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DATE: 31 July 2018

Dear Sirs

**Cheshire East Council**  
**Group Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018**

This representation letter is provided in connection with the audit of the financial statements of Cheshire East Council and its subsidiary undertakings, shown in appendix 1 of this letter, for the year ended 31 March 2018 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the group and parent Council financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 and applicable law.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

**Group Financial Statements**

- i We have fulfilled our responsibilities for the preparation of the group and parent Council's financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 ("the Code"); in particular the group and parent Council financial statements are fairly presented in accordance therewith.
- ii We have complied with the requirements of all statutory directions affecting the group and parent Council and these matters have been appropriately reflected and disclosed in the group and parent Council financial statements.
- iii The Council has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the group and parent Council financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There has been no non-compliance with requirements of

any regulatory authorities that could have a material effect on the group and parent Council financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

- iv We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- v Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- vi Except as disclosed in the group and parent Council financial statements:
  - a there are no unrecorded liabilities, actual or contingent
  - b none of the assets of the group and parent Council has been assigned, pledged or mortgaged
  - c there are no material prior year charges or credits, nor exceptional or non-recurring items requiring separate disclosure.
- vii We confirm that we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the valuation of pension scheme assets and liabilities for IAS19 Employee Benefits disclosures are consistent with our knowledge. We confirm that all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for. We also confirm that all significant post-employment benefits have been identified and properly accounted for.
- viii Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards and the Code.
- ix All events subsequent to the date of the group and parent Council financial statements and for which International Financial Reporting Standards and the Code require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
- x We have considered the adjusted misstatements, and misclassification and disclosures changes schedules included in your Audit Findings Report. The group and parent Council financial statements have been amended for these misstatements, misclassifications and disclosure changes and are free of material misstatements, including omissions.
- xi We have considered the unadjusted misstatements schedule included in your Audit Findings Report and attached in Appendix 2. We have not adjusted the group and parent Council financial statements for these misstatements brought to our attention as they are immaterial to the results of the group and parent Council and its financial position at the year.

The group and parent Council financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.

- xii Actual or possible litigation and claims have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards.

- xiii We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the group and parent Council financial statements.
- xiv We believe that the group and parent Council's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the group and parent Council's needs. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the group and parent Council's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.
- xv The Council retains all investment actuarial risk in relation <sup>to</sup> the defined benefit pension liabilities for the employees of the subsidiary companies.

### Information Provided

- xvi We have provided you with:
  - a. access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the group and parent Council financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
  - b. additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of your audit; and
  - c. unrestricted access to persons within the Council from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- xvii We have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which management is aware.
- xviii All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the group and parent Council financial statements.
- xix We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the group and parent Council financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- xx We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the group and parent Council and involves:
  - a. management;
  - b. employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - c. others where the fraud could have a material effect on the group and parent Council financial statements.
- xxi We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the group and parent Council's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
- xxii We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

xxiii We have disclosed to you the identity of the group and parent Council's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

xxiv We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the group and parent Council financial statements.

### Annual Governance Statement

xxvi We are satisfied that the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) fairly reflects the Council's risk assurance and governance framework and we confirm that we are not aware of any significant risks that are not disclosed within the AGS.

### Narrative Report

i The disclosures within the Narrative Report fairly reflect our understanding of the group and parent Council's financial and operating performance over the period covered by the group and parent Council financial statements.

### Approval

The approval of this letter of representation was minuted by the Council's Audit and Governance Committee at its meeting on 31 July 2018.

Yours faithfully

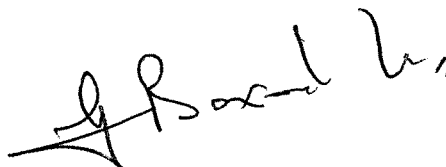
Name.....JAN WILLIS.....



Position.....INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES.....

Date.....31-7-2018.....

Name.....GORDON BAXENDALE.....



Position.....CHAIRMAN OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE.....

Date.....31-7-2018.....

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

## **Appendix 1**

### **Cheshire East Council Subsidiaries**

ANSA Environmental services Limited

Cheshire East First Limited

Civicanace Limited

Engine of the North Limited

Orbitas Bereavement Services Limited

Tatton Park Limited

The Skills and Growth Company Limited

Transport Service Solutions Limited

## **Appendix 2**

### **Unadjusted misstatements**

In relation to assets not valued during the year, audit procedures carried out identified there was a residual £6.8m difference between the carrying value of these assets and their estimated fair value.

