

Mr D McLure
County Hall
DURHAM
County Durham
DH1 5UE

12 September 2012

Dear Mr McLure

Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee - Audit for the year ended 31 March 2012

We have now completed the above audit. Please find enclosed the following documents;

- Fee Note
- Notice of Conclusion of Audit
- Notes regarding the advertisement of the Conclusion of the Audit
- Date selection form for 2012/13
- Contact details
- Survey 2011/12
- Annual Return

There were no matters which came to our attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report.

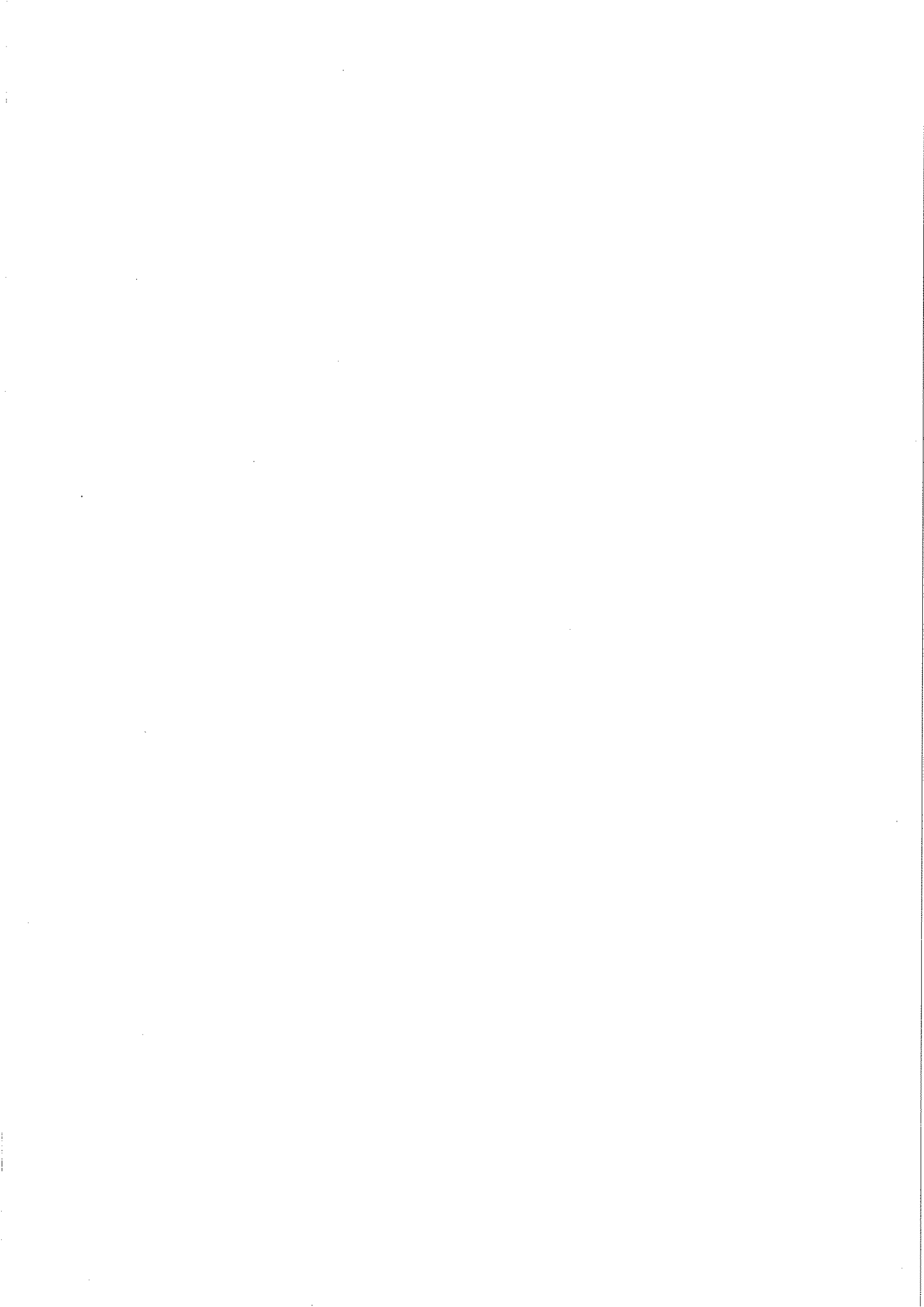
The enclosed annual return should be presented to the council/body/board, now that our audit opinion has been given, and a minute should be made to show that the annual return has been approved and accepted by the council/body/board. The annual return and notice of conclusion of audit should then be displayed in a conspicuous place(s) for 14 days.

