



AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020
NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 stipulates that a local authority's accounts and supporting documentation should be made available for public inspection over ten working days within a set period dictated by the statutory audit deadline. This would normally equate to the first ten working days of June. However on the 16th March the Secretary of State announced his intention to extend the statutory audit deadlines for 2019/20 financial statements to take account of the increasing impacts of COVID-19. This has meant that the publication date for final audited accounts has moved from 31 July to 30 September 2020 and that local authorities have been given more flexibility as to the date of publication and period of inspection of their accounts.

In light of the above notice is hereby given under Regulation 15(2)(b) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 that from 7th to 25th September between 9am and 4pm 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 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council for the year ended 31st March 2020, as stipulated in Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The accounts and other documents will be available for inspection at Moorlands House, Stockwell Street Leek by prior arrangement. Please telephone 0345 605 3016 to make an appointment. The accounts will also be available at www.staffsmoorlands.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 Finance and Procurement Manager, Moorlands House, Stockwell Street, Leek ST13 6HQ 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 at The Colmore Building, 20 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6AT.

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

Date: 7th September 2020

A Stokes
Acting Chief Executive

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Moorlands House
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Leek
Staffordshire
ST13 6HQ