

GLASGOW AND THE CLYDE VALLEY STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY JOINT COMMITTEE

To: Joint Committee

On: 12 June 2023

Report by: The Treasurer

Heading: Unaudited Annual Accounts 2022/23

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 will be submitted to Azets in advance of the statutory deadline of 30 June 2023 and a copy is attached for consideration.
 - 1.2 The Joint Committee has returned a surplus of £75,163 for the financial year 2022/23. This results in an underspend of £105,163 against the planned deficit of £30,000.
 - 1.3 The Management Commentary within the accounts provides an overview of the Committee's financial performance during 2022/23, along with its outlook for the future.
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2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Joint Committee is asked to:
 - a) Consider the Unaudited Annual Accounts for 2022/23;
 - b) Approve the Annual Governance Statement (pages 7-9); and
 - c) Note the final budget monitoring position for 2022/23.
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3. Background

- 3.1. The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 require the Joint Committee to prepare and publish a set of accounts, including an Annual Governance Statement, by 30 June each year.

- 3.2. The unaudited accounts are then required to be formally considered by the Committee and the Annual Governance Statement should also be formally approved at this time.
- 3.3. In accordance with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, the Unaudited Annual Accounts will then be signed only by the Treasurer as proper officer.
- 3.4. The accounts are then subject to external audit by the Committee's appointed auditor, Azets, by 30 September. The 2022/23 Audited Annual Accounts are scheduled to be presented to the Joint Committee on 11 September 2023 for approval and signing by the Chair, the Lead Officer and the Treasurer, in accordance with the regulations.
- 3.5. The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on page 12 shows an accounting Surplus on the Provision of Services of £6,516.
- 3.6. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis on page 15 shows how this differs from the budgetary surplus of £75,163 due to accounting adjustments for pension costs and the statutory employee leave accrual.
- 3.7. The Balance Sheet on page 14 of the Annual Accounts shows an increase in net worth of £1.496m compared to last year, which is largely driven by the movement in the pension liability. This is explained further in the Management Commentary within the accounts.
- 3.8. The revenue budget monitoring statement below shows the final year-end variance for each budget line. The movement since the forecasts at Period 11 arises mainly from the year-end payment of £47,500 to the Green Network Partnership to fund the Development Officer post, as previously approved by the Joint Committee.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT 2022/23

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

ClydePlan	Approved Budget 2022/23	Actual Outturn 2022/23	Full Year Variance (Adverse) / Favourable	Prior Period Projection	Movement (Adverse) / Favourable
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	474	372	102	380	8
Property Costs	22	(3)	25	3	6
Transport Costs	1	0	1	0	0
Supplies and Services	27	37	(10)	35	(2)
Transfer Payments	32	50	(18)	2	(48)
Support Costs	24	24	0	26	2
Gross Expenditure	580	480	100	446	(34)
Council Requisitions	(547)	(547)	0	(547)	0
Other Income	(3)	(8)	5	(6)	2
Gross Income	(550)	(555)	5	(553)	2
TRANSFER (TO)/FROM RESERVES	30	(75)	105	(107)	(32)

Summary of in-year Movement in Reserves	£000
Opening Revenue Reserve at 1 April 2022	(314)
Budgeted Draw on Reserves	30
Year-end variance	(105)
Closing Revenue Reserve at 31 March 2023	(389)
% of Operating Income	70.1%

Glossary

Employee Costs: Includes direct employee costs such as salary costs, overtime and indirect employee costs such as training, recruitment advertising

Property Costs: Includes expenses directly related to the running of premises and land, eg rates, rents and leases, utilities, contract cleaning

Transport Costs: Includes all costs associated with the provision, hire or use of transport, including travelling allowances, taxi and car hire costs and staff mileage

Supplies and Services: Includes all supplies and service expenses, such as ICT costs, and administrative costs such as stationery, postages, printing and advertising

Transfer Payments: Includes costs of payments for which no good or services are received in return e.g. Apprenticeship Levy

Support Costs: Includes central support charges e.g. Renfrewshire Council SLA and telephony recharges



Glasgow and the Clyde Valley
Strategic Development Planning Authority

Unaudited Annual Accounts 2022/23

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Management Commentary

The purpose of the Management Commentary is to present an overview of Clydeplan's financial performance during the year 2022/23 and to help readers understand its financial position as at 31 March 2023. In addition, it outlines the main risks and uncertainties facing Clydeplan for the financial year 2022/23 and beyond.

History and Background

The Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority (GCVSDPA) was created in 2008, when the Scottish Government established Strategic Development Planning Authorities for each of the four Scottish city regions.

In 2014 the GCVSDPA rebranded as 'Clydeplan' to improve recognition and gain wider resonance within the region. The principal role of Clydeplan is to prepare and maintain an up-to-date Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the region. This process involves engagement through joint working and consultation with key stakeholder organisations and the wider community.

Clydeplan is a Joint Committee formed under Section 57 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The Joint Committee is comprised of the following eight local authorities:

- East Dunbartonshire Council;
- East Renfrewshire Council;
- Glasgow City Council;
- Inverclyde Council;
- North Lanarkshire Council;
- Renfrewshire Council;
- South Lanarkshire Council; and,
- West Dunbartonshire Council.

The Joint Committee is comprised of two members from each constituent authority. During 2022/23, the Chair of the Joint Committee was Councillor Lawrence

O'Neill of West Dunbartonshire Council and Vice-Chair was Councillor David Wilson of Inverclyde Council.

