INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DORSET COUNCIL

ISSUE OF AUDIT OPINION ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2020 issued on 3 July 2021 we reported that, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, in our opinion, the financial statements:

- gave a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2020 and of the Authority's expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- had been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20.

REPORT ON THE AUTHORITY'S ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECURING ECONOMY, EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN ITS USE OF RESOURCES

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2020 issued on 3 July 2021, we reported that, with the exception of the matters reported in the basis for qualified conclusion section of our audit report, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Dorset Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2020.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT

In our report dated 3 July 2021, we explained that we could not formally conclude the audit on that date until we had completed the work necessary to issue our assurance statement in respect of the authority's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack. We have now completed this work.

No matters have come to our attention since that date that would have a material impact on the financial statements on which we gave our opinion or on our conclusion on the authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts of Dorset Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

Ian Howse CA, CPFA (Key Audit Partner) For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP

Cardiff, Wales

To Hause

Date: 7 December 2023

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