

Appendix Four B

Audit Completion Report

London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund
– Year ended 31 March 2022

281

For the GARMS meeting 5 July 2023



Contents

- 01 Executive summary
- 02 Status of the audit
- 03 Audit approach
- 04 Significant findings
- 05 Summary of misstatements

282

- Appendix A: Draft management representation letter
- Appendix B: Draft audit report
- Appendix C: Draft consistency report
- Appendix D: Independence and fees
- Appendix E: Other communications

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Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee
London Borough of Harrow Council
Civic Centre
Station Road
Harrow
HA1 2XY

21st June 2023

Dear Committee Members

Harrow Pension Fund - Audit Completion Report – Year ended 31 March 2022

We are pleased to present our Audit Completion Report for the year ended 31 March 2022. The purpose of this document is to summarise our audit conclusions on the audit of the Harrow Pension Fund.

The scope of our work, including identified significant audit risks and other areas of management judgement, was outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum which we presented on 19 July 2022. We have reviewed our Audit Strategy Memorandum and concluded that the original significant audit risks and other areas of management judgement remain appropriate.

I would like to express our thanks for the assistance of your team during our audit. If you would like to discuss any matters in more detail then please do not hesitate to contact me on 07977 261873.

Yours faithfully

Suresh Patel
Mazars LLP

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30 Old Bailey
London
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01

Section 01:

Executive summary

284

1. Executive summary

Principal conclusions and significant findings

The detailed scope of our work as your appointed auditor for 2021/22 is set out in the National Audit Office's (NAO) Code of Audit Practice. Our responsibilities and powers are derived from the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum, our audit has been conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and means we focus on audit risks that we have assessed as resulting in a higher risk of material misstatement.

In section 4 of this report, we have set out our conclusions and significant findings from our audit. This section includes our conclusions on the audit risks and areas of management judgement in our Audit Strategy Memorandum, which include:

- Management override of controls;

285 valuation of investments within level 3 of the fair value hierarchy; and
285 data migration from SAP to D365.

Misstatement and internal control recommendations

We have no internal control recommendations and in Section 05 we report no audit misstatements and a small number of disclosure amendments.

Status and audit opinion

We have substantially completed our audit in respect of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

At the time of preparing this report, the significant matters remaining outstanding as outlined in section 2. On 1 April 2023, the Council received the latest triennial review from its actuaries, which provides more up to date data for 31 March 2022 present value of promised retirement benefits. These values are likely to be materially

different to the estimated values used for the draft accounts. Auditors cannot place any reliance on the new triennial valuation until we have carried out audit procedures on the membership data that supports the valuation and they have appropriate assurance over the other assumptions applied by the actuary. This matter is currently being worked through. We will provide the Committee a verbal update. We will provide an update to you in relation to the significant matters outstanding through issuance of a follow up letter.

Subject to the satisfactory conclusion of the remaining audit work, we have the following conclusions:



Audit opinion

We anticipate issuing an unqualified opinion, without modification, on the financial statements. Our proposed audit opinion is included in the draft auditor's report in Appendix B.



Consistency report

We anticipate concluding that the Pension Fund financial statements within the Pension Fund's Annual Report are consistent with the Pension Fund financial statements within the Statement of Accounts of the London Borough of Harrow Council. Our draft consistency report is provided in Appendix C.



Wider powers

The 2014 Act requires us to give an elector, or any representative of the elector, the opportunity to question us about the accounting records of the Fund and to consider any objection made to the accounts. No such correspondence from electors has been received.

Executive summary

Status of audit

Audit approach

Significant findings

Internal control recommendations

Summary of misstatements

Appendices

02




Section 02:

Status of the audit




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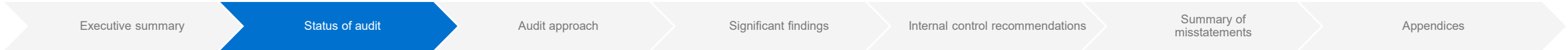
2. Status of the audit

Our work is substantially complete and there are currently no matters of which we are aware that would require modification of our audit opinion, subject to the outstanding matters detailed below.

