

# WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL



## NOTICE OF AUDIT DELAY

As a result of the coronavirus outbreak, the Town Council's Internal Audit is to be undertaken remotely. Once the Internal Auditor has produced his report, the Council will sign off the end of year accounts and the Annual Return for the year ending March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. Draft accounts must be made available before August 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.

Further information about the changes this year can be found by accessing the link below to the new Regulations.

[SI 2020/404 The Accounts and Audit \(Coronavirus\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020](#). This legislation amends the deadline by which the Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Accounts of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) together with any certificate or opinion issued by the local auditor must be published, from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

The previous requirement was for smaller authorities to have a common period for the exercise of public rights, being the first 10 working days of July. Under the new regulations there is no requirement for a common period for the exercise of public rights. Smaller authorities are still required to set a period for this purpose, but the only requirement is that the 30-working day period for the exercise of public rights should start on or before the first working day of September, i.e. on or before 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020. This legislation came into force from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.