



Auditor's Annual Report
Broxtowe Borough Council – year ended 31 March 2023

September 2024

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Introduction

Introduction

Purpose of the Auditor's Annual Report

Our Auditor's Annual Report (AAR) summarises the work we have undertaken as the auditor for Broxtowe Borough Council ('the Council') for the year ended 31 March 2023. Although this report is addressed to the Council, it is designed to be read by a wider audience including members of the public and other external stakeholders.

Our responsibilities are defined by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice ('the Code') issued by the National Audit Office ('the NAO'). The remaining sections of the AAR outline how we have discharged these responsibilities and the findings from our work. These are summarised below.



Opinion on the financial statements

We issued our audit report on 13 August 2024. Our opinion on the financial statements was unqualified.



Value for Money arrangements

In our audit report issued we reported that we had not completed our work on the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources and had not identified any significant weaknesses in those arrangements. This work is completed and Section 3 provides our commentary on the Council's arrangements.



Wider reporting responsibilities

At the date of reporting our work on the Council's Whole of Government Accounts return remains incomplete whilst we wait for final instructions from the National Audit Office

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Audit of the financial statements

Audit of the financial statements

The scope of our audit and the results of our opinion

Our audit was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Code, and International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). The purpose of our audit is to provide reasonable assurance to users that the financial statements are free from material error. We do this by expressing an opinion on whether the statements are prepared, in all material respects, in line with the financial reporting framework applicable to the Council and whether they give a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 31 March 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended. Our audit report, issued on 13 August 2024 gave an unqualified opinion on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

A summary of the significant risks we identified when undertaking our audit of the financial statements and the conclusions we reached on each of these is outlined in Appendix A. In this appendix we also outline the uncorrected misstatements we identified and any internal control recommendations we made.

Qualitative aspects of the Council's accounting practices

We reviewed the Council's accounting policies and disclosures and concluded they comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.

Other reporting responsibilities

We did not identify any matters where, in our opinion, the Annual Governance Statement did not comply with the guidance issued by CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.

Wider responsibilities

Our powers and responsibilities under the 2014 Act are broad and include the ability to:

- issue a report in the public interest;
- make statutory recommendations that must be considered and responded to publicly;
- apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law; and
- issue an advisory notice under schedule 8 of the 2014 Act.

We have not exercised any of these powers as part of our 2022/23 audit.

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Our work on Value for Money
arrangements

VFM arrangements

Overall Summary



VFM arrangements – Overall summary

Approach to Value for Money arrangements work

We are required to consider whether the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The NAO issues guidance to auditors that underpins the work we are required to carry out and sets out the reporting criteria that we are required to consider. The reporting criteria are:



Financial sustainability - How the Council plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services.



Governance - How the Council ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks.



Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness - How the Council uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services.

Our work is carried out in three main phases.

Phase 1 - Planning and risk assessment

At the planning stage of the audit, we undertake work so we can understand the arrangements that the Council has in place under each of the reporting criteria; as part of this work we may identify risks of significant weaknesses in those arrangements.

We obtain our understanding of arrangements for each of the specified reporting criteria using a variety of information sources which may include:

- NAO guidance and supporting information
- Information from internal and external sources including regulators
- Knowledge from previous audits and other audit work undertaken in the year
- Interviews and discussions with staff and directors

Although we describe this work as planning work, we keep our understanding of arrangements under review and update our risk assessment throughout the audit to reflect emerging issues that may suggest there are further risks of significant weaknesses.

Phase 2 - Additional risk-based procedures and evaluation

Where we identify risks of significant weaknesses in arrangements, we design a programme of work to enable us to decide whether there are actual significant weaknesses in arrangements. We use our professional judgement and have regard to guidance issued by the NAO in determining the extent to which an identified weakness is significant.

Phase 3 - Reporting the outcomes of our work and our recommendations

We are required to provide a summary of the work we have undertaken and the judgments we have reached against each of the specified reporting criteria in this Auditor's Annual Report. We do this as part of our Commentary on VFM arrangements which we set out for each criteria later in this section.




We also make recommendations where we identify weaknesses in arrangements or other matters that require attention from the Council. We refer to two distinct types of recommendation through the remainder of this report:

- **Recommendations arising from significant weaknesses in arrangements** - We make these recommendations for improvement where we have identified a significant weakness in the Council arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. Where such significant weaknesses in arrangements are identified, we report these (and our associated recommendations) at any point during the course of the audit.
- **Other recommendations** - We make other recommendations when we identify areas for potential improvement or weaknesses in arrangements which we do not consider to be significant but which still require action to be taken.

