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Dear Jane

Certification work for Ribble Valley Borough Council for year ended 31 March 2017

We are required to certify the Housing Benefit subsidy claim submitted by Ribble Valley Borough Council ('the Council'). This certification typically takes place six to nine months after the claim period and represents a final but important part of the process to confirm the Council's entitlement to funding.

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 gave the Secretary of State power to transfer Audit Commission responsibilities to other bodies. Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) took on the transitional responsibilities for HB COUNT issued by the Audit Commission in February 2015.

We have certified the Housing Benefit subsidy claim for the financial year 2016/17 relating to subsidy claimed of £7.080 million. Further details are set out in Appendix A.

There are no issues arising from our certification work which we wish to highlight for your attention.

The indicative fee for 2016/17 for the Council was based on the final 2014/15 certification fees, reflecting the amount of work required by the auditor to certify the Housing Benefit subsidy claim that year. The indicative scale fee set by PSAA for the Council for 2016/17 was £6,690. This is set out in more detail in Appendix B.

Yours sincerely

Grant Thornton UK LLP

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Appendix A - Details of claims and returns certified for 2016/17

Claim or return	Value	Amended?	Amendment value	Qualified?	Comments
Housing benefits subsidy claim	£7,079,582	No	N/A	No	See below

Findings from certification of housing benefits subsidy claim

Our testing of a sample of individual benefit claims did not identify any errors that would require additional testing.

Appendix B: Fees for 2016/17 certification work

Claim or return	2016/17 indicative fee (£)	2016/17 actual fee (£)	Variance (£)	Explanation for variances
Housing benefits subsidy claim (BEN01)	£6,690	£6,690	NIL	N/A
Total	£6,690	£6,690	NIL	

