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Our ref / Ein cyf:
Date / Dyddiad: 20th January 2023

Representations regarding the 2021-22 financial statements

This letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Powys County Council and its group for the year ended 31 March 2022 for the purpose of expressing an opinion on their truth and fairness.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made enquiries as we consider sufficient, we can make the following representations to you.

Management representations

Responsibilities

We have fulfilled our responsibilities for:

- The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with legislative requirements and the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021-22; in particular the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance therewith.
- The design, implementation, maintenance and review of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error.

Information provided

We have provided you with:

- Full access to:
 - all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as books of account and supporting documentation, minutes of meetings and other matters;
 - additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
 - unrestricted access to staff from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- The results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- Our knowledge of fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects Powys County Council and its group and involves:
 - management;
 - employees who have significant roles in internal control; or

- others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- Our knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators or others.
- Our knowledge of all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- The identity of all related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Financial statement representations

- All transactions, assets and liabilities have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- The methods, the data and the significant assumptions used in making accounting estimates, and their related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement or disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.
- Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed.
- All events occurring subsequent to the reporting date which require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted for or disclosed.
- All known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to the auditor and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
- The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions. The effects of uncorrected misstatements identified during the audit are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. Details of the two uncorrected misstatements are set out below:
- The Council have not accrued deferred payments where contributions from clients are calculated as a running total in respect of care received at a Care Home and the payment is reliant on the sale of the client's property at a later date. The Council considers the £1.3m calculation not to be material and it's exclusion would not change the readers view of the accounts. We would like to review in more detail the likelihood of bad debt within this total. Some of this debt maybe due many years in the future which creates a level of uncertainty. For example, house price depreciation on a property that is not occupied for a lengthy period. It is felt a corresponding adjustment against the bad debt provision should possibly be made.
- Uplifts were made to non-current assets valued at Depreciated Replacement Cost to reflect increased costs. Brecon High School was overlooked in these calculations and as a result other land and building has been understated by £1.2m. Due to the late identification of this error and as it is considered not to be material in the context of the accounts an adjustment has not been made in 2021/22 but will be adjusted in 2022/23.

Representations by Powys County Council

We acknowledge that the representations made by management, above, have been discussed with us.

We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of true and fair financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. The financial statements were approved by the Council's Governance and Audit Committee on 20 January 2023.

We confirm that we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to you. We confirm that, as far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which you are unaware.

Signed by:

Signed by:

Chief Finance Officer (S151 Officer)

Chair of the Governance and Audit
Committee – signed on behalf of those
charged with governance

Date: 20 January 2023

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