The table on the following page summarises the outcomes of our work against each reporting criteria, including whether we have identified any significant weaknesses in arrangements or made other recommendations.

VFM arrangements – Overall summary

Overall summary by reporting criteria

| Reporting criteria | Commentary page reference | Identified risks of significant weakness? | Actual significant weaknesses identified? | Other recommendations made? |
|---|---------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|
|  Financial sustainability | 12 | No | No | No |
|  Governance | 16 | No | No | No |
|  Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness | 19 | No | No | No |

VFM arrangements

Financial Sustainability

How the body plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services



VFM arrangements – Financial Sustainability

Overall commentary on Financial Sustainability reporting criteria

| | |
|--|------|
| Significant weakness in 2021/22 | Nil. |
| Significant weaknesses identified in 2022/23 | Nil. |

Position brought forward from 2021/22

We reported in our Annual Auditor's Report for 2021/22, that we had:

- Reviewed the 2021/22 financial performance and forecasts during the year and considered the Council's financial outturn position as presented in the financial statements;
- Reviewed the 2022/23 Budget setting and Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- Reviewed the Council's Annual governance Statement for any significant issues; and
- Considered the general findings from our audit work in other areas.

As set out in the table above, there are no indications of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements for financial sustainability brought forward from 2021/22. The Council's underlying arrangements in relation to financial sustainability are not significantly different in 2022/23.

Overall responsibilities for financial governance

We have reviewed the Council's overall governance framework, including Council and committee reports, the Annual Governance Statement, and Statement of Accounts for 2022/23. These confirm the Council undertook its responsibility to define the strategic aims and objectives, approve budgets and monitor financial performance against budgets and plans to best meet the needs of the Council's service users.

The Council's financial planning and monitoring arrangements

Through our review of Council and committee reports, meetings with Officers and relevant work performed on the financial statements, we are satisfied that the Council's arrangements for budget monitoring remain appropriate, including regular reporting to Members and well-established arrangements for year-end financial reporting.

2022/23 Budget Setting and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy

We considered the 2022/23 budget setting process, including the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as part of our work on the 2021/22 review of arrangements, with no significant concerns arising. We were satisfied that, the Budget Report for 2022/23 adequately explains revenue and capital budgets, with a sufficient explanation on the impact to the general fund balance.

The Council reported its financial outturn position to Cabinet in July 2023 and in the 2022/23 Statement of Accounts: the general fund reported a net deficit of £273k vs a £719k budgeted deficit and the HRA delivered a deficit of £1,993k vs £1,598k budgeted deficit. The variance does not give rise to concern in relation to the Council's arrangements for financial sustainability.

2022/23 Statement of Financial Position

We carried out a high-level analysis of the financial statements subject to our audit, including the Movement in Reserves Statement and the Balance Sheet. The Council's useable reserves have decreased from £21.1m to £19.1 in 2023/23, the decrease does not pose any concerns regarding the Council's financial sustainability and our work has not highlighted any risks of significant weakness in arrangements or indicators of a risk to the Council's financial sustainability.

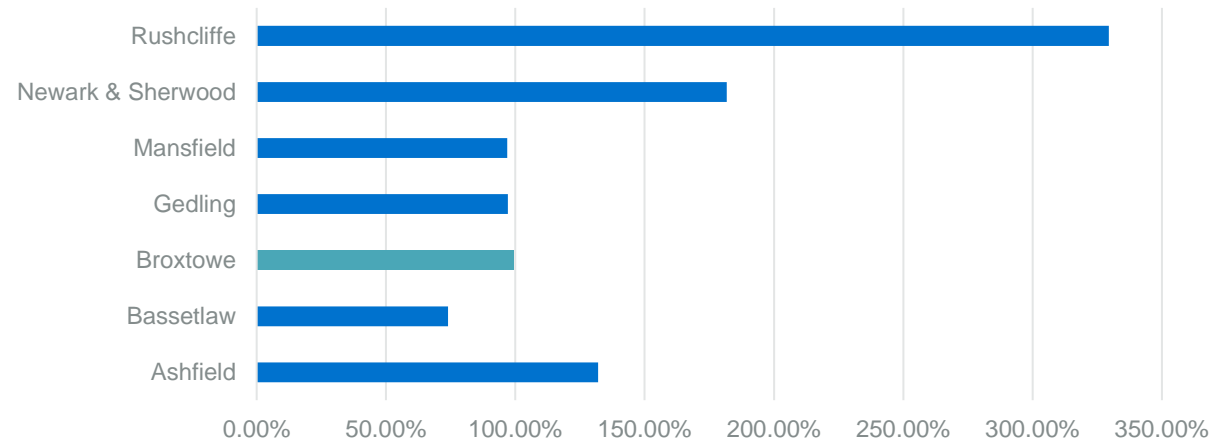
VFM arrangements – Financial Sustainability

