

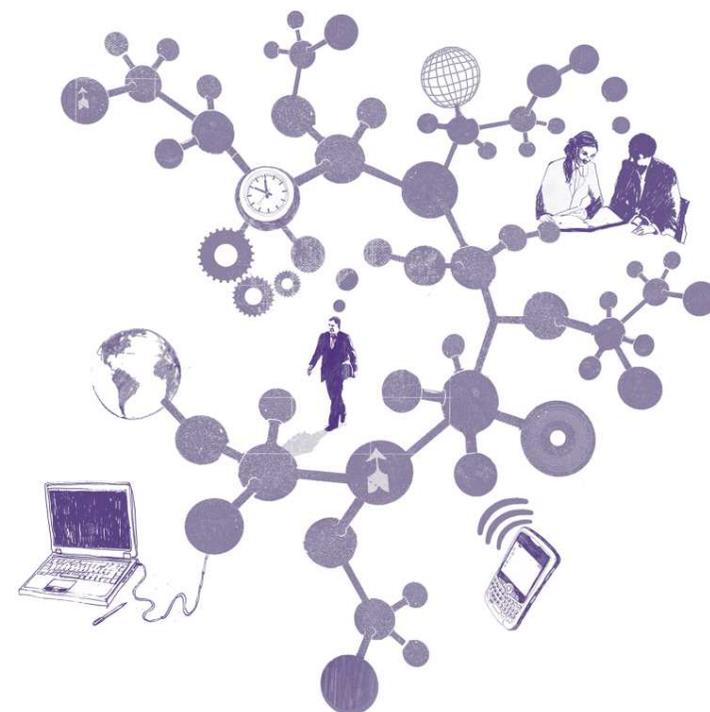


The Annual Audit Letter for Dartmoor National Park Authority

Year ended 31 March 2014

24 October 2014

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Key messages

Our Annual Audit Letter summarises the key findings arising from the work that we have carried out at Dartmoor National Park Authority ('the Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2014.

The Letter is intended to communicate key messages to the Authority and external stakeholders, including members of the public. Our annual work programme, which includes nationally prescribed and locally determined work, has been undertaken in accordance with the Audit Plan dated 16 May 2014 and was conducted in accordance with the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice, International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and other guidance issued by the Audit Commission.

Financial statements audit (including audit opinion)	<p>We reported the findings arising from our audit of the financial statements to the Authority in our Audit Findings Report on 5 September 2014. The key messages reported were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• only a small number of disclosure changes were made to the Authority's accounts;• management should perform an overview of the asset valuations outside the formal cyclical revaluation programme; and• the need for a contingent liability within the Authority's financial statements relating to a historic, pass through grant for farmers should be kept under review. <p>We issued an unqualified opinion on the Authority's 2013/14 financial statements on 26 September 2014, meeting the deadline set by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Our opinion confirms that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Authority's financial position and of the income and expenditure recorded by the Authority.</p>
Value for Money (VfM) conclusion	<p>We issued an unqualified VfM conclusion for 2013/14 on 26 September 2014.</p> <p>On the basis of our work, and having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission, we are satisfied that in all significant respects the Authority put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2014.</p>

Key messages

Whole of Government Accounts	We reviewed the consolidation pack which the Authority prepared to support the production of Whole of Government Accounts. We reported that the Authority's pack was consistent with the audited financial statements and was below the threshold for further auditing.
Audit fee	Our fee for 2013/14 was £11, 807, excluding VAT, which was in line with our planned fee for the year. Further detail is included within appendix B.

Appendix A: Key issues and recommendations

This appendix summarises the significant recommendations made during the 2013/14 audit.

No.	Issue and recommendation	Priority	Management response/ responsible office/ due date
1.	<p>The Authority's assets are revalued in accordance with a formal revaluation cycle and not on an annual basis.</p> <p>Recommendation: In accordance with International Accounting Standards, management should perform a review, on an annual basis, of all assets which have not been revalued in-year.</p>	High	<p>Management response: Management will liaise with the valuer in-year to assess how this can be performed.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Donna Healy Due date: June 2015</p>
2.	<p>The Authority had previously included a contingent liability in its financial statements relating to the possible repayment of a DEFRA grant. This was removed in 2013/14.</p> <p>Recommendation: The Authority should continue to review the need to disclose a contingent liability for this item.</p>	High	<p>Management response: This was confirmed at the Authority meeting on 5 September 2014.</p>

Appendix B: Reports issued and audit fees

We confirm below the fee charged for the audit and confirm there were no fees for the provision of non audit services.

Fees

	Per Audit plan £	Actual fees £
Main audit	£11,807	£11,807
Total audit fees	£11,807	£11,807

Fees for other services

Service	Fees £
None	Nil

Reports issued

Report	Date issued
Audit Plan	May 2014
Audit Findings Report	September 2014
Annual Audit Letter	October 2014



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