

**S151 Sign off for 2023/24 Financial Statements.**

The 2023/24 Financial Statements are now published as draft ahead of the External Audit by Ernst and Young.

I confirm the in year figures for 2023/24 to be true and fair in so far as the requirements from myself as set out in the statement of responsibilities in the financial statements. However with the draft statements for the two preceding financial years outstanding for external audit review, the full S151 signature has not yet been applied. This is due to external work finding potential changes in the statement opening balances, or correction to treatment of items that subsequently could impact figures within the 2023/24 financial year.

This situation will be reviewed as the external auditor reviews are progressed.

I sign the pre-audit Statement of Accounts as giving a true and fair view of the financial position of Rochford District Council at 31 March 2024, and its income and expenditure for the year then ended subject to the above considerations.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. With', is written above the 'Signed:' label.

Dated: 23/07/2024