Financial sustainability and revenue reserves

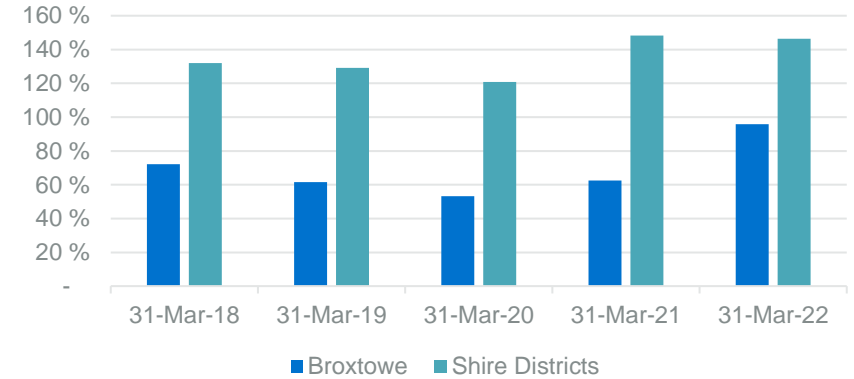
We have also performed a more detailed review of the Council’s revenue reserves. We reviewed data published in May 2023 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on Local authority general fund earmarked and unallocated reserve levels, 2017-18 to 2021-22.

The Council’s reserves have generally been below the median compared to shire districts since 2018, however they have been on an increasing trend since 2020 and in line with most other Nottinghamshire district councils.

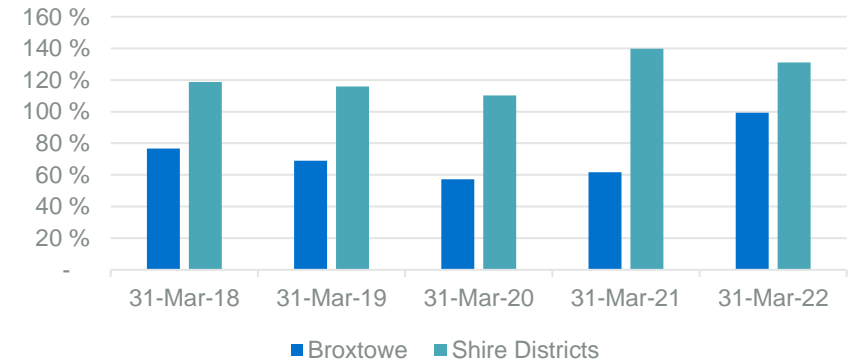
Un-ringfenced reserves as % of service expenditure adjusted for ring-fenced grants: 2021/22



Un-ringfenced reserve as % of Net Revenue Expenditure - median



Un-ringfenced reserves as % of Service expenditure adjusted for ring-fenced grants - median



