

Worcestershire County Council

**Statement of Accounts 2021/22 – 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 (Revised)
Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Act 2017
The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) Amendments Regulations 2021 (SI 2021/263)**

Please note that in response to COVID-19 the requirement to prepare draft accounts by 31 May has been extended to 31 July in accordance with MHCLG guidance and the requirement for the public inspection period to include the first 10 working days of June has been removed. Instead, local authorities must commence the public inspection period on or before the first working day of August 2022.

Notice is hereby given that from 4 July to 12 August 2022 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 the Council for the year ended 31 March 2022, as stipulated in Sections 25 and 26 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

The following unaudited documents will be made available by 4 July 2022 on the Council's website www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20024/council_finance/197/statement_of_accounts:

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

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 Chief Financial Officer, Worcestershire County Council, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP. 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 Grant Thornton UK LLP, Colmore Plaza, 20 Colmore Circus, BIRMINGHAM, West Midlands, B4 6AT by telephone on 0121 212 4000. 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>

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