A Joint Committee is not a separate legal entity, therefore, to ensure its actions have legal effect it must appoint a 'lead authority' with legal personality to act on its behalf to implement its decisions. The lead authority appointed to act for Clydeplan is currently Renfrewshire Council.

The Joint Committee is supported by a Steering Group comprising the Strategic Development Plan Manager and the Chief Planning Officers (or their representatives) of each of the member authorities. The Steering Group meets at least four times a year to consider SDP and regional spatial planning related activity, consultations and reports presented to the Joint Committee on the work programme to be undertaken by the Clydeplan Core Team.

In December 2022, the Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager retired and in April 2023, the Strategic Development Plan Manager also retired. Day-to-day operational management of the ClydePlan team is currently being undertaken by the Chief Planning Officer at Renfrewshire Council, as lead authority.

Performance and Activity 2022/23

Strategic Development Plan

The SDP covers a period of 20 years, with the current SDP being approved by Scottish Ministers on 24 July 2017. The SDP sets out a clear vision and spatial strategy for the Glasgow City Region with a focus on the key land use and development. It also sets out a policy framework to help deliver sustainable economic growth and enhance the quality of life in the Glasgow City Region.

Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 became law on 25 July 2019. The new act places a duty on Local Authorities to prepare '*Regional Spatial Strategies*', rather than SDPs.

The development of this strategy will be influenced and integrated into the Glasgow City Region processes and structures in terms of engagement and governance through related Portfolio groupings, including:

- Land Use and Sustainability;
- Transport and Connectivity;
- Housing and Equalities;
- Infrastructure and Assets;
- Economic Delivery Group.

During 2022 Clydeplan continued its support for the various work streams of the various Glasgow City Region thematic portfolios including Land Use and Sustainability, Infrastructure and Assets, Housing and Equalities, Transport and Connectivity based portfolios and both the Economic Delivery Group and the Intelligence Hub.

Clydeplan's involvement with the Glasgow City Region activities is likely to continue to grow and develop during 2023 particularly given the economies of scale and general benefits that can be gained through city region scale joint partnership working.

This regional joint working approach also supports the Planning (Scotland) Act which seeks for local authorities, working together, as groupings to support the delivery of National Planning Framework 4 through the development of Regional Spatial Strategies.

It is anticipated that the formal duty to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy will come into effect once NPF4 is adopted in early 2023.

Green Network Partnership

Since the establishment of the Glasgow City Region Green Network Partnership in 2007, the first partnership of its type in Scotland, green networks and related thinking has developed significantly much of which has been at the instigation of the work of the Green Network team, including:

- the Central Scotland Green Network established as a National Development in NPF4 and proposed to continue as a National Development in NPF4,
- the development of the Glasgow City Region Green Network 'Blueprint' and the
- the development of Green Infrastructure policy advice.

The role for green networks have also been identified as an important component of the city region's green recovery and in respect of tackling the twin climate and ecological emergencies. In this context the Strategic Habitat Network plays an important role, with projects covering peatland restoration, grassland and wetland development, and woodland development.

An overview of the Green Network Partnership is provided at Note 14: Green Network Partnership, on page 26.

In fulfilment of its Minute of Agreement and the existing requirements of the 2006 Planning Act, the Joint Committee approved its Annual Report in March 2023. This, along with the 2022/23 Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement can be accessed at the following web links:

- Annual Report - <https://www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk>Strategic Development Plan>Annual Reports>
- Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement - <https://www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk>Planning Authority>Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement>

The priorities for the future work of Clydeplan will be influenced, amongst other things, by

- the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and the requirements in relation to strategic planning and the National Planning Framework 4;
- ongoing developments around Glasgow City Region in terms of governance, subject based portfolios, City Deal and the Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy and Action Plan;
- development of a work programme to support the development of the Regional Spatial Strategy; and,
- continuing challenges of delivery in the context of reduced financial and local authority planning staff resources.

It is acknowledged that for each of the above there are timescale, resource and funding risks which are out with the direct control of the Joint Committee, but through its joint working processes will seek to minimise and mitigate these risks as far as practically possible.

Primary Financial Statements

The Annual Accounts are prepared in accordance with the International Accounting Standards Board Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements as interpreted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). Under Section 106 of Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Joint Committees are classed as local authorities.

The Annual Accounts summarise the Joint Committee's transactions for the year and its year-end position at 31 March 2023. The Primary Financial Statements include the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES), the Movement in Reserves Statement (MIRS) and the Balance Sheet.

These statements are accompanied by Notes to the Accounts, which provide more details on the figures shown in the statements and set out the Accounting Policies adopted by the Joint Committee.

Financial Performance

Revenue

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) on page 12 summarises the total costs of providing services and the income available to fund those services.

The Joint Committee has returned a surplus of £75,163 for the financial year 2022/23. This results in an underspend of £105,163 against the planned deficit of £30,000. This excludes accounting adjustments relating to pensions and short-term accumulating compensated absences.

The difference between the Employee Costs figure below and the figure reported in the CIES is due to the accounting adjustments for pension costs of £76k and accrued employee benefits of (£3k). A summary of the final outturn position against the approved budget for Clydeplan is shown below.

	Budget £	Actual £	Variance £
Employee Costs	473,600	371,584	102,016
Property Costs	22,200	(2,704)	24,904
Supplies and Services	27,400	37,243	(9,843)
Support Costs	23,700	24,015	(315)
Transfer Payments	32,100	49,637	(17,537)
Transport Costs	1,000	183	817
Total Expenditure	580,000	479,958	100,042
Requisition Income	(547,000)	(547,000)	0
Other Income	(3,000)	(8,121)	5,121
Total Income	(550,000)	(555,121)	5,121
(Surplus)/Deficit for Year	30,000	(75,163)	105,163

Employee Costs underspent due to the retirement of the Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager in December 2022, as well as other vacancies that have not yet been filled, including one Strategic Planner post and one Planning Analyst post.