VFM arrangements – Financial Sustainability

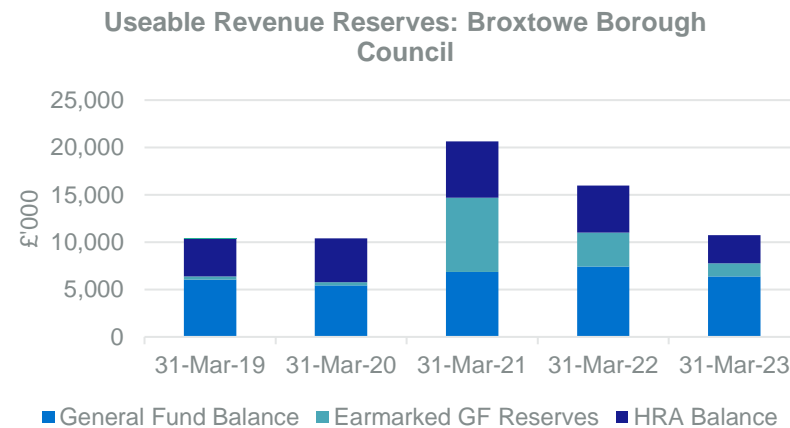
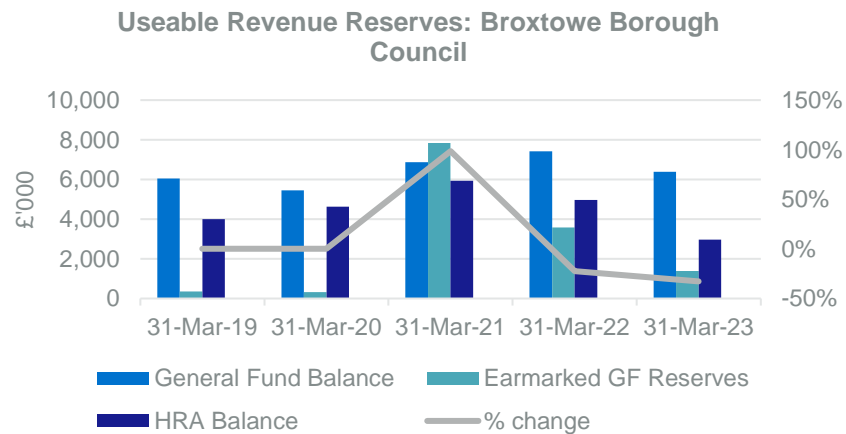
Financial sustainability and revenue reserves (continued)

The purpose of the Council’s general fund reserve is to meet costs arising from any unplanned or emergency events. It also acts as a financial buffer to help mitigate against the financial risks the Council faces and can be used to a limited degree to ‘smooth’ expenditure on a one-off basis across years. Whereas earmarked reserves, are set aside for specific purposes.

Through a review of the financial statements, we have considered the Council’s revenue reserves over time:

- As set out on the previous page, the Council’s opening revenue reserves are slightly below the median for district councils.
- The general fund balance has remained stable (£6.7m in 2023 vs £6.5m in 2019), however the combined general fund and earmarked revenue reserves are on a downward trend since 2021.

Overall, we are satisfied that the Council’s Reserves position does not give rise to an immediate risk of significant weakness in arrangements to secure financial sustainability.



Based on the above considerations we are satisfied there is not a significant weakness in the Council’s arrangements in relation to financial sustainability for the year ended 31 March 2023.

VFM arrangements

Governance

How the body ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks



VFM arrangements – Governance

Overall commentary on Governance reporting criteria

| | |
|--|------|
| Significant weakness in 2021/22 | Nil. |
| Significant weaknesses identified in 2022/23 | Nil. |

Position brought forward from 2021/22

As set out in the table above, there are no indications of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements for governance brought forward from the previous year.

The Authority's governance structure

Based on our work, we are satisfied that the Council has established governance arrangements. The Council agreed to move to a Leader and Cabinet model of decision making, which was implemented at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2022 from a Committee system on the basis the Council believed it would allow for swifter and more streamlined decision making, clearer lines of communication, responsibility and accountability. The updated Constitution was approved to reflect the same.

The Constitution explains how the Council operates and makes decisions. It ensures that the Council is transparent and accountable for what it does. The Constitution is designed to bring together key corporate documents which describe the management structures of the Council and govern its internal processes by means of protocols, codes of conduct and good practice/guidance. The Council's governance arrangements are consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government (2016 edition).

The Council's governance arrangements are detailed in the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement. We have considered both documents against our understanding of the Council as part of our audit.

Our review of Committee papers confirms that a template covering report is used for all reports, ensuring the purpose, risks, and recommendations are clear. Minutes are published and reviewed by Committees to evidence the matters discussed, challenge and decisions made.

2023/24 Budget Setting and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy

The Council's budget setting and medium-term financial strategy is drafted by the Cabinet in line with the Budget and Policy Framework rules, which is then reviewed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee and approved by the Council. The arrangements in place for budget setting and updating the Medium-Term Financial Strategy are as expected for a District Council, with arrangements for the evaluation of financial risk, alignment to business plans and sources of funding.

