

Audit Committee
Milton Keynes Council
Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 3EJ

22 December 2013

Email: MWest@uk.ey.com

Dear Members

Audit of Milton Keynes Council year ended 31 March 2014

We are pleased to attach our Audit Progress Report.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit Committee with an overview of the stage we have reached in your 2013/14 audit and ensure our audit is aligned with the Committee's service expectations.

Our audit will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998, the Code of Audit Practice, the Audit Commission Standing Guidance, auditing standards and other professional requirements.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this report with you as well as understand whether there are other matters which you consider may influence our audit.

Yours faithfully

M West
Director
For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP

Work completed

Meetings

We hold regular meetings with key officers and other stakeholders as part of our ongoing audit process.

Progress

We have started planning for our 2013/14 audit. We have met with the finance team to discuss the 2012/13 audit.

Internal audit

We will seek to rely on testing carried out by Internal Audit wherever possible. We review specific testing where we seek to rely on it.

Value for money assessment

We will complete an initial risk assessment for our value for money work as part of audit planning. We will inform the audit committee of any risks identified as part of this assessment.

2012/13 Certification work

We have completed our certification work for 2012/13. A report on this work will be circulated to members of the Council in January 2014.

Timetable


Audit Committee Timeline

We have set out below a timetable showing the key stages of the audit, including the value for money work and the whole of government accounts, and the deliverables we have agreed to provide to you through the 2013/14 Audit Committee cycle.

We will provide formal reports to the Audit Committee throughout our audit process as outlined below. Where required, we will issue an Interim Report, summarising the findings from our audit at that stage. From time to time matters may arise that require immediate communication with the Audit Committee and we will discuss them with the Audit Committee Chair as appropriate.

Following the conclusion of our audit we will prepare an annual audit letter in order to communicate to the Council and external stakeholders, including members of the public, the key issues arising from our work.

Audit phase	Timetable	Deliverables
High level planning:	January - March	
Risk assessment and setting of scopes	January - March	Audit plan
Testing of routine processes and controls	February - April	Interim findings
Year-end audit	July - September	Report to those charged with governance
	By 30 September	Audit report including our opinion on the financial statements and a conclusion as to whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.
	October	The report to the NAO on WGA
		Audit completion certificate
Reporting	November	Annual audit letter



In addition to the above formal reporting and deliverables we will seek to provide practical business insights and updates on regulatory matters through our Sector Briefings.

Progress against key deliverables

Key deliverable	Timetable in plan	Status	Comments
Audit fee letter	April 2013	Completed	
Audit plan	April 2014		
Report to Those Charged with Governance	by 30 September 2014		
Audit report (including opinion and vfm conclusion)	by 30 September 2014		
Audit certificate	October 2014		The audit certificate will be issued on completion of our review of your whole of government accounts submission
WGA submission	October 2014		
Annual audit letter	November 2014		Report to September Audit Committee