Property Costs underspent against budget due to Clydeplan moving into 40 John Street Glasgow, where costs are substantially lower.

Supplies and Services overspend is mostly attributable to increased external Audit Fees, along with higher ICT maintenance costs.

Transfer Payments are higher than anticipated due to a planned transfer to Green Network Partnership to fund a Development Officer post, as previously approved by the Joint Committee. This offsets an underspend from a budget of £30k that was approved in 2022/23 for a Sustrans bid and was due to be funded from reserves. The bid was unsuccessful and as such there is no spend against this budget in 22/23 and no corresponding drawdown from reserves.

Other Income is over-recovered mainly due to a higher than budgeted interest received, following the rise in bank rates over the course of the year.

The Balance Sheet at 31 March 2023

The Balance Sheet sets out the total net worth of the Joint Committee at a snapshot in time. When comparing the net worth of Clydeplan at 31 March 2023 to that of the prior year, an overall increase in net worth of the organisation of £1.496m can be seen. This is primarily due to the increase in pension asset explained below.

Net Pension Position

The disclosure requirements for pension benefits under IAS19 are detailed at Note 10: Retirement Benefits. The appointed actuaries have confirmed a net asset position of £1.586m, an increase of £1.418m in their assessment of Clydeplan's share of the pension fund asset. This is attributable to many factors, such as the experience of market yields over the course of the past year. The corporate bond yield (upon which the pension discount rate is derived) has risen over the past year, which served to reduce the employer's pension obligations and led to the gain on the balance sheet.

A potential change to pension rules is outlined in Note 11: Contingent Liabilities on page 22; however, this has not been reflected in the pension liability reported in the Balance Sheet.

Reserves

Reserves are classified under accounting regulations into two categories: Usable reserves, which are available to spend; and Unusable reserves, which are unrealised net gains or losses that have a deferred impact on the Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee had an opening balance on its Usable Reserve at 1 April 2022 of £314k. The 2022/23 surplus of £75k takes the closing reserves balance to £389k.

Outlook and Future Plans

Governance

In December 2022, the Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager retired and in April 2023, the Strategic Development Plan Manager also retired. Day-to-day operational management is being undertaken by the Chief Planning Officer at Renfrewshire Council, as lead authority.

In light of this change in the management of Clydeplan, and the introduction of RSS requirements under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, the Joint Committee is reviewing governance arrangements and considering the strategic direction of ClydePlan. Options will be brought to the Joint Committee for recommendation to each constituent authority for approval.

Budget 2023/24

The 2023/24 budget for ClydePlan was approved by the Joint Committee on 12 December 2022.

Clydeplan expenditure budget has decreased for 2023/24, in line with reductions in Premises Costs and Transport costs. Furthermore, in recognition of the high level of reserves, a further reduction of requisition is made in 2023/24 to contributing authorities, totalling £39,500.

Conclusion

We would wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the team effort required to produce the accounts and to record our thanks to the outgoing Strategic Development Plan Manager and Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager and all staff for their continued hard work and support.

Councillor Lawrence O'Neill
Convener

Alastair MacArthur
Treasurer

Statement of Responsibilities for the Annual Accounts

The Joint Committee's Responsibilities

The Joint Committee is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that the proper officer of the Joint Committee has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs (section 95 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973). The designated officer is Renfrewshire Council's Director of Finance and Resources, who is also the Treasurer of Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- ensure that the Annual Accounts are prepared in accordance with legislation (The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014), and so far as is compatible with that legislation, in accordance with proper accounting practices (section 12 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003); and
- approve the Annual Accounts for signature.

I confirm that these Annual Accounts were approved for signature by the Joint Committee at its meeting on the 12 June 2023.

Signed on behalf of Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority Joint Committee.

Councillor Lawrence O'Neill
Convener

The Treasurer's Responsibilities

The Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the Joint Committee's Annual Accounts in accordance with proper practices as required by legislation and as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

In preparing the Annual Accounts, the Treasurer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with legislation; and
- complied with the local authority Accounting Code (in so far as it is compatible with legislation).

The Treasurer has also:

- kept adequate accounting records that were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Joint Committee at the reporting date and the transactions of the Joint Committee for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Alastair MacArthur
Treasurer

Annual Governance Statement

Scope of Responsibility

Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority's Joint Committee is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

The Joint Committee also has a statutory duty to make arrangements to secure best value under the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003. In discharging this overall responsibility, the Joint Committee's elected members and senior officers are responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

The Joint Committee's Governance Framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values, by which the Joint Committee is directed and controlled. It also describes the way it engages with, and accounts to its stakeholders.

The Joint Committee has also put in place a system of internal control designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. Internal control cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Joint Committee's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The main features of our governance arrangements are:

- A Minute of Agreement between the member councils of the Joint Committee, <https://www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk/planning-authority/joint-committee>, setting out the arrangement for the preparation, monitoring and review of the Strategic Development Plan;
- The Joint Committee is supported by a Steering Group comprising senior planning professionals from each of the member councils and the Strategic Development Plan Manager;
- Clearly defined Standing Orders, Scheme of Delegation and Financial Regulations;
- The development of a work programme for the development of the Regional Spatial Strategy;
- Public performance reporting through the Annual Report;
- Policies to regulate employee related matters, including the employee code of conduct and disciplinary procedures;
- The Joint Committee approves, as part of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership's Terms of Reference, the allocation of local authority contributions to support the delivery of its Business Plan;
- Risk management arrangements including regular monitoring and review of significant risk exposures;
- Business continuity arrangements are in place and are kept under review by the Management Team.

