



Grant Thornton UK LLP
4 Hardman Square
Spinningfields
Manchester
M3 3EB

Your Ref: AJS/GWS/C00100046
18 July 2018

Dear Sirs

Cheshire Fire Authority - Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018

This representation letter is provided in connection with the audit of the financial statements of Cheshire Fire Authority for the year ended 31 March 2018 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the Authority financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 and applicable law.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

Financial Statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities for the preparation of the Authority's financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 ("the Code"); in particular the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance therewith.
2. We have complied with the requirements of all statutory directions affecting the Authority and these matters have been appropriately reflected and disclosed in the financial statements.
3. The Authority has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There has been no non-compliance with requirements of any regulatory authorities that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.
4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
5. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
6. Except as disclosed in the financial statements:

Chief Fire Officer and
Chief Executive Mark Cashin
Tel: 01606 868700
www.cheshirefire.gov.uk

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Headquarters
Clemonds Hey
Winsford, Cheshire
CW7 2UA

- a. there are no unrecorded liabilities, actual or contingent
 - b. none of the assets of the Authority has been assigned, pledged or mortgaged
 - c. there are no material prior year charges or credits, nor exceptional or non-recurring items requiring separate disclosure.
7. We confirm that we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the valuation of pension scheme assets and liabilities for IAS19 Employee Benefits disclosures are consistent with our knowledge. We confirm that all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for. We also confirm that all significant post-employment benefits have been identified and properly accounted for.
 8. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards and the Code.
 9. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which International Financial Reporting Standards and the Code require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
 10. We have considered the adjusted misstatements, and misclassification and disclosures changes schedules included in your Audit Findings Report. The Authority financial statements have been amended for these misstatements, misclassifications and disclosure changes and are free of material misstatements, including omissions.
 11. We have considered the unadjusted misstatements schedule included in your Audit Findings Report and attached. We have not adjusted the financial statements for these misstatements brought to our attention as they are immaterial to the results of the Authority and its financial position at the year-end.
 12. The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.
 13. Actual or possible litigation and claims have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards.
 14. We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.
 15. We believe that the Authority's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the Authority's needs. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

Information Provided

16. We have provided you with:
 - a. access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the Authority financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - b. additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of your audit; and
 - c. unrestricted access to persons within the Authority from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
17. We have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which management is aware.

18. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
19. 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.
20. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the Authority and involves:
 - a. management;
 - b. employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
 - c. others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
21. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
22. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
23. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Authority's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
24. We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.

Annual Governance Statement

25. We are satisfied that the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) fairly reflects the Authority's risk assurance and governance framework and we confirm that we are not aware of any significant risks that are not disclosed within the AGS.

Narrative Report

26. The disclosures within the Narrative Report fairly reflect our understanding of the Authority's financial and operating performance over the period covered by the Authority financial statements.

Approval

The approval of this letter of representation was minuted by the Authority at its meeting on **18th July 2018**.

Yours faithfully

Signed:

Signed:

Position: Chair of Cheshire Fire Authority
18th July 2018

Position: Treasurer
18th July 2018

Appendix A

Schedule of unadjusted Misstatements

Detail	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000s	Balance Sheet £000s	Impact on total net expenditure £000s
The authority has not accounted separately for its share of the assets and liabilities of NWFC.	0	Dr 30	0
The impact on the balance sheet would be as follows;	0	Dr 366	0
PPE	0	Cr 62	0
Intangibles Assets	0	Dr 164	0
Debtors	0	Cr 785	0
Cash at bank	0	Cr 287	0
Pensions liability	0	Cr 593	0
Net Liabilities			
Reserves			
<hr/>			
The fair value of the loans is disclosed in the notes to the Accounts at £2,206k as advised by Link Asset Management Services, (LAMS) calculated using a discount rate derived from the redemption rate and the new loan certainty rate. Using the standard new loan rate would give a fair value of £2,089k.	0	0	0
	Disclosure only	Disclosure only	Disclosure only