There is no indication of excessive use of capital flexibilities to support revenue expenditure. Furthermore, there is no indication that the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and budget setting process is not aligned to supporting plans.

We reviewed the Council's balanced budget for 2023/24 where it was confirmed that the s151 Officer was satisfied that the budget was appropriately prudent and, if delivered, will leave the Council's General Fund Working Balance at £4.5m by 2023/24, which is above the £1.5m minimum level set by the s151 Officer

We read the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as included in reports to Cabinet and Council in February 2023. As in previous years, it covers five financial years. In our view, these include an adequate level of detail over the assumptions and cost pressures facing the Council, which are consistent with our experience at similar sized authorities and not unreasonable. In addition, there is sufficient narrative to explain the rationale and key financial risks. After taking into account all those risks and factors, the general fund reserves balance is assessed to be £2.508m by the end of 2026/27, being the last year in MTFS, which meets the s151 Officer's minimum level.

In both the 2022/23 MTFS and the 2023/24 MTFS, the Council has shown the final year of the MTFS to be the year after which the general fund working balance falls below the Council's acceptable levels. The MTFS is clear that work and action will take place to manage the financial position over the five years where balances remain above the minimum, which does provide time to develop and implement said actions.

VFM arrangements – Governance

Overall commentary on Governance reporting criteria (continued)

Risk management and internal control

As set out in the table above, there are no indications of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements for governance brought forward from the previous year.

The Council has an established risk management framework and systems in place which are built into the governance structure of the organisation. The Council's Risk Management Strategy was recently revised in May 2024 and it sets out a five step process for risk management:

1. Identification
2. Analysis
3. Treatment
4. Completing the risk register
5. Monitoring, reporting and reviewing risk

The Council's arrangements to execute the Risk Management Strategy include a Strategic Risk Management Group that meets frequently prior to updating the Strategic Risk Register and presenting the outcome to Members. We reviewed the minutes of this group from February 2023 as well as the updated Strategic Risk Register. The risk register contains the expected core elements, including: risk name, risk owner, inherent & residual risk ratings, key controls, risk indicators, and action points.

The Governance, Audit and Standards committee is responsible for overseeing the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements, challenging risk information and escalating issues to the Executive. We have attended meetings of the Committee and reviewed minutes and reports presented during the year, including matters relating to risk. Based on our attendance and observations, the Committee offers an adequate level of challenge, although has on occasion strayed into politics and / or not understood the purpose of being a member. The committee should be independent and, as the matters it deals with are normally apolitical, it should rise above politics. The committee chair should ensure that the committee is not used to make political points.

We reviewed the Risk Management Progress Report presented to Governance, Audit and Standards committee in March 2023, and found that the register:

- adequately explains the risk;
- provides an inherent and residual risk score (informed by officers and open to challenge by members);

- and;
- explains the change since the previous assessment.

In our view, the report to Members could be improved, if not at each meeting, but at least annually, by drawing out further content from of the supporting risk registers, for example:

- Tracking the risk score by quarter
- Explaining the controls and sources of assurance (including gaps in controls and gaps in assurances)
- Specifying actions required (and confirming when these have been implemented).

This was also raised in the prior year report, however the changes have yet not been implemented.

In our view, the Risk Management Strategy is suitably supported by a Risk Management Group, a regularly maintained Strategic Risk Register and regular reporting to Members is evidence of adequate arrangements in place.

The Annual Governance Statement is a critical component of the Council's governance arrangements. It is an evidenced self-assessment by the Council on the Council's governance, assurance and internal control frameworks for the financial year. No significant weaknesses in internal control have been identified from our work to date and Internal Audit have not identified or raised any significant concerns. We reviewed the Annual Governance Statement as part of our work on the financial statements with no significant issues arising.

Internal Audit

We have met with management and the Head of Internal Audit regularly during the year, reviewed Audit Committee reports and attended Committee meetings to observe the performance of Internal Audit and the Audit Committee. We also confirmed that the Head of Internal Audit Opinion has been adequately reflected in the Annual Governance Statement. No issues arose from our review to indicate there is a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements for governance.

Overall, we have not identified any indicators of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements relating to the Governance criteria for the year ended 31 March 2023.