Audit area	Status	Description of the outstanding matters
File closure procedures		We are currently completing our file review which includes engagement partner review. This process continues until the point of signing the accounts. Following this, our file close down procedures will include agreement and completion of management’s letter of representations and completion of a consistency review with the Council financial statements. The Council statements are yet to be finalised.
Events after the reporting period		Review of events after the reporting period, up to the point at which we sign our audit opinion.
IAS26 – Present value of promised retirement benefits		As outlined on page 2, there is a national issue impacting pensions. We are continuing to liaise with management on the issue and any potential impact for the audit opinion.

287

-  Likely to result in material adjustment or significant change to disclosures within the financial statements.
-  Potential to result in material adjustment or significant change to disclosures within the financial statements.
-  Not considered likely to result in material adjustment or change to disclosures within the financial statements.



03

Section 03: **Audit approach**

288

3. Audit approach

Changes to our audit approach

We provided details of our intended audit approach in our Audit Strategy Memorandum in July 2022. We have not made any changes to our audit approach since we presented our Audit Strategy Memorandum.

Materiality

Our provisional materiality at the planning stage of the audit was set at £9.7m using a benchmark of 1% of net assets available to pay benefits. We set a provisional specific materiality for the fund account of £7.7m at the planning stage of the audit using a benchmark of 10% of the higher of benefits payable or contributions receivable.

Our final assessment of materiality, based on the final financial statements and qualitative factors was set using the same benchmarks:

- 289 Statement materiality £10.1m.
- 289 Fund account specific materiality £3.6m.

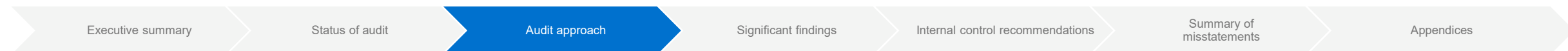
Reliance on internal audit

We have not placed any reliance on the work performed by the Authority's internal audit function. We have reviewed the functions work programme for the year and used this to inform and confirm our own risk assessment.

Use of experts

Management makes use of experts in specific areas when preparing the Pension Fund's financial statements. We also use experts to assist us to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on specific items of account.

Item of account	Management's expert	Our expert
Disclosure notes on funding arrangements and actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits	Hymans Robertson	NAO consulting actuary PwC
Valuation of investments within level 3 of the fair value hierarchy and related disclosures	Investment managers engaged by the fund that prepare valuations	We did not use any experts.



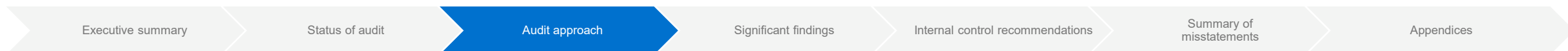
3. Audit approach

Service organisations

International Auditing Standards (UK) (ISAs) define service organisations as third-party organisations that provide services to the Pension Fund that are part of its information systems relevant to financial reporting. We are required to obtain an understanding of the services provided by service organisations as well as evaluating the design and implementation of controls over those services. The table below summarises the service organisations used by the Pension Fund and our planned audit approach.

Items of account	Provider	Planned audit approach	Implemented approach
The calculation and payment of pension benefits, assessment of funding levels based on existing pensioner data.	Harrow Council	We will seek appropriate confirmation that the Council's controls and procedures have operated as designed throughout the year and that no weaknesses have been identified that would have a material impact on the information provided to the Pension Fund	Work was performed in line with our planned procedures
Investment valuations and income and all related disclosures	Investment managers	Obtain direct confirmations from the fund managers and substantively test transactions occurring in the year and the valuations applied to investments at the year end.	Work was performed in line with our planned procedures
Investment valuations and income and all related disclosures	Custodians	Obtain direct confirmations from the fund managers and substantively test transactions occurring in the year and the valuations applied to investments at the year end.	Direct confirmation from custodians is a supplementary procedure, where others alone are not sufficient. Our other procedures were sufficient so confirmations from custodians were not required.

