

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 2019 issued on 31 July 2019 we reported that, in our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the group and of the Authority as at 31 March 2019 and of the group's expenditure and income and the Authority's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Issue of audit opinion on the pension fund financial statements

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2019 issued on 31 July 2019 we reported that, in our opinion the pension fund financial statements of West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2019 and of the amount and disposition at that date of the fund's assets and liabilities,
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

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 2019 issued on 31 July 2019 we reported that, on the basis of our work, we are satisfied that the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2019.

Certificate

In our report dated 31 July 2019, 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 for the year ended 31 March 2019. We have now completed this work.
- Issued our report on the consistency of the pension fund financial statements included in the Pension Fund Annual Report of West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority Pension Fund with the pension fund financial statements included in the Statement of Accounts. 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 value for money through economic, efficient and effective use of its resources.

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of West Midlands Combined 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, Key Audit Partner

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

Birmingham

18 December 2019