

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AUDIT COMPLETION CERTIFICATE**

In our audit report dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 we stated that we could not certify that we had completed the audit of Staffordshire County Council (the "Council") for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office (the "NAO") in November 2024 on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the "NAO Code of Audit Practice").

We could not certify completion at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 because at that date:

- we had not yet completed our work in respect of the Council's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack for the year ended 31 March 2024 because we had not received confirmation from the NAO that the NAO's audit of the Whole of Government Accounts was complete; and
- the Council had not prepared the Pension Fund Annual Report and therefore, we had not issued our report on the consistency of the financial statements of the Pension Fund included in the Council's Pension Fund Annual Report with the Pension Fund financial statements included in the Council's Statement of Accounts, as required under Auditor Guidance Note 07 – Auditor Reporting, issued by the NAO in November 2024.

Following receipt of the confirmation from the NAO that the NAO's audit of the Whole of Government Accounts is complete, we have now completed our work in respect of the Council's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Council has now prepared the Pension Fund Annual Report, and we issued our report on the financial statements included in the Pension Fund Annual Report on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

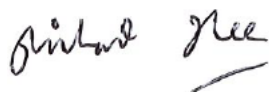
No matters have come to our attention since the date of our audit report, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025, that would have had an impact on our reporting by exception on whether we had identified any significant weaknesses in the arrangements that have been made by the Council to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

### **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT**

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts of Staffordshire County Council for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice.

### **THE PURPOSE OF OUR AUDIT WORK AND TO WHOM WE OWE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES**

This report is made solely to the members of the Council, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Council and the members of the Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Richard Lee**

**for and on behalf of KPMG LLP**  
*Chartered Accountants*  
One St Peter's Square  
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5<sup>th</sup> May 2026