

# **DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **Notice of Delay in Publication of Unaudited 2023/24 Statement of Accounts and in the Commencement of the Public Inspection Period**

Under section 26 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, any persons interested have a right at the audit of the accounts each year to inspect the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records.

Regulations 14 and 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended) require that this right (and associated rights) are exercisable over a single period of 30 working days, commencing no later than 1st June 2024. If this deadline cannot be met, the council is required to publish a notice of delay.

Notice is given that:

1) The Council has not yet published the draft Statement of Accounts for 2023/24 and commenced the period for the exercise of public inspection.

2) 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 council has been unable to meet this requirement due to delays in finalising and signing off the Statement of Accounts for 2020/21. The adjustments from the partial audit of the 2020/21 Statement of Accounts had a knock-on effect on the completion of the 2021/22 and 2022/23 accounts. This has subsequently caused a delay to the completion of the 2023/24 draft statement of accounts and consequently in the commencement of the public inspection period.

A further notice will be published in due course setting out the public inspection period as soon as the draft 2023/24 Statement of Accounts have been finalised.

Mike Davis

Strategic Director (Finance & Housing), Section 151 Officer

31<sup>st</sup> May 2024