290



04

Section 04: **Significant findings**

291

4. Significant findings

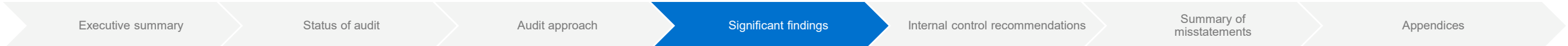
In this section we outline the significant findings from our audit. These findings include:

- our audit conclusions regarding other significant risks and key areas of management judgement outlined in the Audit Strategy Memorandum;
- our comments in respect of the accounting policies and disclosures that you have adopted in the financial statements. We have concluded whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework and commented on any significant accounting policy changes that have been made during the year;
- any further significant matters discussed with management;
- any significant difficulties we experienced during the audit; and

292

Significant risks

Management	Description of the risk
override of controls	In all entities, management at various levels within an organisation are in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of their ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. Due to the unpredictable way in which such override could occur, we consider there to be a risk of material misstatement due to fraud and thus a significant risk on all audits.
	How we addressed this risk We addressed this risk through performing audit work over: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accounting estimates impacting amounts included in the financial statements;• Consideration of identified significant transactions outside the normal course of business; and• Journals recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in preparation of the financial statements.
	Audit conclusion We have no significant findings to report as a result of our work on transactions outside the normal course of business and journals made in preparation of the financial statements.

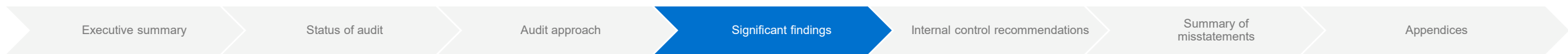


4. Significant findings

293

Valuation of investments within level 3 of the fair value hierarchy	Description of the risk
	As at 31 March 2021, the Pension Fund held investments which were not quoted on an active market with a fair value of £84.7 million, accounting for 8.8% of the Fund’s net investment assets.
	Inherently these assets are harder to value, as they do not have publicly available quoted prices from a traded market, and as such they require professional judgement or assumptions to be made when valuing them at year end. As the pricing of these investment assets is subject to judgements, they may be susceptible to pricing variances due to the assumptions underlying the valuation. We therefore consider that there is an increased risk of material misstatement.
	How we addressed this risk
	We addressed this risk by completing the following additional procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agreeing holdings from fund manager reports to the financial statements; • agreeing the valuation to supporting documentation including investment manager valuation statements and cashflows for any adjustments made to the investment manager valuation; • agree the investment manager valuation to audited accounts or other independent supporting documentation, where available; and • where audited accounts are available, check that they are supported by a clear opinion.
	Audit conclusion
	We have no significant findings to report as a result of our work on level 3 investment assets.

Data migration from SAP to D365	Description of the risk
	During 2021/22, Harrow Council has undertaken an accounting system migration from SAP to D365. In October 2021, the nominal ledger, accounts receivable and accounts payable functions were closed in SAP and became managed via Dynamics365 (D365). Payroll migrated in April 2022. There is a risk that the migration will not capture all data held in the prior system. The omission of such data could ultimately lead to material misstatement within the financial statements. The implementation of a new system also poses a significant risk to the integrity and validity of the Pension Fund’s financial reporting if change management processes are not robust and the new system is not correctly tested and implemented. There is a further risk the migration leads to a loss of data and accounting records during transfer. Such a loss of data may result in a risk that during the audit, we are unable to obtain sufficient and appropriate third party evidence to support transactions entered into by the Pension Fund.
	How we addressed this risk
	We addressed this risk by completing the following additional procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the Council’s reconciliation of old system closing balances to the new system opening balances; • Engaging internal IT specialists to perform tailored work around data migration process undertaken by the Council.
	Audit conclusion
	We have no significant findings to report as a result of our work on the data migration from SAP to D365.



4. Significant findings

Qualitative aspects of the Fund's accounting practices

We have reviewed the Fund's accounting policies and disclosures and concluded they comply with the 2021/22 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, appropriately tailored to the Fund's circumstances. Draft accounts were received from the Fund on 19 July 2022 and were of a good quality.

