

## Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

71-73 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 ISP | Tel: 01702 716288 council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk | www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Chairman: Cllr Bernard Arscott | Vice Chairman: Cllr Sandra McCurdy

Town Clerk: Helen Symmons PSLCC



## **Press Release**

Cllr Bernard Arscott, Chairman of Leigh on Sea Town Council, confirmed an Audit of Accounts had been produced by an independent professional. The report was in response to a request made at the Council meeting on 13 September 2023.

Cllr Murat Agdeve who had proposed the Audit is pleased to have received the Audit Report and looks forward to the document being formally accepted by all Councillors at the January meeting and available to the public. Cllr Agdeve was concerned at the time, as a relatively new Town Councillor, there had been a change in Councillors and the previous administration and wanted to ensure all was in order.

Cllr Agdeve stressed his comments were never directed at any specific member of staff and he did not question anyone's honesty. Cllr Agdeve wishes to apologise for any detrimental impact that may have been experienced by the Town Council staff as a result of his words and particularly recognises the diligent work of the Assistant Responsible Finance Officer.

Cllr Arscott acknowledged, with hindsight, things could have been phrased differently. Cllr Arscott wishes to apologise for any distress caused to the Assistant Responsible Finance Officer and thank her for hard work and long service to the Council.

Cllr Arscott confirmed, as Chairman, it is his intention to ensure the Town Council proceeds in a professional way. He recognises the value of the Council Staff Team and will ensure there is good working relationships to enable the effective delivery of services to all residents.