



**Shape the future  
with confidence**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **Issue of audit opinion on the financial statements**

In our audit report for the year ended 31 March 2024 issued on 25 February 2025 we reported that we could not express an opinion on the financial statements.

### **Certificate**

In our report dated 25 February 2025, we explained that we could not formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until the NAO as group auditor has confirmed that no further assurances will be required from us as component auditors of Essex County Council. This confirmation has now been received.

No other matters have come to our attention since that date that would have resulted in additional exception reporting on significant weaknesses in the Authority's Value for Money arrangements.

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts of Essex County Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

*Mark Hodgson*

*Ernst & Young LLP*

Date: *13<sup>th</sup>* ..... October 2025

**Mark Hodgson (Key Audit Partner)**  
Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor)  
Cambridge