INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Issue of audit opinion on the financial statements

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2015 issued on 29 September 2015 we reported that, in our opinion, the financial statements:

- gave a true and fair view of the financial position of Herefordshire Council as at 31 March 2015 and of its 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 2014/15 and applicable law.

Issue of value for money conclusion

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2015 issued on 29 September 2015 we reported that, in our opinion, in all significant respects, Herefordshire Council had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2015.

Certificate

In our report dated 29 September 2015, 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 an unqualified opinion and value for money conclusion.

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of Herefordshire Council in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.

Phil Jones Director for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Appointed Auditor Colmore Plaza, 20 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AT

2 October 2015