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Grant Thornton UK LLP
Bryanston Court
Selden Hill
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP2 4TN

Enquiries to: Janice Maule
Phone no: 01923 278189
Our reference: JM
Your reference:
Date:

Dear Sirs

We are writing to confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief, and having made appropriate enquiries of other officers of the authority, the following representations given to you in respect of your audit of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2008.

- i we acknowledge our responsibilities for ensuring that financial statements are prepared which present fairly the financial position of the authority and for making accurate representations to you
- ii as far as we are aware:
 - a there is no relevant audit information of which you are unaware; and
 - b we have taken all steps that we ought to have taken to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information
- iii all the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the authority have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records
- iv all other records and related information, including minutes of all authority and Committee meetings, have been made available to you
- v we acknowledge our responsibilities for making the accounting estimates included in the financial statements. Where it was necessary to choose between estimation techniques that comply with the 2007 SORP, we selected the estimation technique considered to be the most appropriate to the authority's particular circumstances for the purpose of giving a presents fairly view. Those estimates reflect our judgement based on our knowledge and experience about past and current events and are also based on our assumptions about



conditions we expect to exist and courses of action we expect to take. In that regard, adequate provisions have been made:

- i. to reduce debtors to their estimated collectable amounts;
 - ii. for any impairment losses identified in relation to tangible fixed assets;
- vi on the basis of the process we established to enable us to include the information required by FRS 17 "Retirement benefits" in our financial statements, and having made appropriate enquiries, we confirm that we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the valuation of scheme liabilities are consistent with our knowledge of the business. We confirm that all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for. We also confirm that all significant retirement benefits have been identified and properly accounted for unfunded commitments
 - vii the financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions
 - viii we acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal controls to prevent and detect error and fraud
 - ix we have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud
 - x we are not aware of any irregularities, including fraud, involving management or employees of the authority; nor are we aware of any instances of actual or possible non-compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, agreements or the authority's constitution that might result in the authority suffering significant penalties or other loss. No allegations of such irregularities, including fraud, or such non-compliance have come to our notice
 - xi we have disclosed to you all related parties and there were no transactions with officers, members or other related parties which should be disclosed in the financial statements
 - xii except as stated in the accounts:
 - a there are no unrecorded liabilities, actual or contingent
 - b none of the assets of the authority has been assigned, pledged or mortgaged
 - c there are no material prior year charges or credits, nor exceptional or non-recurring items requiring separate disclosure.
 - xiii there are no employee or other claims, legal proceedings or other matters which may lead to a loss falling on the authority or which could result in the creation of an unrecorded liability, that should be disclosed in the financial statements
 - xiv the authority has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There has been no non-compliance with requirements of regulatory authorities that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance
 - xv we have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements

- xvi no significant events having an effect on the financial position of the authority have taken place since the balance sheet date which necessitate revision of the figures included in the financial statements or inclusion of a note thereto
- xvii we believe that the authority's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the authority's needs. We believe that as at 22 September, 2008 no further disclosures relating to the authority's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.
- xviii we have not adjusted the misstatements brought to our attention on the audit differences and adjustments summary, attached to this letter, as they are immaterial to the results of the authority and financial position at the year-end
- xix The transfer of housing stock from Watford Borough Council to Watford Community Housing Trust under the large scale voluntary transfer scheme has been correctly accounted for under the conditions of the transfer scheme and the transfer has been correctly accounted for in the Council's year ended 31 March 2008 financial statements.

The financial statements have been fully explained to and discussed with us.

Approval

The approval of this letter of representation was minuted by the Audit Committee at its meeting on 22 September 2008.

Signed on behalf of Watford Borough Council.

Signed	Signed
Name Alastair Robertson	Name Janice Maule
Position Managing Director	Position Director of Finance
Date	Date