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The Scrutiny and Audit Committee
Angus Council

23 September 2016

Angus Council Annual Audit Report

1. International Standard on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 260 (ISA 260) requires auditors to report specific matters arising from the audit of the financial statements to those charged with governance of a body in sufficient time to enable appropriate action. We are drawing to your attention matters for your consideration before the financial statements are approved and certified. We also present for your consideration our draft annual report on the 2015/16 audit which identifies significant findings from the financial statements audit. The section headed "Significant findings from the audit in accordance with ISA260" in the attached annual audit report sets out the issues identified. This report will be issued in final form after the financial statements have been certified
2. Our work on the financial statements of Angus Council, Robert and William Strang Mortification and Angus Council Charitable Trust is now substantially complete. Subject to the satisfactory conclusion of any outstanding matters and receipt of revised sets of financial statements for final review, we anticipate being able to issue unqualified auditor's reports on 27 September 2016 for Angus Council and the charitable trusts (the proposed independent auditor's reports are attached at Appendices A, B and C). There are no anticipated modifications to either of the audit reports.
3. In presenting this report to the Scrutiny and Audit Committee we seek confirmation from those charged with governance of any instances of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; any subsequent events that have occurred since the date of the financial statements; or material non-compliance with laws and regulations affecting the entity that should be brought to our attention.
4. We are required to report to those charged with governance all unadjusted misstatements which we have identified during the course of our audit, other than those of a trivial nature and request that these misstatements be corrected, in the case of the Angus Council all changes were made. There were no unadjusted misstatements in respect of the Robert and William Strang Mortification or the Angus Council Charitable Trust.

5. As part of the completion of our audit we seek written assurances from the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance on aspects of the financial statements and judgements and estimates made. A draft letter of representation under ISA580 has been provided to the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance and this should be signed and returned with the signed financial statements prior to the independent auditor's opinion being certified.

Outstanding matters

6. There are some areas where we still require additional information and these are identified below:
7. **Letter of representation.** This letter, otherwise known as the ISA 580 letter, is required before the approval of the financial statements by the Scrutiny and Audit Committee on 27 September 2016.
8. **Final confirmation from component auditor.** We have verbal assurances from the component auditor in respect of Angus Alive but are awaiting final confirmation from them on conclusion of their work.
9. **Assurances from council's valuer.** Assurances were sought from the council's valuer around a list of assets which had been omitted from the council's revaluation programme and consequently they had not been revalued in the last 5 years, as required by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.

APPENDIX A: Proposed Independent Auditor's Report

Independent auditor's report to the members of Angus Council and the Accounts Commission for Scotland

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of Angus Council and its group for the year ended 31 March 2016 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The financial statements comprise the group and authority-only Movement in Reserves Statements, Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements, Balance Sheets and Cashflow Statements, the authority-only Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement, the Council Tax Income Account, the Non-Domestic Rate Income Account, Charitable Trusts, Common Good and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union, and as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2015/16 (the 2015/16 Code).

This report is made solely to the parties to whom it is addressed in accordance with Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and for no other purpose. In accordance with paragraph 125 of the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

Respective responsibilities of the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. My responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) as required by the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland. Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the authority and its group and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Accounts to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view in accordance with applicable law and the 2015/16 Code of the state of the affairs of the group and of the local authority as at 31 March 2016 and of the income and expenditure of the group and the authority for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union, as interpreted and adapted by the 2015/16 Code; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, and the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

Opinion on other prescribed matters

In my opinion:

- the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014; and
- the information given in the Management Commentary for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I am required to report by exception

I am required to report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the Annual Governance Statement has not been prepared in accordance with Delivering Good Governance in Local Government.

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Stephen Boyle

Assistant Director of Audit

Audit Scotland

4th Floor South Suite

The Athenaeum Building

8 Nelson Mandela Place

Glasgow G2 1BT

27 September 2016

Appendix B: Proposed Independent Auditor's Report – Charitable Trusts

Independent auditor's report to the trustees Angus Council Charitable Trust and the Accounts Commission for Scotland

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of Angus Council Charitable Trust for the year ended 31 March 2016 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. The financial statements comprise the Statement of Receipts and Payments, the Statement of Balances and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the parties to whom it is addressed in accordance with Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and for no other purpose. In accordance with paragraph 125 of the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Trustees Responsibilities in Respect of the Accounts, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view. My responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) as required by the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland. Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts or disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report and Financial Statements to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion the financial statements:

- properly present the receipts and payments of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2016 and its statement of balances at that date; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and regulations 9(1),(2) and (3) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Opinion on other prescribed matter

In my opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I am required to report by exception

I am required by The Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 to report to you if, in my opinion:

- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Stephen Boyle

Assistant Director of Audit

Audit Scotland

The Athenaeum Building

4th Floor, South Suite

8 Nelson Mandela Place

Glasgow G2 1BT

27 September 2016

Stephen Boyle is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

Appendix C: Proposed Independent Auditor's Report – Robert and William Strang Mortification

Independent auditor's report to the trustees Robert and William Strang Mortification and the Accounts Commission for Scotland

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of Robert and William Strang Mortification for the year ended 31 March 2016 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. The financial statements comprise the Statement of Receipts and Payments, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the parties to whom it is addressed in accordance with Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and for no other purpose. In accordance with paragraph 125 of the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Trustees Responsibilities in Respect of the Accounts, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view. My responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) as required by the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland. Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts or disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report and Financial Statements to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion the financial statements:

- properly present the receipts and payments of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2016 and its statement of balances at that date; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and regulations 9(1),(2) and (3) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Opinion on other prescribed matter

In my opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I am required to report by exception

I am required by The Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 to report to you if, in my opinion:

- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Stephen Boyle

Assistant Director of Audit

Audit Scotland

The Athenaeum Building

4th Floor, South Suite

8 Nelson Mandela Place

Glasgow G2 1BT

27 September 2016

Stephen Boyle is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.