Within the overall control arrangements, the system of internal financial control is intended to ensure that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded and material errors are detected and corrected. The system is based on a framework of management information, financial regulations, administrative procedures (including

segregation of duties), management and supervision, and a system of delegation and accountability.

The system includes:

- Financial management is supported by comprehensive financial regulations and codes;
- Comprehensive budgeting systems, and detailed guidance for budget holders;
- Regular reviews of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts;
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- The preparation of regular financial reports that indicate actual expenditure against the forecasts;
- The Chief Finance Officer is the Treasurer who complies with the CIPFA Statement on the Role of The CFO in Public Services.

With Renfrewshire Council being the lead authority, all financial transactions of the Joint Committee are processed through the financial systems of the Council and are subject to the same controls and scrutiny as those of Renfrewshire Council. This includes regular reviews by the Chief Internal Auditor of Renfrewshire Council.

Review of Effectiveness

Members and officers of the Joint Committee are committed to the concept of sound governance and the effective delivery of services and take into account comments made by internal and external auditors.

The effectiveness of the governance framework is reviewed annually by the Strategic Development Plan Manager, including the use of a self-assessment tool covering five key areas of governance:

- Business Planning and Performance Management;
- Internal Control Environment;
- Budgeting, Accounting and Financial Control;
- Risk Management and Business Continuity;
- Conflicts of Interest and whistleblowing.

This self-assessment indicated that the governance framework is being complied with in all material respects.

The Joint Committee's internal audit service is provided by the lead authority's internal auditors and operates in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. The lead authority conforms to the requirements of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit (2019). Internal Audit undertakes an annual programme following an assessment of risk completed during the strategic audit planning process.

The Chief Internal Auditor provides an annual report to the Joint Committee and an independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal control. The Chief Internal Auditor's annual assurance statement concluded that a reasonable level of assurance can be placed upon the adequacy and effectiveness of the Joint Committee's internal control systems.

The review has not identified any significant governance issues to be reported on for 2022/23 and no actions arising for the 2021/22 governance statement that require to be reported on.

This governance framework has been in place throughout the year. Processes have been refined during the year in light of the prevailing COVID restrictions at the time, taking into account health and safety advice from officers from the lead authority. By the end of 2022/23 required mitigations were minimal and working practices were close to normal.

Meetings of the Joint Committee continued to be held virtually. The arrangements in place are still considered to be effective.

Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

Following the Scottish Government's review of the Scottish planning system the Planning (Scotland) Act came into effect on 25 July 2019.

A key provision of the new Act was the removal of the statutory duty on local authorities to prepare a

Strategic Development Plan, this being replaced with a duty to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy.

The Regional Spatial Strategy will not form part of the Statutory Development Plan, which is currently made up of the Strategic Development Plan and Local Development Plan. Under the terms of the new Act the statutory Development Plan will instead comprise the National Planning Framework and the Local Development Plan.

The Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan (July 2017) is no longer in force following the adoption and publication by Scottish Ministers of the National Planning Framework 4 on 13 February 2023.

Regional Spatial Strategy Guidance expected to be published by the Scottish Government in 2023.

The Clydeplan Joint Committee at its meeting held on 8 March 2022 agreed that all eight local authorities continue to work jointly to discharge their duty under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy.

Assurance

In conclusion, it is our opinion that the annual review of governance together with the work of internal audit, any comments received from external audit and certification of assurance from the Strategic Development Plan Manager provide sufficient evidence that the principles of good governance operated effectively and the Joint Committee complies with its governance arrangements in all material respects. Systems are in place to continually review and improve the governance and internal control environment. Future actions will be taken as necessary to maintain and further enhance the Joint Committee's governance arrangements.

Councillor Lawrence O'Neill
Convener

Remuneration Report

All information disclosed in the tables in this Remuneration Report will be audited by the appointed auditor, Audit Scotland. The other sections of the Remuneration Report will be reviewed by Audit Scotland to ensure that they are consistent with the financial statements.

Remuneration policy for elected members

The Joint Committee makes no remuneration payment to any elected member, nor does it pay any expenses, fees or allowances to elected members. Further, no recharges have been made by member authorities in relation to elected member remuneration.

Remuneration policy for senior employees

The Remuneration Policy of the Joint Committee is set in reference to national arrangements. The Scottish Joint Negotiating Committee (SJNC) for Local Authority Services sets the salaries for the Chief Executives of Scottish local authorities. The salary of the Strategic Development Planning Manager is set at spinal point 29, which is currently the equivalent of 53% of the salary of the Chief Executive of Renfrewshire Council. These arrangements were agreed through approval of the Chief Officers' Award – Structure Plan Manager report at a meeting of the Joint Committee on 2 December 2002. The Assistant Strategic Development Planning Manager and Programme Manager posts have been evaluated under the single status framework and are paid according to the salary scales of Renfrewshire Council.

2021/22 Total Salary, fees and allowances £	Name	Post Held	2022/23 Total Salary, fees and allowances £
80,678	Stuart Tait	Strategic Development Plan Manager	84,111
56,814	Dorothy McDonald	Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager (until 31 December 2022)	39,507
137,492	Total		123,618

The above table shows the relevant amounts, before tax and other deductions, due to each of the persons named for the year to 31 March 2023, whether or not those amounts were actually paid within that period. The Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager retired on 31 December 2022.

