

# **COLCHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

## **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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

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

#### **Notice of Delay in Publication of the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts**

Colchester City Council gives notice that it will not be able to publish its final audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 by the statutory deadline of 27 February 2026, as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended). The requirement in such circumstances is to publish a notice explaining the reasons for the delay and to publish the accounts as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

The primary reason for the delay is the need for additional work on the Council's Value for Money (VFM) audit by the external auditor. The main financial statements for 2024/25 have been completed and are currently awaiting the conclusion of the external auditor's VFM work and therefore the audit opinion. The final report from Internal Audit is being concluded upon which time, the Accounts can be formally approved and presented to the Audit Committee for final sign-off.

The Council acknowledges its responsibility to ensure transparent financial reporting and to publish its audited Statement of Accounts as soon as reasonably practicable in accordance with the applicable regulations. The Council is working closely with its external auditors and Internal Audit, and it is currently anticipated that the final audited 2024/25 Statement of Accounts, together with the associated audit opinion and accountability statements, will be published by the end of March 2026.

For any enquiries regarding this notice, please contact the Finance Team at Colchester City Council by email at: [CI\\_FinanceTechnical@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:CI_FinanceTechnical@colchester.gov.uk)