



South Cambridgeshire Hall | Cambourne Business Park | Cambourne | Cambridge | CB23 6EA

Dear Mr Fulton,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 19 August 2022 containing a request to inspect certain documents related to the Council's accounts for the year 2020/21 at noon on 24 August 2022 and stating an intention to apply for judicial review if inspection is not permitted then.

As the Council has reported to its Audit and Governance Committee, and has publicly stated on its [website](#), the Council has not yet completed its accounts for the year 2019/20, meaning there will be a delay to the completion and publication of the accounts for the year 2020/21.

In accordance with Regulation 10(2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Council has published a notice stating that it has not been able to publish its statement of accounts for the year 2020/21 and the reasons for this. The Council intends to publish its statement of accounts as soon as reasonably practicable after the receipt of any report from the local auditor.

Similarly, in accordance with Regulation 15(1A) of the 2015 Regulations, the Council has published a notice stating that it has not been able to commence the period for the exercise of public rights and the reasons for this. The Council intends to commence the period for the exercise of public rights as soon as reasonably practicable.

Therefore, I must inform you that documents related to the Council's accounts for the year 2020/21 will not be made available for your inspection on 24 August 2022.

I do not accept that the Council has breached the statutory right of interested persons to inspect documents related to the Council's accounts. The 2015 Regulations provide for the situation where the completion of accounts is delayed and the Council has complied with the relevant requirements of the Regulations. You and any other interested person will be able to fully exercise rights of inspection when the statement of accounts for the year 2020/21 is published in due course.

I also note that you have been provided with extensive disclosure of documents relating to the contract with HR Wallingford Ltd via the freedom of information process.

For these reasons the Council will resist any claim for judicial review relating to this matter.

Regards

**Rory McKenna**

Monitoring Officer (South Cambridgeshire District Council)