Pension rights

Pension benefits for Joint Committee employees are provided through the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). From 1 April 2015 benefits are based on career average pay. Pension benefits are based on the pay received for each year in the scheme increased by the increase in the cost of living, as measured by the appropriate index (or indices). The

scheme's normal retirement age is linked to the state pension age for each member. From 1 April 2009, a five-tier contribution system was introduced with contributions from scheme members being based on how much pay falls into each tier. This is designed to give more equality between the cost and benefits of scheme membership. Prior to 2009 contributions rates were set at 6% for all non-manual employees.

Tiered contribution rates on whole time pay 2022/23		Equivalent bandings for 2021/22
Up to £23,000	5.5%	Up to £22,300
£23,001 to £28,100	7.25%	£22,301 to £27,300
£28,101 to £38,600	8.5%	£27,301 to £37,400
£38,601 to £51,400	9.5%	£37,401 to £49,900
Over £51,401	12%	Over £49,901

If a person works part-time their contribution rate is worked out on the whole-time pay rate for the job, with actual contributions paid on actual pay earned.

There is no automatic entitlement to a lump sum. Members may opt to give up (commute) pension for a lump sum up to the limit set by the Finance Act 2004. The accrual rate guarantees a pension based on 1/49th of the pensionable pay for each year of membership, adjusted in line with the cost of living.

Prior to 2015 the accrual rate guaranteed a pension based on 1/60th of final pensionable salary.

The value of the accrued benefits has been calculated on the basis of the age at which the person will first become entitled to receive a full pension on retirement without reduction on account of its payment at that age; without exercising any option to commute pension entitlement into a lump sum; and without any adjustment for the effects of future inflation.

The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the person has accrued as a consequence of their total local government employment, not just that relating to their current post.

No pension contributions are made for the Joint Committee Convener or Vice-Convener.

Name	Post Held	Accrued Pension benefits as at 31 March 2023				Pension Contributions made by the Joint Committee	
		As at 31 March 2023		Change from 31 March 2022		2022/23	2021/22
		Pension	Lump Sum	Pension	Lump Sum		
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£	£
Stuart Tait	Strategic Development Plan Manager	44	68	3	4	16,233	15,500
Dorothy McDonald	Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager	31	48	2	2	8,739	10,965

Remuneration of Employees

The following table gives a statement of the number of employees whose remuneration, excluding pension contributions, was in excess of £50,000 during 2022/23, in bands of £5,000.

2021/22 Number of employees	Remuneration Band	2022/23 Number of employees
1	£55,000 - £59,999	0
1	£75,000 - £79,999	0
0	£80,000 - £84,999	1
2	Total	1

Exit Packages

Clydeplan has not agreed any exit packages in either 2022/23 or 2021/22.

Councillor Lawrence O'Neill
Convener

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the accounting cost of providing services and managing the Joint Committee during the year. It includes, on an accruals basis, all of the Joint Committee's day-to-day expenses and related income. It also includes transactions measuring the value of non-current assets actually consumed during the year and the real projected value of retirement benefits earned by employees during the year. The statement shows the accounting cost in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the cost according to the statutory regulations that specify the net expenditure that local authorities need to take into account. The required adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations are shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

2021/22				2022/23		
Gross Expenditure £	Gross Income £	Net Expenditure £		Gross Expenditure £	Gross Income £	Net Expenditure £
586,030	0	586,030	Employee Costs	444,231	0	444,231
2,295	0	2,295	Premise Costs	(2,704)	0	(2,704)
25,773	0	25,773	Supplies & Services	37,243	0	37,243
24,050	0	24,050	Support Costs	24,015	0	24,015
2,728	0	2,728	Transfer Payments	49,637	0	49,637
442	0	442	Transport Costs	183	0	183
0	(49,944)	(49,944)	Other Income	0	0	0
641,318	(49,944)	591,374	Cost of Services	552,605	0	552,605
0	(337)	(337)	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure Interest receivable	0	(8,121)	(8,121)
9,000	0	9,000	Pension interest cost	0	(4,000)	(4,000)
			Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income			0
0	(419,500)	(419,500)	Requisitions from Member Authorities	0	(547,000)	(547,000)
650,318	(469,781)	180,537	(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	552,605	(559,121)	(6,516)
			Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure			
		(650,000)	Actuarial (Gain)/Loss on pension assets and liabilities			(1,490,000)
		(469,463)	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			(1,496,516)

Note: Figures in brackets represent income or gains and figures without brackets represent expenditure or losses.

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Joint Committee, analysed into usable reserves (that is, those reserves that can be applied to fund expenditure) and unusable reserves. The surplus or deficit on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Joint Committee's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Movement in reserves during the year	Note	Usable Reserves £	Unusable Reserves £	Total Reserves £
Balance at 1 April 2022		(314,108)	(161,895)	(476,003)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		(6,516)	(1,490,000)	(1,496,516)
Adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under regulation	5	(68,647)	68,647	0
Increase or (decrease) in year		(75,163)	(1,421,353)	(1,496,516)
Balance at 31 March 2023 carried forward		(389,271)	(1,583,248)	(1,972,519)

Comparative movements in 2021/22	Note	Usable Reserves £	Unusable Reserves £	Total Reserves £
Balance at 1 April 2021		(383,872)	377,332	(6,540)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		180,537	(650,000)	(469,463)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	5	(110,773)	110,773	0
Increase or (decrease) in year		69,764	(539,227)	(469,463)
Balance at 31 March 2022 carried forward		(314,108)	(161,895)	(476,003)

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at 31 March 2023 of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Joint Committee. The net assets of the Joint Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category comprises usable reserves, which are those reserves that the Joint Committee may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. The second category of reserves comprises those that the Joint Committee is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses in the value of assets.

