not due	

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