

Smaller Authority Name: EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF ANNUAL AUDIT
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023
Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

- 1 The audit of accounts for (Smaller Authority Name) EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL for the year ended 31 March 2023 has been completed and the accounts have been published.
- 2 The Annual Return is available for inspection by any local government elector in the area of (Smaller Authority Name) EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL on application to
- (a) (Name of Clerk)
GERALDINE PRITCHARD
- (b) (Address of Clerk)
WORK.
EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL
MARKET HALL OFFICE
MARKET ST.
EGREMONT
- (c) (Telephone/email, and hours and arrangements to view)
01946 820254 / contact@egremonttowncouncil
.co.uk - MONDAY - TUESDAY THURSDAY - FRIDAY
10am - 1pm 10am - 1pm
- 3 Copies will be provided to any person on payment of £ 1.00 for each copy of the Annual Return

Announcement made by (Name of Clerk)

GERALDINE PRITCHARD

Date of Announcement

29.9.23

Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate 2022/23

In respect of **Egremont Town Council**

1 Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>.

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2023; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors

2 External auditor report 2022/23

Except for the matters reported below on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with the Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The Council has answered 'Yes' to Assertion 4 of Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return which relates to how the Notice of Public Rights was advertised within the financial year 2022-23. Therefore, it relates to the Notice announcing the public right to review the 2021-22 return which was published during 2022-23. As noted in the Auditor Report last year, this notice was not correctly advertised therefore this question should have been answered 'No'. In addition to this, since the Council have not taken appropriate action from the points raised on the prior year's audit report, we expected Assertion 7 of Section 1 to have been answered 'No'.

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

The Internal Auditor has answered 'Yes' to control Objective M of their report despite the council not satisfying the Audit and Accounts Regulations 2015, Regulation 15 in regards to the notice of public rights period during the financial year 2022-23 which required the AGAR to be approved prior the public rights period being commenced. We would therefore have anticipated this response to have been 'No'.

3 External auditor certificate 2022/23

We ~~certify~~ ~~do not certify~~* that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

*We do not certify completion because:

External Auditor Name



External Auditor Signature

Date

27/09/2023