

Audit Contract Monitoring Report Data Pack

PSAA Board

Quarter 4 – March 2024

Quarter Headlines

As at 31 March 2024 a total of 642 opinions are delayed (as below plus 3 from before 2018/19)

At 31 March 2024 outstanding earlier years' opinions were:

- **2018/19 at 9 bodies (2%)**
- **2019/20 at 25 bodies (5%)**
- **2020/21 at 73 bodies (15%)**
- **2021/22 at 184 bodies (39%)**
- **2022/23 at 348 bodies (75%)**

Quarter Headlines

Auditors have used their additional powers as follows:

Statutory Recommendations were made at :

- »» Cannock Chase District Council
(29 January 2024)
- »» Stafford Borough Council
(29 January 2024)
- »» Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
(30 January 2024)
- »» Wiltshire Council
(8 February 2024)
- »» Nottingham City Council
(9 February 2024)

Audit Opinions data 2018/19 to 2022/23

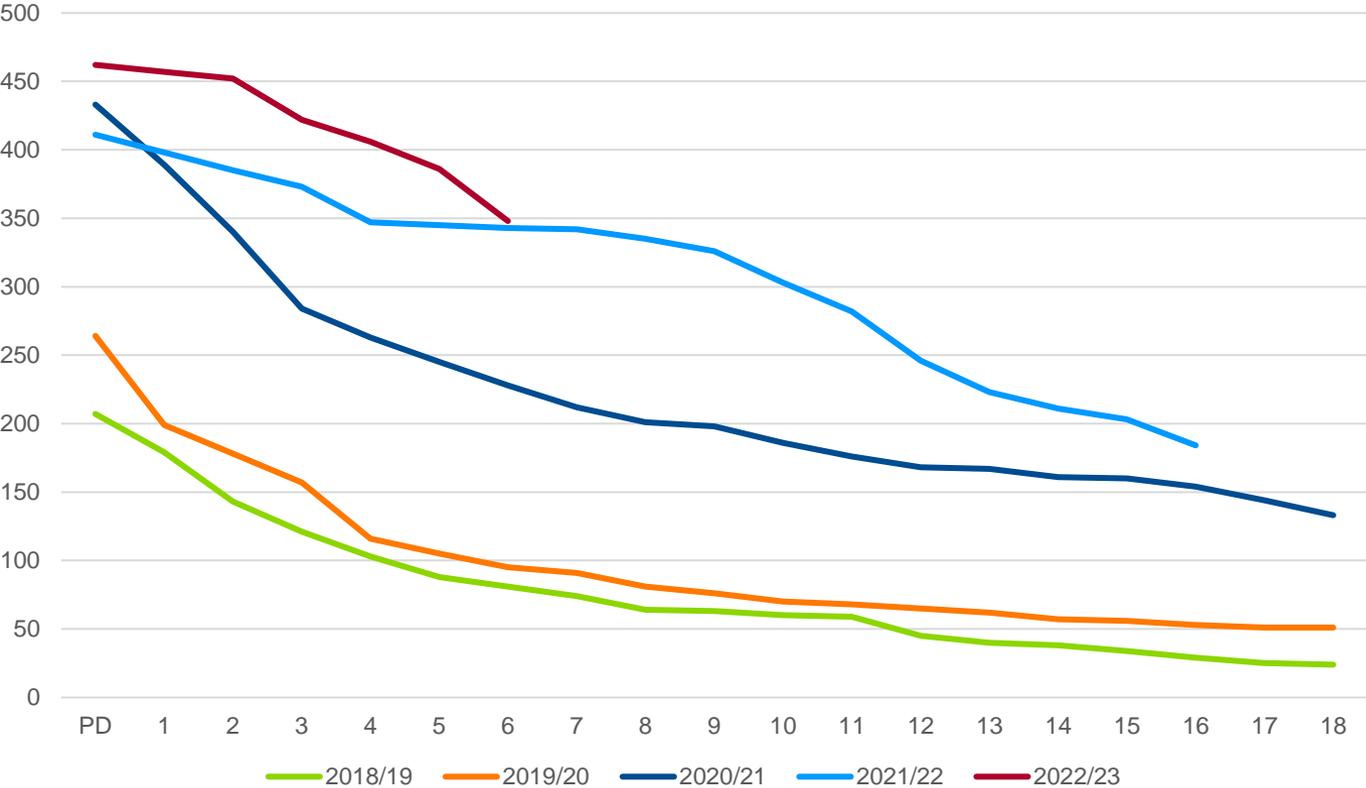
Audit year <i>Publishing date</i>	Number of opted in bodies	Percentage of audits complete by publishing date	Number of audits outstanding per financial year As at 31 March 2024	Number of audits by oldest year outstanding
2022/23 30 Sept	467	1%	348 (75%)	164
2021/22 30 Nov	467	12%	184 (52%)	111
2020/21 30 Sep	474	9%	73 (15%)	48
2019/20 30 Nov	478	45%	25 (5%)	16
2018/19 31 Jul	486	57%	9 (2%)	8

As at 31 March 2024

The table excludes the three opinions outstanding at one authority for 2015/16 to 2017/18

Audit completions – profile after due date

Opinions Outstanding - months after publishing date (PD)



As at 31 March 2024

Summary of Objections under Investigation As at 31 March 2024

Firm	2018/19 & prior	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
BDO	4	2	2	1	2	11
DL	n/a	1	2	2	-	5
EY	1	-	-	2	6	9
GT	2	2	5	5	8	22
Mazars	-	-	-	1	1	2
Total	6	5	9	11	17	49

Eight objections have been closed from January to March 2024

Approved variations to Scale Fee

End of Quarter 4 – March 2024

Year	Audit scale fee £m	Total net value of fee variation requests approved (£m)	Total cost of audit £m	% of total variations against total scale fee approved
2018/19	28.2	7.7*	35.9	27.4%
2019/20	28.4	14.9*	43.3	52.3%
2020/21	28.3	17.6*	45.9	62.3%
2021/22**	28.6	11.1*	39.7	38.9%
2022/23**	32.4	1.9*	34.3	5.8%

*Not all variation requests for previous years have been submitted or processed. The current average rate of variations approved for individual bodies is 59% (19/20), 81% (20/21), 80% (21/22) and 52% (22/23).

**We have baked in previous recurring fee variations into these years.