VFM arrangements

Improving Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness

How the body uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services



VFM arrangements – Governance

Overall commentary on the Improving Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness reporting criteria

| | |
|--|------|
| Significant weakness in 2021/22 | Nil. |
| Significant weaknesses identified in 2022/23 | Nil. |

Position brought forward from 2021/22

As set out in the table above, there are no indications of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements brought forward from the previous year.

Corporate Plan

The Council's arrangements are consistent with the prior year, which were deemed adequate, with the Council's Corporate Plan setting out what it wants to achieve for local residents and communities through to 2024.

The Corporate Plan for 2020-2024 was approved in March 2020 and sets out the Council's priorities to achieve its vision to make "A Greener, Safer and Healthier Broxtowe where everyone prospers." Over the period, the Council will focus on the priorities of Housing, Business Growth, Community Safety, Health and Environment. The Corporate Plan prioritises local community needs and resources are directed toward the things they think are most important. These needs are aligned with other local, regional and national plans to ensure the ambitions set out in the Corporate Plan are realistic and achievable.

Performance monitoring

We have discussed performance monitoring arrangements with officers and reviewed a selection of business plans and compare considered together following the year-end as part of the Council's commitment to committee reports. Business Plans detail the projects and activities undertaken in support of the Corporate Plan for each priority area. These cover a three-year period and are revised and updated annually. Detailed monitoring of progress against key tasks and outcome measures in the Business Plans is undertaken regularly by the relevant Committee. This will include an annual report where performance management and financial outturns align financial and performance management. In our view, reports contain sufficient narrative to demonstrate that there are adequate arrangements to assess performance and identify areas for action.

The Council's budget endeavours to ensure the provision of the appropriate resources required to deliver the Council's Plan, and the types of action necessary to enable them to be affordable, to allow balanced budgets to be delivered.

Regulators / Inspections

Our work has not identified any adverse findings from inspectors leading to any intervention action at the Council.

Partnerships and procurement

We identified no significant changes in arrangements regarding partnership working and are satisfied the Council continues to have arrangements for standing financial instructions, including purchase order controls. Our work on the financial statements has not identified any significant internal control deficiencies regarding purchasing controls.

Overall, we have not identified any indicators of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements relating to the Improving Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness criteria for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Other reporting responsibilities and our fees

Other reporting responsibilities and our fees

Other reporting responsibilities

Matters we report by exception

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 provides auditors with specific powers where matters come to our attention that, in their judgement, require specific reporting action to be taken. Auditors have the power to:

- issue a report in the public interest;
- make statutory recommendations that must be considered and responded to publicly;
- apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to the law; and
- issue an advisory notice.

We have not exercised any of these statutory reporting powers.

The 2014 Act also gives rights to local electors and other parties, such as the right to ask questions of the auditor and the right to make an objection to an item of account. We did not receive any such objections or questions.

Reporting to the NAO in respect of Whole of Government Accounts consolidation data

The NAO, as group auditor, requires us to complete the WGA Assurance Statement in respect of its consolidation data. As at the date of writing, instructions regarding sampled components have not yet been received.

Other reporting responsibilities and our fees

Fees for our work as the Council's auditor

We reported our proposed fees for the delivery of our work under the Code of Audit Practice in our Audit Strategy Memorandum. Having completed our work for the 2022/23 financial year, we can confirm that our fees are as follows:

| Area of work | 2021/22 Actual fees (£) | 2022/23 fees (£) | 2023/24 (£) |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Planned fee in respect of our work under the Code of Audit Practice | 39,317 | 44,890 | 144,729 |
| Additional fees in respect of additional testing undertaken to comply with increased regulatory requirements relating to: IAS19 pension liabilities; and valuation of land, buildings and council dwellings.. | 9,950 | 4,300 | N/A – included in the scale fee |
| Additional fees in respect of additional work from the introduction of new auditing standards (ISA 540 estimates) | 3,590 | 3,590 | N/A – included in the scale fee |
| Additional fees in respect of additional work from the introduction of new auditing standards (ISA 315) | N/A | 5,000 | TBC - Not included in the scale fee |
| Group Accounts | 2,530 | 2,900 | N/A – included in the scale fee |
| Other additional testing (Infrastructure Assets, Pension Fund Triennial valuation, Testing of land and buildings, income & expenditure and control recommendations (per Audit Completion Report) | 11,000 | 9,131 | - |
| Additional fees in respect of the VFM Commentary | 7,000 | 7,000 | N/A – included in the scale fee |
| Total fees | 73,387 | 76,811 | TBC |

Fees for other work

We confirm that we have not undertaken any non-audit services for the Council in the year.

