Watford Borough Council

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Notice is hereby given under Regulation 15(2)(b) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 that from **Tuesday 1 September 2020 to Monday 12 October 2020**, Mondays to Fridays inclusive between 9am and 4.45pm 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 2020, as stipulated in Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Three Rivers District Council will continue to follow Government guidelines regarding COVID-19 and in particular social distancing guidance in order to keep the public and staff safe. Therefore the accounts and other documents will be available for inspection at Watford Borough Council, Town Hall, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 3EX by prior arrangement. Please telephone 01923 776611 to make an appointment. The <u>accounts will also be available on this</u> website.

This is a departure from the previous right to inspect due to the Coronavirus pandemic and are laid out in <u>The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus)(Amendment) Regulations 2020</u>.

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 Director of Finance, Town Hall, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 3EX. 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, Ms Maria Grindley of Ernst & Young LLP, Apex Plaza, Forbury Road, Reading, RG1 1YE.

View the <u>guide to your rights</u> regarding the inspection of our accounts.

Alison Scott (Director of Finance) Town Hall, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 3EX