

**Current arrangements for publicising the pre-audit copy of the Council's Statement of Accounts and Comparison to Neighbouring Authorities**

**Current Policy at Wyre Forest**

- Advert in local paper giving Statutory Notice placed 14 days prior to the start of the inspection.
- Internet – Public Notices Section
- Draft Statement and Summary on internet
- No public interest for last few years (never much but one resident expressed a regular interest – stopped about 6 years ago).

**Bromsgrove District Council**

- Policy as at Wyre Forest with no interest generated on the 2006/2007 accounts but 2/3 queries in 2005/2006, but very little interest generally.
- Focus Group was used last year to determine level of public interest in Final Accounts by a short consultation exercise. Interest was found to be very low and consequently a short item was included in their quarterly newspaper.

**Malvern Hills District Council**

- Advert in Malvern Gazette, considered putting one in Worcester Evening News as well but not necessary
- Notice in Customer Service Centres
- 5 or 6 requests to view each year (including disgruntled ex employees)

**Redditch Borough Council**

- Statutory notice in Redditch Advertiser
- No public interest generated

**Worcester City Council**

- Policy as at Wyre Forest with no interest generated

**Wychavon District Council**

- Statutory notice in Worcester Evening News and a few other local Journals (e.g. Evesham Journal)
- Notice up in all Customer Contact Centres with copies of the Summary and a few of the full statement
- Some interest generated, copies requested, annual mystery shopper exercise to test Customer Contact Centre responses

### **Bridgnorth District Council**

- Same policy as Wyre Forest other than 2 adverts are placed – one in a local paper, one in The Shropshire Star – no interest generated

### **Stafford Borough Council**

- Statutory advert similar to Wyre Forest.
- A summary of the statement of accounts goes on the website and the introduction asks for comments. They have never had any comments though.  
Their thoughts for improved consultation following criticism about not consulting widely enough are to insert a copy of the summary with a questionnaire in their Council brochure which goes out to all households each Autumn