







Norfolk Pension Fund

Delivering the Local Government Pension Scheme in Norfolk

Appendix 2

Please contact

Robert Mayes

Address

Email

Norfolk Pension Fund

4th Floor Lawrence House 5 St Andrews Hill

Norwich NR2 1AD

robert.mayes@norfolk.gov.uk

Telephone 01603 222870

Letter of Representation (Norfolk Pension Fund) 2015-16: for information only: endorsed at 6 September 2016 Pensions Committee

27th September 2016

Tessa Gilbert
Executive Director
Ernst & Young
Apex Plaza
Forbury Road
Reading
RG1 1YE

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Norfolk Pension Fund ("the Pension Fund") for the year ended 31 March 2016. We recognise that obtaining representations from us concerning the information contained in this letter is a significant procedure in enabling you to form an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Pension Fund as of 31 March 2016 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended in accordance with CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2015/16.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of our financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland), which involves an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, and is not designed to identify - nor necessarily be expected to disclose - all fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Accordingly, we make the following representations, which are true to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

A. Financial Statements and Financial Records

 We have fulfilled our responsibilities, under the relevant statutory authorities, for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2015/16 and for keeping records in respect of

- contributions received in respect of active members of the Pension Fund and for making accurate representations to you.
- 2. We confirm that the Pension Fund is a Registered Pension Fund. We are not aware of any reason why the tax status of the Pension Fund should change.
- 3. We acknowledge, as members of management of the Pension Fund, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements. We believe the financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position and the financial performance of the Pension Fund in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2015/16. We have approved the financial statements.
- 4. The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are appropriately described in the financial statements.
- 5. As members of management of the Pension Fund, we believe that the Pension Fund has a system of internal controls adequate to enable the preparation of accurate financial statements in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2015/16, that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- 6. There are no unadjusted audit differences identified during the current audit and pertaining to the latest period presented.

B. Fraud

- 1. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.
- 2. 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.
- 3. We have disclosed to you all significant facts relating to any frauds, suspected frauds or allegations of fraud known to us that may have affected the Pension Fund (regardless of the source or form and including, without limitation, allegations by "whistle-blowers"), whether involving management or employees who have significant roles in internal control. Similarly, we have disclosed to you our knowledge of frauds or suspected frauds affecting the entity involving others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. We have also disclosed to you all information in relation to any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others, that could affect the financial statements.

C. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

 We have disclosed to you all known actual or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.

D. Information Provided and Completeness of Information and Transactions

- 1. 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 as agreed in terms of the audit engagement.
 - 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.
- 2. You have been informed of all changes to the Pension Fund rules.
- 3. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 4. We have made available to you all minutes of the meetings of the Norfolk Pension Fund Committee (or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared) held through the year to the most recent meeting on the following date: 14th June 2016.
- 5. We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding the identification of related parties. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Pension Fund's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers of assets, liabilities and services, leasing arrangements, guarantees, non-monetary transactions and transactions for no consideration for the period ended, as well as related balances due to or from such parties at the year end. These transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.
- 6. We have disclosed to you, and the Pension Fund has complied with, all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.
- 7. No transactions have been made which are not in the interests of the Pension Fund members or the Pension Fund during the Scheme years or subsequently.

E. Liabilities and Contingencies

- All liabilities and contingencies, including those associated with guarantees, whether written or oral, have been disclosed to you and are appropriately reflected in the financial statements.
- 2. We have informed you of all outstanding and possible litigation and claims, whether or not they have been discussed with legal counsel.
- 3. We have recorded and/or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities related litigation

and claims, both actual and contingent.

4. No other claims in connection with litigation have been or are expected to be received.

F. Subsequent Events

- 1. There have been no events subsequent to period end which require adjustment of or disclosure in the financial statements or notes thereto.
- 2. Results of the European Union Referendum Following the United Kingdom's vote to leave the European Union (EU) in the EU referendum on 23 June 2016 there has been an increased level of volatility in the financial markets and macroeconomic uncertainty in the UK. The immediate volatility is expected to continue into the medium term. There is likely to be uncertainty for a number of months while the UK renegotiates its relationship with the EU and other nations. For the purpose of these financial statements, the Referendum is considered a non-adjusting event.

G. Advisory Reports

 We have not commissioned advisory reports which may affect the conduct of your work in relation to the Pension Fund's financial statements and schedule of contributions/payment schedule.

H. Independence

We confirm that no trustee of the Scheme is connected with, or is an associate
of, Ernst & Young LLP which would render Ernst & Young LLP ineligible to act as
auditor to the Scheme.

I. Derivative Financial Instruments

- 1. We confirm that all investments in derivative financial instruments have been made after due consideration by the Pension Fund Committee of the limitations in their use imposed by The Occupational Pension Scheme (Investment) Regulations 2005; namely that they contribute to a reduction in scheme risk, facilitate efficient portfolio management, and that any such investment has been made so as to avoid excessive risk exposure to a single counterparty and to other derivative operations. The Pension Fund's statement of investment principles has been duly reviewed to ensure that such investments comply with any limitations imposed by its provisions.
- 2. The financial statements disclose all transactions in derivative financial instruments that have been entered into during the period, those still held by the trustees at the scheme year end and the terms and conditions relating thereto.
- The trustees have duly considered and deemed as appropriate the assumptions and methodologies used in the valuation of 'over the counter' derivative financial instruments which the Pension Fund is holding, and these have been communicated to you.

J. Actuarial valuation

 The latest report of the actuary Hymans Robertson as at 31 March 2013 has been provided to you. To the best of our knowledge and belief we confirm that the information supplied by us to the actuary was true and that no significant information was omitted which may have a bearing on his/her report.

K. Accounting Estimates

- We believe that the significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- 2. In respect of accounting estimates recognised or disclosed in the financial statements:
 - We believe the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, we used in determining accounting estimates is appropriate and the application of these processes is consistent.
 - We confirm that the disclosures relating to accounting estimates are complete and appropriate in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
 - We confirm the significant assumptions used in making accounting estimates appropriately reflects our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity, where relevant to the accounting estimates and disclosures.
 - We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimates and disclosures in the financial statements due to subsequent events.

L. Investment managers' control reports ISAE 3402

1. The latest reports available do not cover the whole of the 2015/16 audit year. We confirm we are not aware of any issues at the respective investment managers that indicate a reduction in control procedures.

Yours faithfully,

(Executive Director of Finance)

(Chairman of the Pension Committee)