

# GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL - AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

## Notice for the commencement of the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights

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

NOTICE is given that the unaudited statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 has been published on the Council's website at [www.guildford.gov.uk/soa](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/soa). The statement of accounts is unaudited and may be subject to change.

The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 gives local authorities more flexibility to deal with the impact of COVID-19 by removing the requirement for the public inspection period to include the first 10 working days of June. Instead local authorities must (for this year only) commence the 30 working days public inspection period on or before the first working day of September 2020.

NOTICE is given under Regulation 15(2)(b) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 that from 1 September 2020 to 13 October 2020 between 10.00 am and 4.30 pm Mondays to Fridays, 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 2020, as stipulated in Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Application should be made to the Director of Resources, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4BB (Tel: 01483 505050 or e-mail: [finacc@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:finacc@guildford.gov.uk)) in advance, to arrange a time for inspection.

Due to Covid-19, the Council offices are currently closed to members of the public so special arrangements will need to be made.

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 Lead Specialist Finance at the address above. 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.

The Council's external auditor is Grant Thornton UK LLP, 110 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4AY, to whom any questions and notices of objections should be addressed. Due to Covid-19 these can be emailed to [Sarah.L.Ironmonger@uk.gt.com](mailto:Sarah.L.Ironmonger@uk.gt.com)

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>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. M. O.', is written over a horizontal line.

Claire Morris  
Chief Financial Officer  
Guildford Borough Council  
Millmead House  
Millmead  
Surrey  
GU2 4BB

31 August 2020