

Epping Forest District Council

Notice of the Commencement of the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) Amendment Regulations 2021 (SI 2021/263)

The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) Amendments Regulations 2021 stipulates a revised public inspection period commencing no later than 1st August 2021 for the 2020/21 Statement of Accounts. However, exceptional demands on the Council's Finance team, including the effects of the late running 2019/20 audit, has led to a temporary delay in the publication of the draft Statement of Accounts. Notice is hereby given that the publication of the draft (unaudited) 2020/21 Statement of Accounts – on the Council's website – will now take place on 10th September 2021.

Notice is given that from 13th September – 22nd October 2021 inclusive between 9am and 4.30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, any person interested or any journalist (any person who produces for publication journalistic material, whether paid to do so or otherwise) may on reasonable notice inspect and make copies of the Accounts of Epping Forest District Council for the year ended 31st March 2021 and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts, except as provided for in Section 26(4) to 26(6) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in relation to commercially confidential and personal information.

The Accounts and other documents will be available for inspection at the address below, or otherwise by arrangement.

Notice is given that from 13th September to 22nd October 2021 the auditor, at the request of a local government elector for the Council's area, will give the elector or his representative an opportunity to question him about the Accounts.

Notice is given that from 13th September to 22nd October 2021, any such elector may make objections to the Auditor, under Section 27 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, relating to any matter where the Auditor could take action under:

- Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, namely, to apply to the court for a declaration that an item in the Accounts is contrary to law; and/or
- Section 24 and paragraph 1 of Schedule 7 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, namely, to make a Report in the Public Interest.

No objection may be made unless the Auditor has previously received written notice of the proposed objection, specifying the facts on which the objector relies and the grounds on which the objection is being made. A copy of that written notice must also be sent to the Council at the address below.

Notice is given that the Auditor is Mr Craig Wisdom, Deloitte UK, 3 Victoria Square, Victoria Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire. AL1 3TF to whom any questions and notices of objection should be addressed.

Andrew Small CPFA

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