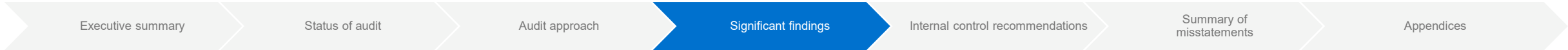
Significant matters discussed with management

We discussed the following significant matters with management:

- Disclosures relating to investment assets included within the financial statements;
- The work being done by the Council (and by extension the Pension Fund) on the transfer of data between SAP and D365 financial systems; and
- The national issue in relation to IAS19 and IAS26 pension valuations.

Significant difficulties during the audit

During the audit we encountered significant difficulties with respect to obtaining fund manager investment valuation documentation and confirmations. We note we had the full co-operation and assistance of management in resolving the issue.



05

Section 05:

Summary of misstatements

295

6. Summary of misstatements

Unadjusted and adjusted misstatements

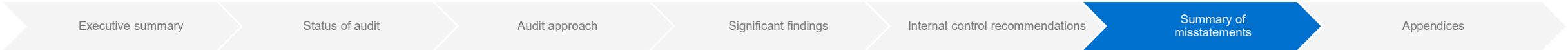
This section outlines the misstatements identified during the course of the audit, above the trivial threshold for adjustment of £305k. We identified no unadjusted or adjusted misstatements.

Disclosure amendments

This section outlines significant disclosure amendments identified during the course of the audit. During the audit we identified the following issues that the Pension Fund amended in the final set of financial statements:

1. In line with the code, in note 20 of the financial statements, The Pension Fund is required to disclose the present value of promised future retirement benefits, calculated in line with IAS26. In the draft accounts the Pension Fund included the incorrect figure. This was further updated to address the national pensions issue, to reflect data available as a result of the 31 March 2022 triennial valuation exercise.
2. In line with the code, in note 16 of the financial statements, The Pension Fund is required to disclose key information in relation to the basis of valuation of investment assets held at fair value. A small number of adjustments were required to ensure the final version of the financial statements was compliant with the code.

296



Appendices

A: Draft management representation letter

297 Draft audit report

C: Draft consistency report

D: Independence

E: Other communications

Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

Mazars LLP
30 Old Bailey
London
EC4M 7AU

Dear Suresh

London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund - audit for year ended 31 March 2022

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund ('the Fund') for the year ended 31 March 2022 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (Code) and applicable law.

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

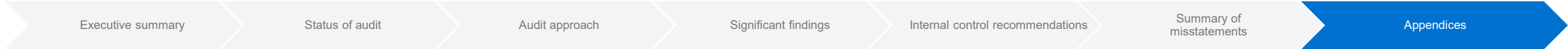
My responsibility for the financial statements and accounting information

I believe that I have fulfilled my responsibilities for the true and fair presentation and preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Code and applicable law.

My responsibility to provide and disclose relevant information

I 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 material;
- additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- unrestricted access to individuals within the Fund you determined it was necessary to contact in order to obtain audit evidence.



Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

I confirm as Director of Finance and Assurance that I have taken all the necessary steps to make me aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you, as auditors, are aware of this information.

As far as I am aware there is no relevant audit information of which you, as auditors, are unaware.

Accounting records

I confirm that all transactions that have a material effect on the financial statements have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements. All other records and related information, including minutes of all Fund and committee meetings, have been made available to you.

Accounting policies

I confirm that I have reviewed the accounting policies applied during the year in accordance with Code and International Accounting Standard 8 and consider these policies to faithfully represent the effects of transactions, other events or conditions on the Fund's financial position, financial performance and cash flows.

Accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value

I confirm that any significant assumptions used by the Fund in making accounting estimates are reasonable, including:

- those measured at current or fair value

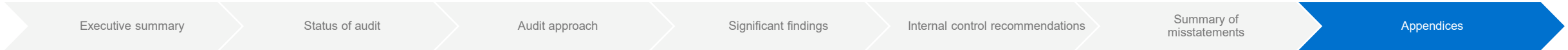
Contingencies

There are no material contingent losses including pending or potential litigation that should be accrued where:

- information presently available indicates that it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability had been incurred at the balance sheet date; and
- the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated.

There are no material contingent losses that should be disclosed where, although either or both the conditions specified above are not met, there is a reasonable possibility that a loss, or a loss greater than that accrued, may have been incurred at the balance sheet date.

