

Martin Hone
Director of Finance
Dacorum Borough Council
Civic Centre
Marlowes
Hemel Hempstead
HP1 1HH

6 March 2014

Direct line: 01223 394547

Email: mhodgson@uk.ey.com

Dear Martin

Dacorum Borough Council – 2012/13 Housing and Council Tax Subsidy Benefit certification fee

We issued our formal 'Certification of grants and returns annual report' on the 20 December 2013, to report the outcome from our audit work on your grant claims. Within this report, we set out the final audit fees in respect of those claims.

Since we issued that report, the Audit Commission has undertaken a global review of the audit scale fees in relation to the Housing and Council Tax Subsidy Benefit claim. Following this review, it has been determined that your Council is due a refund against the scale fee that has been levied of £5,000.

As a result, we need to revise the reported scale fees with our certification of grants and returns annual report, to report accurately the final fee position. Rather than re-issue a report, which has been through the committee cycle, I summarise the impact of this change below.

Claim or return	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13
	Actual fee £	Indicative fee £	Actual fee (revised and final) £
Housing and council tax benefits subsidy claim	61,426	31,580	26,580
National non-domestic rates return	5,000	780	780
Pooling of housing capital receipt	700	1,140	1,140
Housing Revenue Account subsidy	800*		
Certification of claims and returns - annual report	1,700*		
Total	69,626	33,500	28,500

*Note *: Following abolition of the housing subsidy system, certification of this claim was not required in 2012/13. Fees for annual reporting and for planning, supervision and review have been allocated directly to the claims and returns.*

I would be grateful if you could arrange for this letter to be included as part of the next Audit Committee agenda, for completeness.

We will make the necessary arrangements to refund the £5,000 audit fee to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M Hodgson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Hodgson
Director
Ernst & Young LLP
United Kingdom