

Runnymede Borough Council

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS - YEARS ENDED 31 March 2024

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 Regulations

The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024

The Council's external auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP, has not yet concluded their audit of the 2023-24 Statement of Accounts. The Government put in place the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 which set out a "Backstop" date which required outstanding 2023/24 audits to be signed off by the auditor in some form, as well as a value for money statement by 28 February 2025.

The delay in meeting this deadline has arisen as the auditors of the accounts up to the 2022/23 year (BDO) are considering a matter relating to the Council's compliance with relevant laws and regulations in the 2019-20 financial year. This has meant that the auditor's report for the 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 years have not yet been signed, and therefore the Council is exempt from the backstop for 2023-24 under Regulation 9A of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Whilst the Council has not been able to meet its statutory deadlines, we are working closely with our external auditors to ensure that the audit of the accounts is finalised as soon as possible. Whilst the draft accounts have been published on our website, these will be replaced by the audited statement of accounts once the external audit is completed.

Dated 26 February 2025

Amanda Fahey
Assistant Chief Executive & Responsible Financial Officer

Runnymede Borough Council
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