

Deloitte LLP
3 Victoria Square
Victoria Street
St Albans
AL1 3TF

Date: 26 November 2020

Our Ref: CW/AS/2020

Dear Sirs

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Maldon District Council for the year ended 31 March 2020 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Maldon District Council as of 31 March 2020 and of the results of its operations, other recognised gains and losses and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2019/20.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations.

Financial statements

1. We understand and have fulfilled our responsibilities for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2019/20 which give a true and fair view, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter.
2. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
3. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of *IAS24 "Related party disclosures"*.
4. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the applicable financial reporting framework requires adjustment of or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
5. The effects of uncorrected misstatements and disclosure deficiencies are immaterial, both individually and in aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. A list of the uncorrected misstatements and disclosure deficiencies is detailed in the appendix to this letter.
6. We confirm that the financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and disclose in accordance with IAS 1 all matters of which we are aware that are relevant to the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, including principal conditions or events and our plans. We do not intend to liquidate the Council or cease trading as we consider we have realistic alternatives to doing so. We are not aware of any material uncertainties related to

events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. We confirm the completeness of the information provided regarding events and conditions relating to going concern at the date of approval of the financial statements, including our plans for future actions.

7. We confirm that all of the disclosures within the Narrative Report and the Annual Governance Statement have been prepared in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidance.
8. The measurement processes, including related assumptions and models used to determine accounting estimates in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework are appropriate and have been applied consistently.
9. The assumptions appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity where relevant to the accounting estimates and disclosures.
10. The disclosures related to accounting estimates under the entity's applicable financial reporting framework are complete and appropriate.
11. There have been no subsequent events that require adjustment to the accounting estimates and disclosures included in the financial statements.
12. The Council has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Council's assets and assets pledged as collateral.
13. We have recorded or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities, both actual and contingent, and have disclosed in Note 38 to the financial statements all guarantees that we have given to third parties.
14. We are not aware of any deficiencies in internal control.
15. We confirm that entity only IFRS financial statements have been produced on the grounds of materiality.
16. All minutes of member and management meetings during and since the financial year have been made available to you.
17. With respect to the revaluation of properties in accordance with the Code:
 - a) the measurement processes used are appropriate and have been applied consistently, including related assumptions and models;
 - b) the assumptions appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity where relevant to the accounting estimates and disclosures;
 - c) the disclosures are complete and appropriate.
 - d) the impact of the covid-19 pandemic has led to the requirement of adjustments to the valuations and disclosures included in the financial statements.

- e) the information supplied for the valuation of the Council's property and investment property assets includes up to date rental and other relevant data to inform the valuation, and there are no circumstances we are aware of that would impact upon the valuation of assets (such as issues with condition) that have not been shared with the valuer;
18. We have reconsidered the remaining useful lives of the fixed assets and confirm that the present rates of depreciation are appropriate to amortise the cost or revalued amount less residual value over the remaining useful lives.
 19. We confirm that there are no material change in property values between the valuation dates and 31 March 2020.
 20. Except as disclosed in Note 10 to the accounts, as at 31 July 2020 there were no significant capital commitments contracted for by the Council.
 21. We confirm that all property assets held by the Council are operational assets and are appropriately classified in the financial statements.
 22. No assets of the Council have been assigned or pledged to secure the liabilities of the Council or any third party.
 23. We are not aware of events or changes in circumstances occurring during the period which indicate that the carrying amount of fixed assets or goodwill may not be recoverable.
 24. We confirm that:
 - all retirement benefits and schemes, including UK, foreign, funded or unfunded, approved or unapproved, contractual or implicit have been identified and properly accounted for;
 - all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for;
 - all events which relate to the determination of pension liabilities have been brought to the actuary's attention;
 - the actuarial assumptions underlying the valuation of the scheme liabilities (including the discount rate used) accord with the directors' best estimates of the future events that will affect the cost of retirement benefits and are consistent with our knowledge of the business;
 - the actuary's calculations have been based on complete and up to date member data as far as appropriate regarding the adopted methodology; and
 - the amounts included in the financial statements derived from the work of the actuary are appropriate.

Information provided

25. We 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 matters;
 - additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and;
 - unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
26. All transactions have been recorded and are reflected in the financial statements and the underlying accounting records.
27. We acknowledge our responsibilities for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error.
28. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
29. We are not aware of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity or group and involves:
- (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.
30. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
31. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance, or suspected non-compliance, with laws, regulations, and contractual agreements whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
32. We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
33. 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 applicable financial reporting framework. On the basis of legal advice we have set them out in the attachment with our estimates of their potential effect. No other claims in connection with litigation have been or are expected to be received.
34. We confirm that we consider the short-term deposits held by the Council amounting to £11.0m to be short-term deposits and subject to insignificant changes in value and thus appropriately classified as cash and cash equivalents.
35. We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

36. We confirm that:
- (i) we consider that the Council has appropriate processes to prevent and identify any cyber breaches other than those that are clearly inconsequential; and
 - (ii) we have disclosed to you all cyber breaches of which we are aware that have resulted in more than inconsequential unauthorised access of data, applications, services, networks and/or devices.

Value for money

37. We acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring the Council has put in place arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.
38. We have disclosed to you all deficiencies of which we are aware in the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We confirm that the above representations are made on the basis of adequate enquiries of management and staff (and where appropriate, inspection of evidence) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can properly make each of the above representations to you.

Yours faithfully

Signed on behalf of Maldon District Council

Appendix 1

Schedule of Uncorrected Misstatements

Description	Assets DR / (CR) £	Liabilities DR / (CR) £	Equity DR / (CR) £	Income Statement DR / (CR) £
OVERSTATEMENT OF COUNCIL OFFICE VALUATION	(230,000)		230,000	
GOODWIN JUDGEMENT IMPACT	(145,600)			145,600

Disclosure deficiencies:

#	Disclosure title	Description of the deficiency and explanation of why not adjusted	Amount (if applicable)
	Cash Flow Statement	We noted minor immaterial differences in the cash flow statement in relation to classification errors between different lines of the statement.	N/A