There are no contingent gains which should be disclosed.



Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

All material matters, including unasserted claims, that may result in litigation against the Fund have been brought to your attention. All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to you and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the Code and applicable law.

Laws and regulations

I confirm that I have disclosed to you all those events of which I am aware which involve known or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, together with the actual or contingent consequences which may arise therefrom.

The Fund has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the accounts in the event of non-compliance.

Fraud and error

I acknowledge my responsibility as Director of Finance and Assurance for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error.

I have disclosed to you:

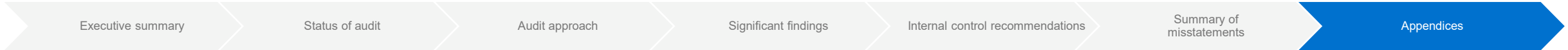
300 All the results of my assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud;

- all knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Fund involving:
 - o management and those charged with governance;
 - o employees who have significant roles in internal control; and
 - o others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

I have disclosed to you all information in relation to any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Fund's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others

Related party transactions

I confirm that all related party relationships, transactions and balances, have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the Code and applicable law.



Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

I have disclosed to you the identity of the Fund’s related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware.

Impairment review

To the best of my knowledge, there is nothing to indicate that there is a permanent reduction in the recoverable amount of the property, plant and equipment below their carrying value at the balance sheet date. An impairment review is therefore not considered necessary.

Future commitments

I am not aware of any plans, intentions or commitments that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities or give rise to additional liabilities.

Unadjusted misstatements

I confirm that there were no uncorrected misstatements.

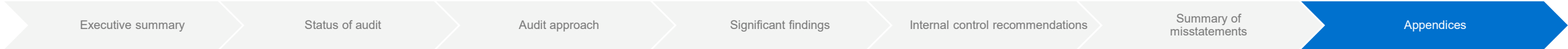
Subsequent events

I confirm all events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the Code and applicable law, require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. Should further material events occur after the date of this letter which may necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto, I will advise you accordingly.

Other matters

I can confirm in relation to the following matters that:

- COVID-19 - we have assessed the impact of the COVID-19 Virus pandemic on the Pension Fund and the financial statements, including the impact of mitigation measures and uncertainties, and are satisfied that the financial statements and supporting notes fairly reflect that assessment.
- We confirm that we have carried out an assessment of the potential impact of Russian Forces entering Ukraine on the business, including the impact of mitigation measures and uncertainties, and that the disclosure in the subsequent events note to the financial statements fairly reflects that assessment.
- We confirm that we have considered the implications of the global banking crisis, including the impact of mitigation measures and uncertainties, and are satisfied that the financial statements and supporting notes fairly reflect that assessment.
- We confirm we have considered the treatment of items or probable and potential expenditure notified to us by external parties in line with the accounting standards for contingent liabilities and provisions.



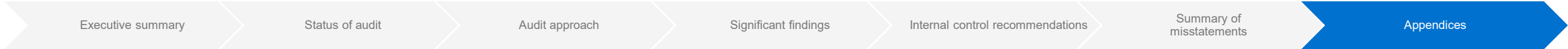
Appendix A: Draft management representation letter

Going concern

To the best of my knowledge there is nothing to indicate that the Fund will not continue as a going concern in the foreseeable future. The period to which I have paid particular attention in assessing the appropriateness of the going concern basis is not less than twelve months from the date of approval of the accounts.

Yours sincerely

Dawn Calvert
Director of Finance and Assurance
302
Date



Appendix C: Draft consistency report

Independent auditor’s report to the members of London Borough of Harrow Council

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements of London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund

We have audited the financial statements of London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund (‘the Pension Fund’) for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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 2021/22.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Pension Fund during the year ended 31 March 2022, and the amount and disposition of the Pension Fund’s assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2022; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

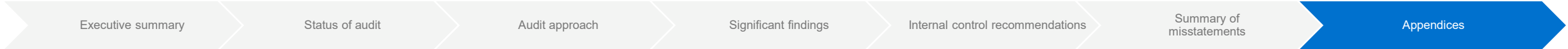
303 Basis for opinion

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 section of our report. We are independent of the Council, as administering authority for 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. 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Director of Finance and Assurance’s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties 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 for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Director of Finance and Assurance with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