As at 31 March 2022 £		Note	As at 31 March 2023 £
315,265	Funds held by Renfrewshire Council		402,148
3,535	Debtors and Prepayments	6	359
318,800	Current Assets		402,507
(10,797)	Creditors And Accruals	7	(15,984)
(10,797)	Current Liabilities		(15,984)
168,000	Pension Asset	10	1,586,000
168,000	Long Term (Liabilities) / Assets		1,586,000
476,003	Net Assets / (Liabilities)		1,972,519
(314,108)	Usable Reserves		(389,271)
(161,895)	Unusable Reserves	3	(1,583,248)
(476,003)	Total Reserves		(1,972,519)

The unaudited accounts were issued on 12 June 2023.

Alastair MacArthur
Treasurer

Note 1: Expenditure Funding Analysis

This statement shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources and provides a reconciliation of the statutory adjustments between the Joint Committees financial performance on a funding basis and the Surplus or deficit on the Provision of Service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement.

2022/23	Net Expenditure chargeable to the Joint Committee £	Adjustments for pensions £	Other adjustments £	Net Expenditure in the CIES £
Employee Costs	371,584	76,000	(3,353)	444,231
Property Costs	(2,704)	0	0	(2,704)
Supplies and Services	37,243	0	0	37,243
Support Costs	24,015	0	0	24,015
Transfer Payments	49,637	0	0	49,637
Transport Costs	183	0	0	183
Other Income	(8,121)	0	8,121	0
Cost of Services	471,837	76,000	4,768	552,605
Other income and expenditure	(547,000)	(4,000)	(8,121)	(559,121)
(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Service	(75,163)	72,000	(3,353)	(6,516)

2021/22	Net Expenditure chargeable to the Joint Committee £	Adjustments for pensions £	Other adjustments £	Net Expenditure in the CIES £
Employee Costs	484,257	105,000	(3,227)	586,030
Premises Costs	2,295	0	0	2,295
Supplies & Services	25,773	0	0	25,773
Support Costs	24,050	0	0	24,050
Transfer Payments	2,728	0	0	2,728
Transport Costs	442	0	0	442
Other Income	(50,281)	0	337	(49,944)
Cost of Services	489,264	105,000	(2,890)	591,374
Other income and expenditure	(419,500)	9,000	(337)	(410,837)
(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Service	69,764	114,000	(3,227)	180,537

Note 2: Accounting Standards Issued not Adopted

The Code requires the disclosure of information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted.

There are no new standards that have a material impact on Clydeplan's accounts.

Note 3: Unusable Reserves

Pension Reserve

The Pension Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Joint Committee accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Joint Committee makes employer's contributions to pension funds.

The credit balance on the Pension Reserve shows the value of benefits earned by past and current employees and the Joint Committee's share of Strathclyde Pension Fund resources available to meet them. The statutory arrangements ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2021/22 £	Pension Reserve	2022/23 £
368,000	Balance as at 1 April	(168,000)
(650,000)	Actuarial (Gain)/Loss on pension assets and liabilities	(1,490,000)
114,000	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES	72,000
(168,000)	Balance as at 31 March	(1,586,000)

Employee Statutory Adjustment Account

The Employee Statutory Adjustment Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on revenue balances from accruing for short-term accumulating compensated absences at the end of the financial year. Generally accepted accounting practices require that all short-term employee benefits, including accumulating compensated absences, should be recognised as a cost in the accounts for the year to which they relate. This means that where employees' full holiday entitlement has not been taken by the financial year-end, the cost of the untaken days or time is calculated and recorded as an accrued expense. However, statutory arrangements require that the impact of such accrued expenditure on revenue balances is neutralised by transfers to or from the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account.

2021/22 £	Employee Statutory Adjustment Account	2022/23 £
9,332	Balance as at 1 April	6,105
(9,332)	Reversal of prior year accrual for short-term accumulating compensated absences	(6,105)
6,105	Recognition of the accrual for short-term accumulating compensating absences at 31 March	2,752
6,105	Balance as at 31 March	2,752

Note 4: Events after the Balance Sheet date

Events taking place after the authorised for issue date per the Balance Sheet are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2023, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

Note 5: Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

The surplus for the year on the Revenue Reserves was £69k less than the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement result. The table below gives a breakdown of the differences between the income and expenditure included in the Joint Committee's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in accordance with the Code and the amounts that statute and non-statutory proper practice require the Joint Committee to debit and credit the Revenue Reserve Balance.

2022/23	Usable Reserves £	Unusable Reserves £
Adjustments primarily involving the Pension Reserve:		
Net charges made for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS19	(130,000)	130,000
Employers contributions payable to the Strathclyde Pension Fund	58,000	(58,000)
Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account:		
Net charges for employment short-term accumulating absences	3,353	(3,353)
Net additional amount required to be debited or credited to the Revenue Reserves balance for the year	(68,647)	68,647

2021/22	Usable Reserves £	Unusable Reserves £
Adjustments primarily involving the Pension Reserve:		
Net charges made for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS19	(180,000)	180,000
Employers contributions payable to the Strathclyde Pension Fund	66,000	(66,000)
Adjustments primarily involving the Employee Statutory Adjustment Account:		
Net charges for employment short-term accumulating absences	3,227	(3,227)
Net additional amount required to be debited or credited to the Revenue Reserves balance for the year	(110,773)	110,773

Note 6: Debtors

As at 31 March 2022 £		As at 31 March 2023 £
	Short-term Debtors	
1,215	Prepayments	359
2,320	Other receivables	0
3,535	Total	359

Note 7: Creditors

As at 31 March 2022 £		As at 31 March 2023 £
	Short-term Creditors	
(6,105)	Trade Payables	(10,372)
(4,692)	Other Payables	(5,612)
(10,797)	Total	(15,984)

Note 8: Related parties

The Joint Committee's related parties are those bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or significantly influence the Joint Committee, or to be controlled or significantly influenced by the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee is required to disclose material transactions that have occurred with related parties and the amount of any material sums due to or from related parties.

