

## Wording of 2019/20 PKF audit report:

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

We note that the smaller authority did not comply with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as amended by SI 2020/404 the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 as it failed to make proper provision during the year 2020/21 for the exercise of public rights, since the 30 day period for the exercise of public rights included the August Bank Holiday and hence was less than 30 consecutive days in length. As a result, the smaller authority must answer 'NO' to Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 and ensure that it makes proper provision for the exercise of public rights during 2021/22.

## Council response:

Further to correspondence with PKF on the matter during the 2019/20 process, the provision of public rights was extended by one working day from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September. This amendment can be evidenced on the parish website. By way of a telephone call with PKF on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021 it was agreed that the Council would be correct to answer Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 with a 'Yes'. Councillors were in agreement with this decision through discussion at the approval meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021, following which the document was signed by the Chairman at the meeting.