

**ASHINGTON TOWN COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION OF
UNAUDITED ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026**

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, and The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 (SI 234)

1. Date of Announcement

24th June 2025

2. Right to Inspection

Each year the smaller authority's Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) needs to be reviewed by an external auditor appointed by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd. The unaudited AGAR has been published with this notice. As it has yet to be reviewed by the appointed auditor, it is subject to change as a result of that review. Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts, and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested. For the year ended 31 March 2026, these documents will be available on reasonable notice.

Applications to be made to:

Sarah Eden – Executive Officer/RFO
Ashington Town Council
Town Hall, 65 Station Road
Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 8RX
Tel: (01670) 624521
E-mail: clerk@ashingtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights:

Commencing on **Thursday 25th June 2026** and ending on **Wednesday 5th August 2026**.

3. Questioning the Appointed Auditor

Local government electors and their representatives also have:

- The opportunity to question the auditor about the accounts; and
- The right to make objections to the accounts or any item in them. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the Authority.

The appointed auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose between the above dates only.

4. Appointed Auditor Contact Details

The auditor's limited assurance review is being conducted under the provisions of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 and the National Audit Office' Code of Audit Practice. Your review is being carried out by:

Forvis Mazars LLP, Newcastle Office via 30 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7AU

Email: local.councils@mazars.co.uk

5. Person/Position making the announcement

Sarah Eden – Executive Officer/Responsible Financial Officer