Related party relationships require to be disclosed where control exists, irrespective of whether there have been transactions between the related parties. Disclosure of this information allows readers to assess the extent to which the Joint Committee might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Joint Committee.

Elected member interests in related parties

Under the relevant Codes of Conduct, elected members and senior officials must declare any registered interests in any bodies or organisations.

Each member's Register of Interest can be found by searching for an individual councillor on each of their respective Council's websites.

Elected Members and senior officers

Members of the Joint Committee and senior officers have control over Clydeplan's financial and operating policies. They have the responsibility to adhere to a Code of Conduct, requiring them to declare an interest in matters that directly or indirectly influence, or appear to influence, their judgement or decisions taken during the course of their work. The total senior officers' remuneration allowances paid in 2022/23 is shown in the Remuneration Report on page 10.

There is no specific remuneration paid to elected members by Clydeplan.

The Joint Committee consists of the following elected members at 31 March 2023:

East Dunbartonshire Council	Alan Moir
East Dunbartonshire Council	Jim Gibbons
East Renfrewshire Council	Colm Merrick
East Renfrewshire Council	Paul Edlin
Glasgow City Council	Ken Andrew
Glasgow City Council	Kenny McLean
Inverclyde Council	Chris Curley
Inverclyde Council	David Wilson
North Lanarkshire Council	Allan Stubbs
North Lanarkshire Council	Tom Fisher
Renfrewshire Council	Jim Paterson
Renfrewshire Council	John McNaughtan
South Lanarkshire Council	Richard Nelson
South Lanarkshire Council	Robert Brown
West Dunbartonshire Council	Gurpreet Singh Johal
West Dunbartonshire Council	Lawrence O'Neill

Key Related Parties – member authorities

The Joint Committee is comprised of the following eight member authorities:

- East Dunbartonshire Council;
- East Renfrewshire Council;
- Glasgow City Council;
- Inverclyde Council;
- North Lanarkshire Council;
- Renfrewshire Council;
- South Lanarkshire Council; and,
- West Dunbartonshire Council.

The member authorities of the Joint Committee have contributed requisitions in the following proportions to enable the Joint Committee to carry out its objectives. The Joint Committee in turn pays Renfrewshire Council for support services.

2021/22 £	Council	%	2022/23 £
52,437.50	East Dunbartonshire	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	East Renfrewshire	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	Glasgow City	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	Inverclyde	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	North Lanarkshire	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	Renfrewshire	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	South Lanarkshire	12.5%	68,375.00
52,437.50	West Dunbartonshire	12.5%	68,375.00
419,500.00	GCVSDPA Funding	100.0%	547,000.00

Renfrewshire Council is the lead authority for Clydeplan, providing Treasurer and Clerking services, as well as support services, such as HR, Legal and Internal Audit. Clydeplan has a service level agreement with Renfrewshire Council that sets out how much this support should cost each year. In 2-22/23, Clydeplan paid Renfrewshire Council £23,200 for support services (2021/22 £23,200).

Clydeplan received £8k from Renfrewshire Council for interest earned on cash balances (reserves) held by the Council on its behalf.

There were no further material transactions between Clydeplan and its member authorities.

Other public bodies

Strathclyde Pension Fund is the principal administrators of the post-retirement funds held on behalf of the current and former employees of Clydeplan. Information about transactions during the year and outstanding assets and liabilities in relation to Clydeplan's pension fund can be found in Note 10: Retirement Benefits.

There were no other material transactions between Clydeplan and other public bodies.

Note 9: External audit costs

2021/22 £		2022/23 £
3,120	Fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor	5,780
3,120	Total	5,780

Note 10: Retirement Benefits

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its employees, the Joint Committee offers retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Joint Committee has a commitment to make the payments that need to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement. The scheme for employees is the Strathclyde Pension Fund which is administered by Glasgow City Council. This is a "funded" defined benefit scheme meaning that the Joint Committee and its employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liability with investment assets.

The principal risks to the scheme are assumptions relating to longevity, inflation, and investment performance; in addition, statutory changes to the scheme. These risks are mitigated to an extent by statutory requirements limiting charges to the Council's general fund. The Council has additional liabilities for unfunded discretionary pension payments outside the main schemes such as arrangements for the award of discretionary post-employment benefits upon early retirement. This is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pensions liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pensions payments as they eventually fall due.

