

DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS

The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021
The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 the commencement period for the exercise of public rights to inspect the accounts and related documents should include the first 10 working days of June. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed changes made to the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021 amends the draft accounts' deadline, public inspection period and extends the statutory audit deadlines for the 2020/21 accounts.

Inspection period for 2020/21 accounts

Notice is hereby given under Regulation 15(2)(b) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 that from 23 July 2021 until 6 September 2021 between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm on weekdays 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 31 March 2021, as stipulated in Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The accounts and other documents will be available for inspection at Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR by prior arrangement. Please telephone 01322 343256 to make an appointment. The accounts will also be available at www.dartford.gov.uk

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 the Head of Finance, Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR. 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, Grant Thornton UK LLP, 110 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AY.

A guide to your rights can be found at <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2015/03/Council-accounts-a-guide-to-your-rights.pdf>

Date: 23 July 2021

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