



Grant Thornton

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Dear Lisa

Certification work for South Hams District Council for year ended 31 March 2015

We are required to certify one claim submitted by South Hams District Council ('the Council'). This certification is required by 30 November 2015 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) have taken on the transitional responsibilities for HB COUNT issued by the Audit Commission in February 2015.

We have certified the Housing Benefit return for the financial year 2014/15 which included expenditure of £22.4 million. Further details of our certification work is set out in Appendix A.

There were no issues arising from our certification work which we wish to highlight for your attention. We are satisfied that the Council has appropriate arrangements to compile the return accurately and in a timely manner for audit certification.

The indicative fee for 2014/15 for the Council is based on the final 2012/13 certification fees, reflecting the amount of work required by the auditor to certify the claims and returns in that year. Fees for schemes no longer requiring certification under the Audit Commission regime (such as the national non-domestic rates return) have been removed. The indicative scale fee set by the Audit Commission for the Council for 2014/15 is £9,770. This is set out in more detail in Appendix B.

Yours sincerely

For Grant Thornton UK LLP

Appendix A - Details of Housing Benefit return certified for 2014/15

Return	Value (£)	Amended?	Amendment (£)	Qualified?	Comments
Housing benefits subsidy claim	22,434,398	No	N/A	No	None

Appendix B: Fee for 2014/15 certification work

Claim or return	2013/14 fee (£)	2014/15 indicative fee (£)	2014/15 actual fee (£)	Variance (£)	Explanation for variances
Housing benefits subsidy claim (BEN01)	9,328	9,770	9,770	0	None