

Notice of rights of inspection in relation to the draft statement of accounts of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (and Group) for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

The Statement of Accounts for 2023/24 is unaudited and that, as published, it may be subject to change.

Rights to inspect the statement of accounts and accounting records

Sections 25 and 26 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (as amended 2022) provide local government electors within the area the right to inspect and make copies of the statement of accounts, accounting records and all documents relating to those records, for the financial year ended 31 March 2024. The Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Act 2017 extends those rights to journalists.

These rights may be exercised from 1st July 2024 to 9th August 2024 between the hours of 10am and 4pm at Municipal Buildings, Church Road, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1LD, by informing Andy Bryson of your intention to exercise your rights. Andy Bryson can be contacted on 01642 528850 or email andy.bryson@stockton.gov.uk.

Alternatively contact Suzanne Lloyd on 01642 526450 or email suzanne.lloyd@stockton.gov.uk

Rights to question the auditor and to make objections at audit

Under section 26 of the Act, a local government elector may question the auditor about the accounting records for the financial year ended 31 March 2024 and, under section 27 of the Act, a local government elector may make an objection to the auditor which:

- concerns a matter in respect of which the auditor could make a public interest report under section 24 of the Act; or
- concerns an item of account in respect of which the auditor could apply for a declaration that the item is unlawful under section 28 of the Act.

These rights may be exercised from 1st July 2024 to 9th August 2024. Any requests to question the auditor and any objections must be made in writing to the auditor to the following address:

Forvis Mazars
The Corner
Bank Chambers
26 Mosley Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 1DF

No objection may be made unless the auditor has previously received written notice of the proposed objection, specifying the facts on which the objector relies and the grounds on which the objection is being made. A copy of that written notice must also be sent to the Council at the address above.