

## **Delay in publishing audited Statement of Accounts: Year Ended 31 March 2023**

### **Publication of County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Authority's Statement of Accounts and Audit Opinion**

- The external audit of the draft Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 has not yet been completed by our external auditors, Mazars LLP, due to staff resource constraints.

This situation is allowed for by Regulation 10, paragraph (2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234) <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/234/regulation/10> , as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (SI 2021/263) <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/263/regulation/2/made> .

This notification explains, as per Regulation 10 (2) (a), that we are not yet able to publish our audited 2022/23 Statement of Accounts in line with publication date of 30 September 2023, as per Regulation 10 (1). County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Authority is continuing to work closely with the external auditor to ensure the required work is completed as soon as possible. In line with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Authority published a draft Statement of Accounts subject to audit on 31 May 2023 [Financial Statements | County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service \(ddfire.gov.uk\)](https://ddfire.gov.uk/financial-statements) and the final audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 will be published as soon as the audit is concluded, and the Independent Auditor's Report issued.

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Date: 29 September 2023