If you have any questions please contact Louise Nyland in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Paul Bricknell
For and on behalf of BDO LLP

Enc.



Section 4 – Annual internal audit report to

CENTRAL DURHAM CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

The body's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ended 31 March 2012.

Internal audit has been carried out in accordance with the body's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the body.

Internal control objective	Agreed? Please choose from one of the following	
	Yes	No
A Appropriate accounting records have been kept properly throughout the year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B The body's financial regulations have been met, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C The body assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D The annual taxation or levy or funding requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with body approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
H Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
J Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, were supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records, and, where appropriate, debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For any other risk areas identified by the body (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed) adequate controls existed:

Print name of person who carried out the internal audit: AVEL WALKER

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit: _____ Date: 22.06.12

"Note: If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

"Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or, if coverage is not required, internal audit must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).

Section 1 – Accounting statements for:

CENTRAL DURHAM CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

Enter name of reporting body here:

	Year ending		Notes and guidance Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.
	31 March 2011 £	31 March 2012 £	
1 Balances brought forward	1,137,276	1,138,164	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the body's financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2 (+) Income from local taxation and/or levy	0	0	Total amount of local tax and/or levy received or receivable in the year including funding from a sponsoring body.
3 (+) Total other receipts	1,183,276	1,172,743	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less income from taxation and/or levy (line 2). Include any grants received here.
4 (-) Staff costs	(204,354)	(200,164)	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all body employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	(213,737)	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the body's borrowings (if any).
6 (-) All other payments	(167,504)	(125,019)	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7 (-) Balances carried forward	1,438,164	982,041	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)
8 Total cash and short term investments	1,334,271	869,807	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – to agree with bank reconciliation.
9 Total fixed assets and long term assets	591,719	2,480,918	The recorded book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the body and any other long term assets e.g. loans to third parties and any long-term investments.
10 Total borrowings	0	1,645,988	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2012 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of the body and its income and expenditure, or property present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer: _____

Date 27/06/12

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by the body on: 27.06.2012 and recorded as minute reference: MINUTE REFERENCE A12

Signed by Chair of meeting approving these accounting statements: A

Date 27/6/2012

Section 2 – Annual governance statement

We acknowledge as the members of CENTRAL DURHAM CREDIT UNION Joint Committee our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2012, that:

	Agreed –		Yes ¹ means that the body:
	Yes	No	
1 We approved the accounting statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prepared its accounting statements in the way prescribed by law.
2 We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3 We taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the body to conduct its business or on its finances.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it has done so.
4 We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	during the year has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the body's accounts.
5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing the body and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6 We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the body's accounting records and control systems.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of the body.
7 We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8 We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the body and where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.

This annual governance statement is approved by the body and recorded as minute reference

MINUTE REFERENCE AID
dated 27.06.2012

Signed by:
Chair, dated 27.6.2012
Clerk, dated 27.6.2012

***Note: Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how the body will address the weaknesses identified.**

Section 3 – External auditor's certificate and opinion

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2012 of: Central Durham Credit Union Joint Committee

Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

The body is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The body prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2012; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to our audit responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit in accordance with guidance issued by the Audit Commission and, on the basis of our review of the annual return and supporting information, to report whether any matters that come to our attention give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

External auditor's report

(Except for the matters reported below) on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. (~~delete as appropriate~~).

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the body:

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

External auditor's signature [Signature]
External auditor's name BDO LLP Southampton Date 4/9/12
United Kingdom

Note: The auditor signing this page has been appointed by the Audit Commission and is reporting to you that they have carried out and completed all the work that is required of them by law. For further information please refer to the Audit Commission's publication entitled 'Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Small Bodies'.