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Paul O'Donoghue
Chief Financial Officer
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Our ref Let-CP/2016/002

4 January 2016

Dear Paul

Certification of claims and returns - annual report 2014/15

Public Sector Audit Appointment requires its external auditors to prepare an annual report on the claims and returns it certifies for each client. This letter is our annual report for the certification work we have undertaken for 2014/15.

In 2014/15 we carried out certification work on only one claim/return, the Housing Benefit Subsidy claim. The certified value of the claim was £20,484,336, and we completed our work and certified the claim on 26 November 2015.

Matters arising

Our certification work on Housing Subsidy Benefit claim did not identify any issues or errors and we certified the claim unqualified without amendment.

Consequently we have made no recommendations to the Authority to improve its claims completion process. There were no recommendations made last year and there are no further matters to report to you regarding our certification work.

Certification work fees

Public Sector Audit Appointments set an indicative fee for our certification work in 2014/15 of £11,610. Our actual fee was the same as the indicative fee, and this compares to the 2013/14 fee for this claim of £9,504.

Yours sincerely

Tim Cutler
Partner

This report is addressed to the Authority and has been prepared for the sole use of the Authority. We take no responsibility to any member of staff acting in their individual capacities, or to third parties. We draw your attention to the Statement of Responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies, which is available on Public Sector Audit Appointment's website (www.psaa.co.uk).

External auditors do not act as a substitute for the audited body's own responsibility for putting in place proper arrangements to ensure that public business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

We are committed to providing you with a high quality service. If you have any concerns or are dissatisfied with any part of KPMG's work, in the first instance you should contact Tim Cutler, the engagement lead to the Authority, who will try to resolve your complaint. If you are dissatisfied with your response please contact the national lead partner for all of KPMG's work under our contract with Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited, Andrew Sayers, by email to andrew.sayers@kpmg.co.uk After this, if you are still dissatisfied with how your complaint has been handled you can access PSAA's complaints procedure by emailing generalenquiries@psaa.co.uk, by telephoning 020 7072 7445 or by writing to Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited, 3rd Floor, Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.