

Wigan Council

Audit of accounts year ended 31st March 2020

Notice of public rights

**The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014
The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020**

Notice is hereby given that the unaudited statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 has been published on the Council's website.

The statement of accounts is unaudited and may be subject to change.

Changes to Financial Reporting Deadlines for 2020

In response to the unprecedented situation of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to reduce immediate pressure on councils and auditors to meet statutory audit deadlines, the Accounts and Audit regulations 2015 have been amended for the financial year 2019/20 to allow the publication of the statement of accounts and public inspection of the accounts to be delayed.

Public Inspection Period

To give local authorities more flexibility, the requirement for the public inspection period to include the first 10 working days of June has been removed. Instead, local authorities must commence the public inspection period on or before the first working day of September 2020.

Notice is given from 28 August 2020 to 8 October 2020 between 10am until 4pm on weekdays (excluding bank holiday) any person may inspect and make copies of the accounts and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other related documents of the Council for the year ended 31st March 2020, as stipulated in Sections 25 and 26 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The accounts and other documents will be available for inspection at Wigan Town Hall, Library Street, Wigan, WN1 1YN by prior arrangement. Please telephone 01942 827244 to make an appointment.

During this period, a local government elector for any area to which the accounts relate, or their representative, may question the auditor about the accounts or make an objection to the accounts as set out in sections 26 and 27 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Any objection and the grounds on which it is made must be sent to the auditor in writing, with a copy to Alison McKenzie-Folan, Chief Executive at the address below. Any objection must state the grounds on which the objection is being made and particulars of:

- i) any item of account which is alleged to be contrary to law; and

ii) any matter in respect of which it is proposed that the auditor could make a public interest report under section 24 of, and paragraph 1 of Schedule 7 to, the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Objections should be addressed to the auditor, Mazars LLP at One St Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 3DE.

[View a guide that explains your rights.](#)

Publication of the audited accounts

The publication date for audited accounts will move from 31 July 2020 to 20 November 2020 for all local authority bodies.

Date: 25th August 2020

Alison McKenzie-Folan
Chief Executive
Wigan Town Hall, Library Street
Wigan
WN1 1YN