

Section 1 – Accounting statements 2013/14 for:

Enter name of reporting body here:

WORCESTERSHIRE REGULATORY SERVICES

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2013 £	31 March 2014 £	
			Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.
1 Balances brought forward	52,793	22,562	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the body's financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2 (+) Income from local taxation and/or levy	0	0	Total amount of local tax and/or levy received or receivable in the year including funding from a sponsoring body.
3 (+) Total other receipts	5,550,576	5,903,467	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the taxation and/or levy (line 2). Include any grants received here.
4 (-) Staff costs	4,027,152	4,218,171	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the body's borrowings (if any).
6 (-) All other payments	1,553,655	1,618,920	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7 (=) Balances carried forward	22,562	88,938	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)
8 Total cash and short term investments	883,728	667,030	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – to agree with bank reconciliation.
9 Total fixed assets plus other long term investments and assets	379,500	437,696	The original Asset and Investment Register value of all fixed assets, plus other long term assets owned by the body as at 31 March
10 Total borrowings	32,505	26,274	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2014 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of the body and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer:

John P.

Date 26/6/2014

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by the body on:

26/6/2014

and recorded as minute reference:

9/14

Signed by Chair of meeting approving these accounting statements:

[Signature]

Date 26/6/2014

Section 2 – Annual governance statement 2013/14

We acknowledge as the members of **Worcestershire Regulatory Services** our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2014, that:

	Agreed –		'Yes' means that the body:
	Yes	No*	
1 We approved the accounting statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	✓		prepared its accounting statements in the way prescribed by law.
2 We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3 We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the body to conduct its business or on its finances.	✓		has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with proper practices in doing so.
4 We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		during the year has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the body's accounts.
5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing the body and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6 We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the body's accounting records and control systems.	✓		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of the body.
7 We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8 We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the body and where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.

This annual governance statement is approved by the body and recorded as minute reference

9/14

dated 26/6/2014

Signed by:

Chair

dated 26/6/2014

Signed by:

Clerk

dated 26/6/2014

*Note: Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how the body will address the weaknesses identified.

Section 3 – External auditor certificate and opinion 2013/14

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2014 of:

WORCESTERSHIRE REGULATORY SERVICES

Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

The body is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The body prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2014; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to our audit responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit in accordance with guidance issued by the Audit Commission and, on the basis of our review of the annual return and supporting information, to report whether any matters that come to our attention give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

External auditor report

(Except for the matters reported below)* on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. (*delete as appropriate).

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the body:

See attached sheet

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

External auditor signature

External auditor name

Barrie Morris for Grant Thornton UK LLP

Date

29/8/14

Note: The auditor signing this page has been appointed by the Audit Commission and is reporting to you that they have carried out and completed all the work that is required of them by law. For further information please refer to the Audit Commission's publication entitled Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Small Bodies.

Section 4 – Annual internal audit report 2013/14 to

WORCESTERSHIRE REGULATORY SERVICES

The body's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ended 31 March 2014.

Internal audit has been carried out in accordance with the body's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the body.

Internal control objective	Agreed? Please choose one of the following		
	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A Appropriate accounting records have been kept properly throughout the year.	✓		
B The body's financial regulations have been met, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C The body assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		
D The annual taxation or levy or funding requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	✓		
G Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with body approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	✓		
J Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, were supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records, and, where appropriate, debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		

For any other risk areas identified by the body (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed) adequate controls existed:

* The Internal Audit follow up in relation to the licensing audit for 2012/13 identified that a number of high recommendations remained outstanding. This was mainly due to the resources required for implementation of the new system. A revised timeline has been agreed.
 ** Petty cash, low value and low risk therefore not audited.

Name of person who carried out the internal audit: A. Brimage

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit: [Signature] Date: 23/06/14

*Note: If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

**Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or, if coverage is not required, internal audit must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).



This page is part of Section 3 - External auditor certificate and opinion 2013/14

**Worcestershire Regulatory Shared Service Joint Committee
Audit Report for the year ended 31 March 2014**

**Other matters not affecting our opinion which we wish to draw to the attention
of Worcestershire Regulatory Shared Service Joint Committee for the
year ended 31 March 2014**

Accounting for Fixed Assets

It has come to our attention that Box 9 of Section 1 of the Annual Return – the Accounting Statements includes fixed assets have been depreciated.

Local councils are required to account for fixed assets at purchase cost. If this is not known a proxy cost should be substituted (e.g. insurance value). Commercial concepts of depreciation or impairment adjustments, etc are not appropriate for local councils. For reporting purposes therefore, the 'book' value of fixed assets will usually therefore stay constant until disposal. Where insurance value has been used as a proxy, it should not be adjusted for annual changes.

Guidance on accounting for fixed assets is available in the NALC / SLCC publication Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – A Practitioners Guide.

Box 10 Section 1

The borrowings included in Box 10 are the capital amounts outstanding in relation hire purchase agreements. Proper practices set out in the Practitioners' Guide para 3.94 state that capital finance, including HP or leases, which have not been classified as borrowing by DCLG should not be included in Box 10.

Therefore Box 10 for both 2012/13 and 2013/14 should be '0'.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina M. [unclear]".

for Grant Thornton UK LLP
Date 29/8/14
Our ref WRC157