

## Independent auditor's report to the members of Warwickshire County Council

In our auditor's report issued on 15 December 2021, we explained that we could not formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate for the Warwickshire County Council for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice, until we had completed our consideration of an objection brought to our attention by a local authority elector under Section 27 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the work necessary to issue our Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) Component Assurance statement for the Authority for the year ended 31 March 2021. These matters have now been dealt with.

### Opinion on the financial statements

In our auditor's report for the year ended 31 March 2021 issued on 15 December 2021 we reported that, in our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2021 and of its 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 2020/21; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

No matters have come to our attention since that date that would have a material impact on the financial statements on which we gave this opinion.

### Opinion on the pension fund financial statements

In our auditor's report for the year ended 31 March 2021 issued on 15 December 2021, we reported that, in our opinion the pension fund financial statements of Warwickshire Pension Fund:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2021 and of the amount and disposition at that date of the fund's assets and liabilities,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

No matters have come to our attention since that date that would have a material impact on the financial statements on which we gave this opinion.

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements - the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

In our auditor's report for the year ended 31 March 2021 issued on 15 December 2021 we reported that we have nothing to report in respect of the above matter except on 14 December 2021 we reported a significant weakness in how the Authority uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services. This was in relation to an Ofsted and Care Quality Commission joint inspection of the local area of Warwickshire which judged the effectiveness of the area in implementing the special educational needs and disabilities reforms set out in the Children and Families Act 2014. This inspection found significant areas of weakness in the area's practice. We recommended that the Authority should continue to review and improve their arrangements for responding to the joint inspection's findings.

No matters have come to our attention since that date that would have resulted in any additional exception reporting on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

## **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements – Audit certificate**

We certify that we have completed the audit of Warwickshire County Council for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice.

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Authority's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Avtar Sohal*

Avtar Sohal, Key Audit Partner  
for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor

Birmingham

30 May 2024