**LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015**

**The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2022**

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2022 Regulation 10 require the Council to publish the unaudited Statement of Accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2024 by 31 May 2024. Furthermore, they require the Council to publish its audited accounts and opinions by 30 September 2024.

If the Authority is not able to publish audited accounts by this date, then the Authority is required to publish reasons for this.

The delay has arisen due to the external audit of the draft statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 not yet being completed, which has subsequently affected the production of accounts for years ended 31 March 2021, 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023.

This delay has arisen due to the need to amend the presentation of the accounts originally published in October 2020, and for the audit review of the updated accounts to be completed.

The latest position regarding the progress of the 2019-20 accounts can be found in the following report to the Audit and Governance Committee:

14th March 2024 – Item 7

<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=479&MId=3537>

As a consequence of the above, the Council is not able to complete and publish the draft Statement of Accounts for 2023-24 and commence the period for the exercise of public inspection.

The Council will publish a draft set of accounts as soon as reasonably practicable, following which the period for the exercise of public inspection will commence.

The Audit and Governance Committee will consider the results of the audits for all outstanding years once they are available, after which we will publish the final audited accounts. This is subject to any further changes in legislation regarding the audit of accounts.

Dated: 4 June, 2024

Jane West

Corporate Director for Resources and Section 151 Officer

Bernard Weatherill House