

# Audit Progress Report

Oxfordshire County Council

18 November 2015

Ernst & Young LLP



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Audit and Governance Committee  
Oxfordshire County Council  
County Hall  
New Road  
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18 November 2015

Dear Audit and Governance Committee Members

## **Audit Progress Report 2015/16**

We are pleased to attach our Audit Progress Report.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit and Governance Committee with an overview of the stage we have reached in your 2015/16 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 brought our Audit Fee Letter to the April 2015 Audit and Governance Committee.

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

Mick West  
Director  
For and behalf of Ernst & Young LLP  
United Kingdom

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## 1. Planned work

### **2015/16 Planning**

We are just about to start our 2015/16 planning. To update our assessments of risk as we carry out our interim work, this will include review of in year financial performance and walkthrough of key financial systems to identify any other issues that we need to take account of. A finalised plan is scheduled for January 2016.

We are discussing with Hampshire County Council and audit colleagues for that Council how best to audit the IBC to ensure we are able to complete our work on a timely and efficient basis.

We are currently finalising work on the audit of the Teachers Pensions return and will complete our work prior to the 30 November deadline.

### **Meetings**

We will continue to meet regularly with key officers as part of our ongoing audit process.

We have met with staff from the Council on the 4 November to discuss issues arising from the 2014/15 audit and to examine ways to enhance the audit process for the 2015/16 accounts.

### **Audit and Governance Committee**

We will continue to bring our sector briefings to Audit and Governance Committee meetings and discuss key issues with the Committee.

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

### **2014-15 Audit Fee**

We have agreed additional fee with the Chief Finance Officer and are waiting for approval from PSAA before we are able to confirm what the final fee will be.

## 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 2015/16 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	Deliverables
High level planning:	<b>April 2015</b>	Fee Letter taken to the Audit and Governance Committee in April 2015
Risk assessment and setting of scopes	<b>December 2015/January 2016</b>	Audit Plan to be taken to the Audit and Governance Committee in February 2016
Update on work completed to date	<b>July 2016</b>	Progress report
Value for money conclusion	<b>January/September 2016</b>	Ongoing
Year-end audit	<b>July – September 2016</b>	Report to the Audit and Governance Committee in September 2016 including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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).</li> <li>- Audit completion certificate</li> <li>- Whole of Government Accounts certification</li> </ul>
Reporting	<b>November 2016</b>	Annual Audit Letter

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
Fee Letter	April 2015	Completed	Reported to the Audit and Governance Committee April 2015
Progress report	November 2015	Completed	Reported to the Audit and Governance Committee November 2015
Audit Plan	January 2016	Not due yet	
Report to Those Charged with Governance	September 2016	Not due yet	
Audit Report (including opinion and vfm conclusion)	September 2016	Not due yet	
Audit Certificate	September 2016	Not due yet	
WGA Certificate	October 2016	Not due yet	
Annual Audit Letter	November 2016	Not due yet	

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