Appendix B: Draft audit report

Other information

The Director of Finance and Assurance is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Annual Governance Statement and information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our 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 this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

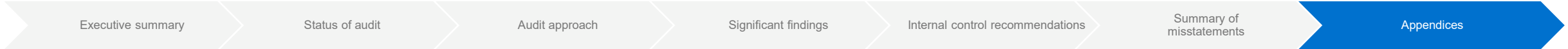
Responsibilities of the Director of Finance and Assurance for the financial statements

304 Explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance and Assurance's Responsibilities, the Director of Finance and Assurance is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the Pension Fund’s 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 2021/22, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Director of Finance and Assurance is also responsible for such internal control as the Director of Finance and Assurance determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Director of Finance and Assurance is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless the Council is informed of the intention for dissolution of the Pension Fund without transfer of services or function to another entity. The Director of Finance and Assurance is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Pension Fund to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Pension Fund’s 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.



Appendix B: Draft audit report

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Based on our understanding of the Pension Fund, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

We evaluated the Director of Finance and Assurance's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

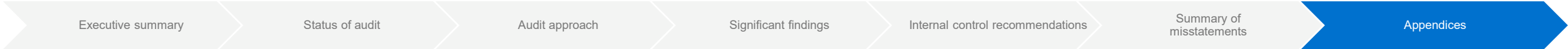
Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to :

- discussing with management and the Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- considering the risk of acts by the Fund which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to :

- making enquiries of management and the Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management and the Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.



Appendix B: Draft audit report

We are also required to conclude on whether the Director of Finance and Assurance's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. We performed our work in accordance with Practice Note 10: Audit of financial statement and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom, and Supplementary Guidance Note 01, issued by the National Audit Office in September 2021.

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

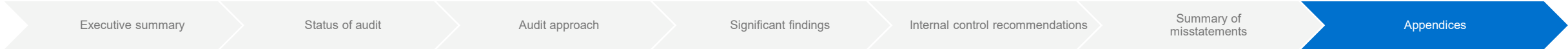
- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
 - we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
 - we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
- 306 We have nothing to report in these respects.

Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the members of London Borough of Harrow Council, as a body and as administering authority for the London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 44 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council 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 members of the Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Suresh Patel
For and on behalf of Mazars LLP
30 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7AU

date



Appendix C: Draft consistency report

Independent auditor’s statement to the members of London Borough of Harrow on the pension fund financial statements included within the London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund annual report

Report on the financial statements

We have examined the Pension Fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 included within the London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund annual report, which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies.

Opinion

In our opinion, the Pension Fund financial statements are consistent with the audited financial statements of London Borough of Harrow for the year ended 31 March 2022 and comply with applicable law and CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

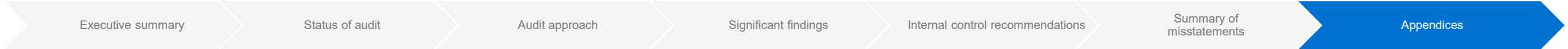
We have not considered the effects of any events between the date I signed my report on the full financial statements [insert date] and the date of this statement.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Finance and Assurance and the auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance and Assurance's Responsibilities, the Director of Finance and Assurance is responsible for the preparation of the Pension Fund’s financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law.

Our responsibility is to report to the Members of London Borough of Harrow as a body, whether the Pension Fund financial statements within the Pension Fund annual report are consistent with the financial statements of London Borough of Harrow.

We conducted our work in accordance with Auditor Guidance Note 07 – Auditor Reporting, issued by the National Audit Office. Our report on the Pension Fund financial statements contained within the audited financial statements of London Borough of Harrow describes the basis of our opinions on the financial statements.

