

## **Runnymede Borough Council**

### **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS - YEARS ENDED 31 March 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023**

#### **Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014**

#### **Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 Regulations**

#### **The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024**

The Council's external auditor, BDO LLP, has not yet concluded their audits of the 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 Statement of Accounts. The Government put in place the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 which set out a "Backstop" date which required all outstanding audits up to 2022/23 to be signed off by the auditor in some form, as well as a value for money statement incorporating all years not audited, by 13 December 2024.

The delay in meeting this deadline has arisen due to the auditors considering a matter relating to the Council's compliance with relevant laws and regulations in the 2019-20 financial year and therefore the Council is exempt from the backstop under Regulation 9A of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

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 for some time, these will be replaced by the audited statement of accounts once the external auditors have completed their work and issued their opinion on the accounts.

Dated 16 December 2024

Amanda Fahey  
Assistant Chief Executive & Responsible Financial Officer

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