

Runnymede Borough Council

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS - YEARS ENDED 31 March 2025

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 and 2024-25 Statement of Accounts. The Government put in place the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 which set out a "Backstop" date which required outstanding audits to be signed off by the auditor in some form, as well as a value for money statement by 27 February 2026.

The delay in meeting this deadline was because the auditors of the accounts up to the 2022/23 year (BDO) were considering a matter relating to the Council's compliance with relevant laws and regulations in the 2019-20 financial year and did not issue their opinions or certify the accounts closed for 2019/20 to 2022/23 until today, the backstop deadline. The timing of the receipt of the 2019/20 to 2022/23 opinions did not leave the auditors for 2023/24 and 2024/25 Grant Thornton, time to complete their work by the backstop date of 27 February.

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 27 February 2026

Amanda Fahey
Assistant Chief Executive & Responsible Financial Officer

Runnymede Borough Council
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