

Independent auditor's report to the members of Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

Issue of audit opinion on the financial statements

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2020 issued on 27 November 2020 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 2020 and of the group's expenditure and income and the Authority's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20; 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 2020 issued on 27 November 2020 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 2020.

Certificate

In our audit report dated 27 November 2020, 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 2020. We have now completed this work.

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 or our 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 Shropshire Council 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.

Richard Percival

Richard Percival, Key Audit Partner
for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor

Birmingham

17 February 2021