

ABSTRACT OF 2008 SORP INVITATION TO COMMENT QUESTIONS

You may find the attached abstract of the 2008 SORP ITC questions a convenient tool for formulating your response.

GAAP DEVELOPMENTS			
Financial Reporting Standards		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q1	<p>Do you agree that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment to FRS 3 <i>Reporting Financial Performance</i> • Amendment to FRS 17 <i>Retirement Benefits</i> <p>are the only financial reporting standards developments that need to be included in amendments to the SORP?</p>	A	<i>To the best of our knowledge</i>
Q2	Do you agree with the amendments to the SORP proposed in respect of the amended financial reporting standards above?	A	

Reporting Statement on Retirement Benefit Disclosures		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q3	Do you agree that no amendments to the SORP are required in respect of the <i>Reporting Statement on Retirement Benefits</i> recently published by the Accounting Standards Board?	A	

UITF Abstracts			
		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q4	<p>Do you agree that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UITF Abstract 43 <i>The Interpretation of Equivalence for the Purposes of Section 228A of the Companies Act 1985</i> • UITF Abstract 44 <i>FRS 20 Group and Treasury Share Transactions</i> • UITF Abstract 45 <i>Liabilities Arising from Participating in a Specific Market – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment</i> <p>are the only UITF Abstract developments that need to be included in amendments to the SORP?</p>	A	
Q5	Do you agree with the amendments to the SORP proposed in respect of these new UITF Abstracts?	A	

Financial Reports of Pension Schemes A statement of Recommended Practice (Revised May 2007)			
		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q6	Do you agree with the proposed amendments to the Pensions Fund Account section of Chapter 5 of the SORP paragraphs 5.43 to 5.45a to update the section for the amendments to the Pension SORP?	A	

Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q7	Do you agree with the proposed new paragraph in SORP Appendix A briefly explaining the significance of the <i>Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities</i> ? If not please indicate how you would wish to see the entry amended.	A	

Information Paper Number 10 *The Depreciated Replacement Cost Method of Valuation for Financial Reporting*

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q8	Do you agree that paragraph 3.130 of the 2007 SORP should be amended to make it clear that DRC should only be used where market evidence of existing use value is not available? If not please give your reasons.	A	

THE STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL AND THE STATEMENT ON THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROL

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q9	Do you agree with amending the table following paragraph 8.2 to show the <i>Information to be Included in the Annual Governance Statement</i> rather than the <i>Information to be Included in the Statement on Internal Control</i> ?	A	
Q10	Do you have any comments on the proposed amendments to Chapter 8? If so please give details of the changes you would like to propose.	None	

OTHER AMENDMENTS**The Police Pension Scheme in England and Wales and the Firefighters' Pension Schemes in England and the Firefighters' Pension Scheme in Wales**

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q11	Do you agree that the different arrangements for receiving pension top-up grant to meet a Pension Fund deficit and for paying over Pension Fund surpluses to central government contained in the Firefighters' and Police pension funding regulations requires the SORP to be amended?	<i>N/A</i>	
Q12	Do you agree with the amendments to the SORP proposed in paragraphs 5.46 to 5.49 of the Exposure Draft?	<i>N/A</i>	

Landfill Allowances Schemes

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q13	Do you agree that the scope of paragraphs 3.46 to 3.51 of the SORP, which cover 'cap and trade' landfill allowance schemes, should be extended to cover Scotland from 1 April 2008?	<i>N/A</i>	

Deferred charges		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q14	Do you agree with the proposal to call the <i>Deferred Charges</i> section in the 2007 SORP (paragraphs 3.19 to 3.20) <i>Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Resources</i> ?	A	
Q15	Do you agree with the proposed amendments to paragraphs 3.19 to 3.20? If not please give your reasons.	A	

Intangible Assets

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q16	Do you agree with the proposed amendments contained in paragraphs 3.35 to 3.37 of the Exposure Draft SORP? If not please give your reasons.	A	

Back Pay Arising From Unequal Pay Claims

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q17	Do you agree with the SORP Board's proposed amendments to the SORP in respect of back pay arising from unequal pay claims contained in paragraphs 3.12c to 3.12e of the Exposure Draft SORP? If not, please say how you would like the proposals to be amended.	A	

Authorised for issue date			
		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q18	<p>Do you agree that a local authority issues its accounts in two stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the accounts approved by, or submitted, to the authority; and • the accounts 'published', or 'laid before the authority and made available for inspection and sale', at the conclusion of the audit, <p>and that both have a formal legislative based status?</p> 	A	

Authorised for issue date (continued)

		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q19	<p>Do you agree that under the current regime for preparing and auditing the statement of accounts events after the balance date will in effect have been considered by the authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for the accounts approved by or submitted to the authority, up to the date that the Responsible Financial Officer or Proper Officer certifies the accounts present fairly the financial position at the year end and its income and expenditure? • for the accounts published, or laid before the authority and made available for inspection and sale, by the authority, up to the date the auditor issues the formal opinion and certificate of completion? <p>If not please say up to what date you believe an authority considers events after the balance sheet date at these two stages in the statement of accounts process.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A</p>	

Authorised for issue date (continued)			
		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q20	Do you agree that the responsible financial officer/proper officer should re-sign and re-date the accounts that are published/laid before the authority following completion of the audit?	A	
Q21	If 'Yes' to Q20, do you agree that the accounts should be signed and dated on the date the auditor gives the formal audit opinion and certificate of completion? If not please say how you consider the date should be determined.	A	

Authorised for issue date (continued)			
		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q22	Do you agree that a statement of accounts on which the auditor has given an opinion before issue of the formal and certificate of completion should be re-signed and re-dated by the responsible financial officer/proper officer?	A	
Q23	If 'Yes' to Q22, do you agree that the accounts should be signed and dated on the date the auditor gives the audit opinion? If not please say how you consider the date should be determined.	A	
Q24	Do you agree that where an authority in England, Northern Ireland and Wales under legislation publishes its accounts by the specified date without a formal audit opinion and certificate of audit completion the responsible financial officer should re-sign and re-date the accounts?	A	

Area Based Grant			
		Agree (A) Disagree (D)	Comments
Q25	Do you agree that Area Based Grant is a general grant, which should be included in the Income and Expenditure Account with other general income sources such as income from the collection fund and NDR distribution?	A	
Q26	Do you agree that the following disclosures on Area Based Grant should be included as a note to the core financial statements? <i>"Sufficient information on Area Based Grant received to allow for the understanding of the authority's financial affairs."</i>	A	

TAXATION IMPACTS OF THE CHANGES TO ACCOUNTING FOR FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS INTRODUCED BY THE 2007 SORP

		Comments
Q27	Have you encountered situations not covered by regulations/statutory guidance that have a significant impact on taxation? If so, please give details of the matter.	None

MATTERS NOT COVERED BY THE 2008 SORP INVITATION TO COMMENT

		Comments
Q28	Do you consider that there are additional amendments that need to be made to the 2008 SORP? If so, please give details of the matter.	None