

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL ON THE PENSION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have examined the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes.

In our opinion, the pension fund financial statements are consistent with the full annual statement of accounts of Bedford Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2021 and comply with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

Respective responsibilities of the Assistant Chief Executive (Enabling Services) & Chief Finance Officer and the auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts, the Assistant Chief Executive (Enabling Services) & Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund's financial statements in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the pension fund financial statements within the pension fund annual report with the pension fund financial statements in the statement of accounts of Bedford Borough Council, and its compliance with applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

We also read the other information contained in the pension fund annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the pension fund financial statements. The other information consists only:

- Foreword
- Management Report
- Investment Report
- Pooling
- Communications Policy Statement
- Pensions Administration Strategy
- Bedfordshire Local Pension Board Annual Report

We conducted our work in accordance with Auditor Guidance Note 07 – Auditor Reporting, issued by the National Audit Office. Our report on the administering authority's full annual statement of accounts describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements.

Debbie Hanson
Ernst + Young LLP

Debbie Hanson (Key Audit Partner)
Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor)
Luton
16 December 2021