20 July 2023



Dear

Re: Freedom of Information request ref CA243

Thank you for your request for information received on 18 July 2023. The response is given below:

Request

I'm an academic at Birkbeck College and I am interested in researching the issue of the Inspection of Accounts rights under the Audit Act 2014, to see if or how it is being used across local government in the UK. You can find out more about me here

I wanted to ask for data, between 2019/20 and 2022/23 for If the accounts were published in those years. Number of people who inspected the accounts in the time periods each year. Number of requests/questions asked, and what they were/what areas they covered. Number of objections raised, and what they were. Any FOI requests relating to the accounts or finances (with the phrase 'accounts' of 'inspection or statement of accounts') Any changes made to the accounts as a result. There's some data for Lambeth here from 2018/19 that illustrates what I'm looking for <u>https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/about-council/transparency-opendata/inspection-accounts</u>.

Response

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority has published accounts for every year since its inception up to 2021-22 and will be publishing its draft accounts for 2022-23 by the end of July 2023.

It's accounts up to 2020-21 have received unqualified audit opinions, and the audited accounts have been published.

2nd Floor Pathfinder House St Mary's Street Huntingdon Cambs PE29 3TN The 2021-22 accounts are due to be audited in August 2023. Following completion of the audit, the accounts and auditor's reports will be considered for approval, ahead of publication, by the Audit and Governance Committee in September 2023.

The timing for the 2022-23 accounts has not yet been confirmed by our external auditors.

There have been no instances of members of the public exercising their rights to inspect the accounts, nor any questions or objections raised during any year.

There have been two FOIs which have been received relating to finance numbers CA70 and CA124, which can be found on the website here:

https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/document-library/?categoryfilter=freedom-ofinformation-requests

neither directly related to the statement of accounts and no changes to the statements were made following the requests.

I hope this information is helpful but if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review, you should write to us via our contact us email address: <u>democratic.services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk</u> or write a letter to Complaints, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, 2nd Floor, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TN within 40 days of the date of this e-mail.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, or via their website: <u>https://ico.org.uk/</u>

Generally, the ICO will not undertake a review or make a decision on a request until the internal review process has been completed.

Yours sincerely

S. J. Hall

Sue Hall Data Protection Officer



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