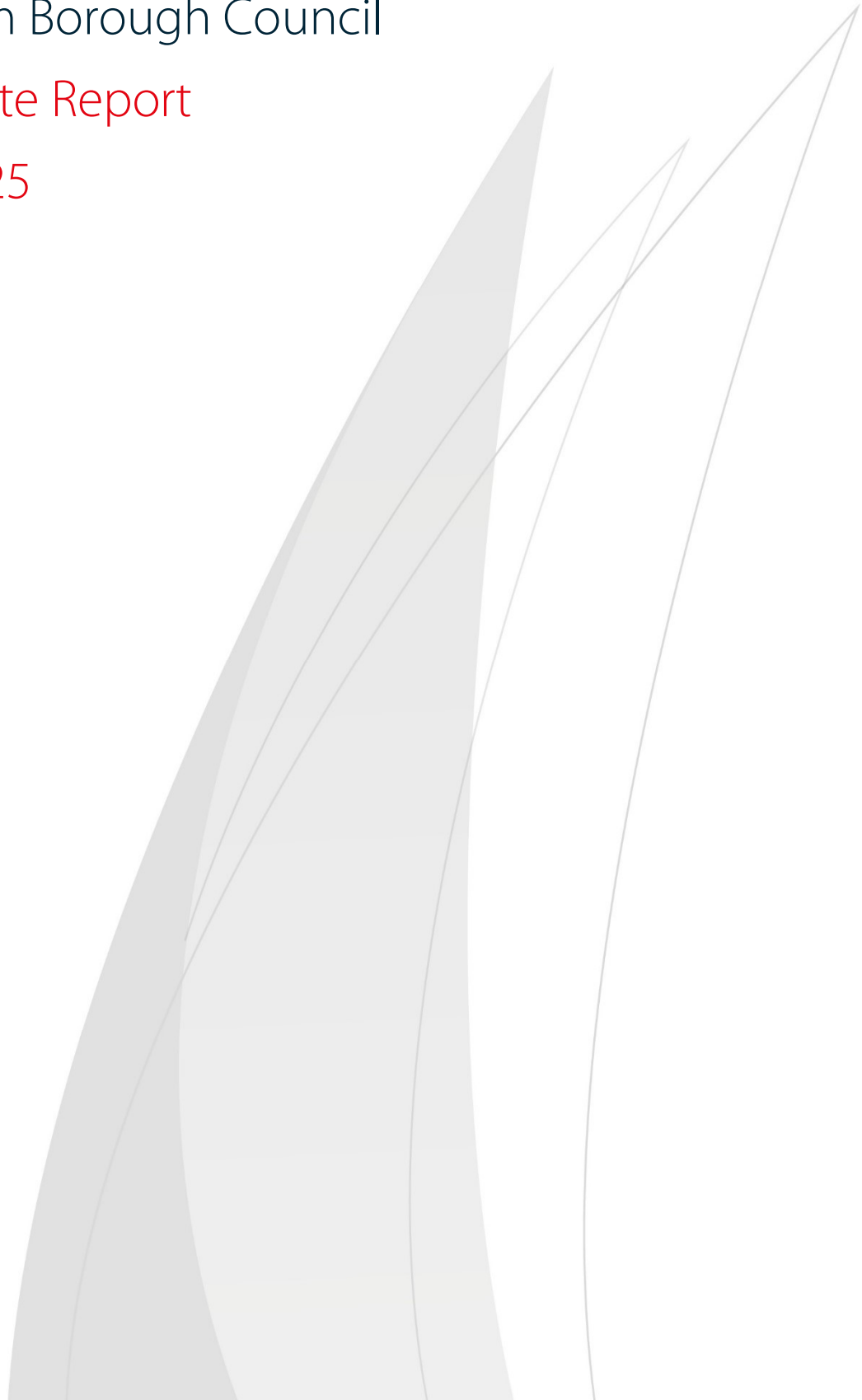




Cheltenham Borough Council

Audit Update Report

January 2025



Audit Update – January 2025

- Grant Thornton provided a disclaimed audit opinion over the 2022/23 statement of accounts in November 2024.
- As reported in our Audit Plan in October 2024, this will result in a further disclaimed opinion being provided over the 2023/24 statement of accounts as the opening balance sheet at 31 March 2023 and the comparative Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for 2022/23 have not been audited.
- Our work is focusing on the 2023/24 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Housing Revenue Account and Collection Fund and on the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024, with the aim of rebuilding the assurance over the financial statements after the disclaimer opinion.
- We began our 2023/24 external audit fieldwork in December 2024, but only have a short period of time to complete the work before the 2023/24 audit backstop date of 28 February 2025.
- To make the process as efficient and effective as possible, there are some areas that we have discussed with management such as valuations of Property, Plant and Equipment where we will limit our work when a valuation is to be shortly superseded in any case at 31 March 2025.
- An additional Audit, Compliance and Governance meeting has been scheduled in late February to allow time for 2023/24 audit work to be completed. At this meeting we will present our:
 - Audit Findings Report 2023/24; and
 - Annual Auditors Report (which includes our findings from the work we complete on value for money)

Reasonable progress is being made on the audit work completed to date, with good engagement with the finance team.



© Bishop Fleming 2021. All rights reserved.

Bishop Fleming is a trading name of Bishop Fleming LLP, a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales No. OC391282, and Bishop Fleming Bath Limited, a limited company registered in England and Wales No. 07869428. Registered offices: Stratus House, Emperor Way, Exeter Business Park, Exeter, Devon, EX1 3QS. A list of members' names for the LLP is available at the above address.

bishopfleming.co.uk