

Havant Borough Council

Statement of Accounts 2019/20 – Public Inspection Notice

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

Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Act 2017

The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) Amendments Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/404)

The period for the exercise of public rights commences would usually include the first 10 working days of June to coincide with the statutory deadline for completion of the accounts by 31st May. However due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the statutory deadline has been extended to 31st August 2020 resulting in a public inspection period commencing no later than 1st September 2020. The revised inspection period for Havant Borough Council is 9am on the 25th August 2020 and will conclude at 5pm on the 5th October 2020.

The following documents, which will be unaudited and that as published may be subject to change, will be made available by 24th August 2020 on the Council's website at

<https://www.havant.gov.uk/accounts>

- The Statement of Accounts incorporating:
- The Annual Governance Statement; and
- The Narrative Report.

The Council's accounts are subject to external audit by Kevin Suter, for and on behalf of Ernst and Young LLP, Wessex House, 19 Threefield Lane, Southampton SO14 3QB (email: ksuter@uk.ey.com). Members of the Public and local government electors have certain rights in the audit process:

1. Any person may inspect the accounting records of the Council for the financial year to 31 March 2020, and certain related documents (comprising books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts) at the address given below during normal office hours Monday to Friday. They may also make copies of the accounts and documents.
2. A local government elector for the area of the Council, or his/her representative, may ask the auditor questions about the accounts. Please contact the auditor at the address given above to make arrangements to ask any questions.
3. A local government elector for the area of the Council or his/her representative may object to the Council's accounts (under section 27 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014) asking that the auditor issue a report in the public interest or apply for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful (under section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014). Written notice of the proposed objection and the grounds on which it will be made must be sent to the auditor at the address given above and also copied to the Council at the address given below.

4. A comprehensive guide to your rights can be found at <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-auditpractice/council-accounts-a-guide-to-your-rights/>

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