

**BEDFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**AUDIT AND INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS 2022/23**

NOTICE OF THE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PERIOD FOR THE EXERCISE  
OF PUBLIC RIGHTS

**The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014**

**The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015**

Notice is hereby given that the accounts of Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, in respect of the financial year ended 31 March 2023, will be available for public inspection as set out below:

**1. Sections 26 and 27 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 provide for:**

- Any person interested has the opportunity to inspect and make copies of the accounts and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts etc. relating to them. For the year ended 31 March 2023, these documents will be available giving two full days' notice on application to the person in paragraph 2 below.

Local Government Electors and their representatives have rights to:

- question the auditor about the accounts; and
- object to the accounts for any item in them. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the Auditor and a copy sent to the Authority.

The Auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose.

**2. Person to which you can apply to inspect the accounts:**

Title: Business Support Manager

Address: Southfields Road, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 7NR

Email: [governance@bedsfire.gov.uk](mailto:governance@bedsfire.gov.uk)

The unaudited Statement of Accounts has been available on the authority's website [www.bedsfire.com](http://www.bedsfire.com) since July 2023. As they are unaudited they may be subject to change. A copy of the unaudited accounts can be viewed on application to the Business Support Manager at the above address, between 9.00am and 4.30pm on weekdays between 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024. They are also available via the following link <https://www.bedsfire.gov.uk/about-us/finance-and-budgets>

**3. Any rights of inspection, objection, and questioning of the Auditor may only be exercised within a single period of 30 working days:**

Commencing on: **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

and ending on: **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**4. Your appointed Auditor is:**

Debbie Hanson, Partner, Government & Public Sector

Ernst & Young LLP, 400 Capability Green, Luton, Beds. LU1 3LU

For more detailed guidance on electors' rights and the special powers of auditors, copies of the publication 'Council Accounts - A Guide to Your Rights' are available from the National Audit Office website. <https://www.nao.org.uk/insights/local-authority-accounts-a-guide-to-your-rights/>