Appendices

A: Further information on our audit of the financial statements

Appendix A: Further information on our audit of the financial statements

Main financial statement audit risks and findings

As Our audit approach is risk-based and primarily driven by the issues that we consider lead to a higher risk of material misstatement of the accounts. Once we have completed our risk assessment, we develop our audit strategy and design audit procedures in response to this assessment. Following the risk assessment, we identified risks relevant to the audit of financial statements and significant audit risks and conclusions reached are set out below:

| Audit Risk | Level of audit risk | How we addressed this risk | Audit conclusions |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Management override of controls This is a mandatory significant risk on all audits due to the unpredictable way in which such override could occur.</p> | <p>Significant risk: an area that, in our judgment, requires special audit consideration.</p> | <p>We addressed the risk through performing work over accounting estimates, journal entries and considering whether there were any significant transactions outside the normal course of business or otherwise unusual. In addition, we made enquiries of management and used our data analytics and interrogation software to test accounting journals.</p> | <p>There are no significant matters to report.</p> |
| <p>Net defined benefit pension liability valuation The Council's accounts contain material liabilities relating to the local government pension scheme. The council uses an actuary to provide an annual valuation of these liabilities in line with the requirements of IAS 19 Employee Benefits. Due to the high degree of estimation uncertainty associated with this valuation, we have determined there is a significant risk in this area.</p> | <p>Significant risk</p> | <p>In relation to the valuation of the Council's pension liability we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically assess the competency, objectivity and independence of the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund's Actuary, Barnett Waddingham; • Liaise with the auditors of the Nottinghamshire Pension Fund to gain assurance that the controls in place at the Pension Fund are operating effectively. This will include the processes and controls in place to ensure data provided to the Actuary by the Pension Fund for the purposes of the IAS 19 valuation to complete and accurate; • Review the appropriateness of the Pension Asset and Liability valuation methodologies applied by the Pension Fund Actuary, and the key assumptions included within the valuation. This will include comparing them to expected ranges, utilising information provided by PwC, the consulting actuary engaged by the National Audit Office (NAO); and • Agree the data in the IAS 19 valuation report provided by the Fund Actuary for accounting purposes to the pension accounting entries and disclosures in the Council's financial statements. | <p>We noted an unadjusted misstatement in relation to Pension liability.</p> <p>There was an overstatement of £12.512m on asset valuation for the whole Pension Fund and this translated to £0.225m for Broxtowe Borough Council. The misstatement was below our materiality and therefore immaterial to the financial statements as a whole.</p> |

Appendix A: Further information on our audit of the financial statements

Main financial statement audit risks and findings (continued)

| Audit Risk | Level of audit risk | How we addressed this risk | Audit conclusions |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| <p>Valuation of land, buildings, council dwellings and investments properties</p> <p>The Council's accounts contain material balances and disclosures relating to its holding of property, plant and equipment and assets held for sale, with the majority of land and building assets required to be carried at valuation. Due to high degree of estimation uncertainty associated with those held at valuation, we have determined there is significant risk in this area.</p> | <p>Significant risk</p> | <p>In relation to the valuation of property, plant and equipment and assets held for sale we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically assess the Council's valuers' scope of work, qualifications, objectivity and independence to carry out the required programme of revaluations; • Consider whether the overall revaluation methodology used by the Council's valuer is in line with industry practice, the CIPFA Code of Practice and the Council's accounting policies; • Assess whether valuation movement are in line with market expectations by reference to alternative sources of valuation data to provide information on regional valuation trends; • Critically assess the treatment of the upward and downward revaluations in the Council's financial statements with regards to the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice; and • Critically assess the approach that the Council adopts to ensure that assets not subject to revaluation in 2022/23 are materially correct, including considering the robustness of that approach in light of the valuation information reported by the Councils valuer. | <p>We identified control deficiencies in the council's internal controls system and raised Internal control recommendations, these have been documented in Audit Completion Report. A few misstatements were also identified and noted in the Audit Completion Report. The misstatements were below our materiality and therefore were assessed to be an immaterial misstatement on the financial statements.</p> |

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