

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY (the "Authority")**

## **Issue of audit opinion on the financial statements**

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2017 issued on 26 July 2017 we reported that, in our opinion:

- the financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2017 and of the Authority's expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements had been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17 and applicable law.

## **Issue of audit opinion on the pension fund financial statements**

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2017 issued on 26 July 2017 we reported that, in our opinion:

- the pension fund's financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2017 and of the amount and disposition at that date of the fund's assets and liabilities, and
- the pension fund's financial statements had been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17 and applicable law.

## **Conclusion on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources**

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2017 issued on 26 July 2017 we reported that, in our opinion, in all significant respects, the Authority had put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2017.

## **Certificate**

In our report dated 26 July 2017, we explained that we could not formally conclude the audit on that date until:

- we had completed the work necessary to issue our Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) Component Assurance statement. We have now completed this work.
- we had issued our opinion on the Pension Fund financial statements included in the Pension Fund Annual Report of West Midlands ITA Pension Fund. Our opinion has now been issued.

No matters have come to our attention since that date that would have a material impact on the financial statements on which we gave an unqualified opinion and conclusion on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of the Authority in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

*Grant Patterson*

## **Grant Patterson**

Director

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Appointed Auditor

The Colmore Building, 20 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AT

11 October 2017