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Jane Pearson
Director of Resources
Ribble Valley Borough Council
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14/12/18

Dear Jane

Certification work for Ribble Valley Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2018

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 Ltd (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 2017/18 relating to subsidy claimed of £6.770 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 2017/18 for the Council was based on the actual 2015/16 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 2017/18 was £11,191. This is set out in more detail in Appendix B.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grant Thornton UK LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

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Appendix A - Details of claims and returns certified for 2017/18

Claim or return	Value	Amended?	Amendment value	Qualified?	Comments
Housing benefits subsidy claim	£6,770,115	Yes	-	No	The council included entries in the rent rebates section of the subsidy return but these should have been classified as rent allowances

Appendix B: Fees for 2017/18 certification work

Claim or return	2015/16 fee (£)	2017/18 indicative fee (£)	2017/18 actual fee (£)	Variance (£)	Explanation for variances
Housing benefits subsidy claim (BEN01)	£11,191	£11,191	£11,191	-	
Total	£11,191	£11,191	£11,191	-	