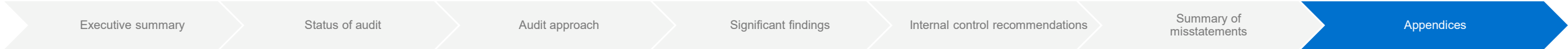


Appendix C: Draft consistency report

Use of this auditor's statement

This report is made solely to the members of London Borough of Harrow, as a body and as administering authority for the London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund, in accordance with Part 5 paragraph 20(5) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of London Borough of Harrow those matters we are required to state to them and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than London Borough of Harrow and London Borough of Harrow's members as a body, for our audit work, for this statement, or for the opinions we have formed.

308
Ash Patel
and on behalf of Mazars LLP
30 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7AU
Date



Appendix D: Independence and fees

Independence

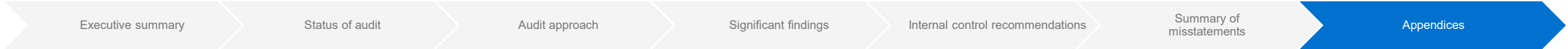
As part of our ongoing risk assessment, we monitor our relationships with you to identify any new actual or perceived threats to our independence within the regulatory or professional requirements governing us as your auditors.

We can confirm that no new threats to independence have been identified since issuing the Audit Strategy Memorandum and therefore we remain independent.

Fees

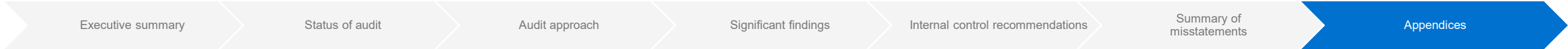
The scale fee is set by PSAA and we levy fee variations for additional work. These are then discussed and agreed with the Director of Finance and Assurance and approved by PSAA.

Area of work	2021/22 (Proposed)
Scale fee	£16,170
Additional work and fees:	
• Level 3 investments	£4,500
• IAS19 assurances to LB Harrow	£2,800
TOTAL	£23,470



Appendix E: Other communications

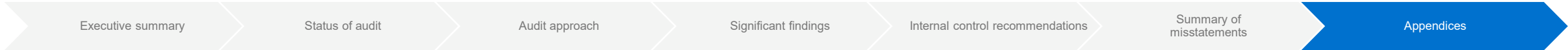
Other communication	Response
Compliance with Laws and Regulations	<p>We have not identified any significant matters involving actual or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management that all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements have been disclosed.</p>
External confirmations	<p>We did experience issues with respect to obtaining external confirmations from fund managers, but the Pension Fund fully co-operated in assisting the audit team to work through the issue.</p>
Related parties	<p>We did not identify any significant matters relating to the audit of related parties.</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management confirming that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. they have disclosed to us the identity of related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which they are aware; and b. they have appropriately accounted for and disclosed such relationships and transactions in accordance with the requirements of the applicable financial reporting framework.
Going Concern	<p>We have not identified any evidence to cause us to disagree with the Director of Finance and Assurance that The London Borough of Harrow Pension Fund will be a going concern, and therefore we consider that the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in the preparation of the financial statements.</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management, confirming that all relevant information covering a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements has been taken into account in assessing the appropriateness of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements.</p>



Appendix E: Other communications

Other communication	Response
Subsequent events	<p>We are required to obtain evidence about whether events occurring between the date of the financial statements and the date of the auditor’s report that require adjustment of, or disclosure in, the financial statements are appropriately reflected in those financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.</p> <p>We will obtain written representations from management that all events occurring subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the applicable financial reporting framework requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.</p>
Matters related to fraud	<p>We have designed our audit approach to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud. In addition to the work performed by us, we will obtain written representations from management, and The Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee, confirming that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. they acknowledge their responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud; b. they have disclosed to the auditor the results of management’s assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud; c. they have disclosed to the auditor their knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Management; ii. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or iii. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements; and d. they have disclosed to the auditor their knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity’s financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

311



Suresh Patel, Partner

Mazars

30 Old Bailey

London

EC4M 7AU

312

Mazars is an internationally integrated partnership, specialising in audit, accountancy, advisory, tax and legal services*. Operating in over 90 countries and territories around the world, we draw on the expertise of 40,400 professionals – 24,400 in Mazars' integrated partnership and 16,000 via the Mazars North America Alliance – to assist clients of all sizes at every stage in their development.

*where permitted under applicable country laws.