10a: Transactions relating to retirement benefits

The cost of retirement benefits is recognised in Gross Expenditure when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge that is statutorily required to be made in the accounts is based upon pension contributions payable by the Joint Committee in the year, and an adjustment is made within the Movement in Reserves Statement to replace the cost of retirement benefits with employers' contributions. The following transactions have been made in the accounting statements in 2022/23:

2021/22 £		2022/23 £
	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)	
171,000	Current service cost	134,000
171,000		134,000
	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	
9,000	Net interest	(4,000)
180,000	Post-employment benefit charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	130,000
	Other post-employment benefits charged to the CIES	
(274,000)	Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	256,000
(376,000)	Actuarial (gains)/losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	(1,746,000)
(650,000)	Total Actuarial (Gain)/Loss	(1,490,000)
(470,000)	Total post employment benefit charged to the CIES	(1,360,000)
	Movement in Reserves Statement	
536,000	Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit for the Provision of Services for post employment benefits according with the Code	1,418,000
66,000	Employers Contributions paid to Strathclyde Pension Fund	58,000

Notes

- **Current service cost** is the cost of future entitlements to pension payments to current employees.
- **Past service cost** is the estimated increase in liabilities arising from current decisions that relates to years of service earned prior to this year.
- In addition to the recognised gains and losses included in the CIES, an actuarial gain of (£1.490m) is included in the **Movement in Reserves Statement** (£650k 2021/22).
- **Net interest** is an actuarial adjustment to the inflation element in the cost of funding current and future pension obligations. This is the expected increase during the year in the present value of the Joint Committee's share of Strathclyde Pension Fund's liabilities because they are one year closer to settlement.
- The Joint Committee is also responsible for all pension payments relating to added years benefits it has awarded, together with related increases. In 2022/23 these amounted to £9,449 (2021/22 £9,171).

10b: Assets and liabilities in relation to retirement benefits

A reconciliation of the Joint Committee's share of the present value of the Strathclyde Pension Fund's liabilities is as follows:

2021/22 £000		2022/23 £000
5,130	Opening Present Value	4,976
171	Current service cost	134
104	Interest Cost	135
25	Employee Contributions	21
(78)	Benefits Paid	(80)
	Remeasurement (gains)/losses:	
(376)	Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	(1,746)
4,976	Closing Present Value	3,440

A reconciliation of the Joint Committee's share of the fair value of the Strathclyde Pension Fund's assets is as follows:

2021/22 £000		2022/23 £000
4,762	Opening Fair Value	5,144
95	Interest Income	139
66	Contributions from employer	58
25	Contributions from employee	21
(78)	Benefits Paid	(80)
	Remeasurement gain/(loss):	
274	Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	(256)
5,144	Closing Fair Value	5,026

10c: Fund history

	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000
Present Value of Liabilities	(4,881)	(4,327)	(5,130)	(4,976)	(3,440)
Fair value of assets	4,295	4,125	4,762	5,144	5,026
Surplus/(deficit) in the scheme	(586)	(202)	(368)	168	1,586

The main fund (Fund 1) of Strathclyde Pension Fund does not have an asset and liability matching (ALM) strategy.

The net asset of £1.586m has a significant impact on the net worth of the Joint Committee as recorded in the Balance Sheet. Any deficit on the Strathclyde Pension Fund will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees, as assessed by the Fund actuary. The total contributions expected to be made by the Joint

Committee to Strathclyde Pension Fund in the year to 31 March 2024 is £58k.

10d: Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

The pension scheme's assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held:

2021/22 £000		%	2022/23 £000
1,133	Equity Securities	19.7%	990
1,007	Private Equity	24.6%	1,235
434	Real Estate	8.2%	414
2,439	Investment Funds and	45.6%	2,291
131	Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.9%	95
5,144		100.0%	5,026

The Joint Committee's share of the liabilities of the Strathclyde Pension Fund have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, which estimates the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent upon assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels and so on. The Scheme's liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson, an independent firm of Actuaries, and the estimates are based on the latest full valuation of the Fund at 31 March 2023.

The principal assumptions used by the actuary have been:

2021/22	Mortality assumptions	2022/23
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners (years)		
19.6	Men	19.3
22.4	Women	22.2
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners (years)		
21	Men	20.5
24.5	Women	24.2
2021/22	Other assumptions	2022/23
3.9%	Rate of increase in salaries	3.7%
3.2%	Rate of increase in pensions	3.0%
2.7%	Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	4.8%
Take-up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump sum:		
50.0%	Pre-April 2009 service	50.0%
75.0%	Post-April 2009 service	75.0%

The limitations of methods and assumptions used are associated with any changes in market conditions that affect the net discount rate. These can have a significant effect on the value of the obligations reported

10e: Impact on cashflows

An objective of the fund is to keep employer's contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The fund has agreed a strategy to achieve a funding rate of 100% in the longer term. Employers' and employees' contributions have been determined so that rates are standard across all participating employers. The rate for employer contributions has been set at 19.3% for 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Note 11: Contingent Liabilities

Following two court cases, including Mrs Goodwin v Department for Education, it is expected that proposed changes to public service pension schemes will be required, to ensure that surviving same-sex spouses and civil partners receive benefits equivalent to those received by the surviving spouses of opposite-sex marriages. Strathclyde Pension Fund's actuary estimates that the potential impact may be in the range of 0.1%-0.2% of gross obligations, which equates to between £5k and £10k for Clydeplan. This estimate is not reflected in the Primary Financial Statements because the trigger event that would require recognition has not yet occurred.

Note 12: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A General Principles

The Annual Accounts summarise the Joint Committee's transactions for the 2022/23 financial year and its financial position as at 31 March 2023. The Joint Committee is required to prepare Annual Accounts by the Local Authority (Scotland) Regulations 2014 and section 12 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 requires these accounts to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices.

These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code), supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and statutory guidance issued under section 12 of the 2003 Act.

The Code is issued jointly by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee (LASAAC) and is designed to give a true and fair view of the financial performance of the Joint Committee.

The accounting convention adopted in the Annual Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the valuation of pension assets and liabilities where appropriate. The Annual Accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Materiality refers to a level of information or value of such significance that it could influence the decisions or assessments of users of the Annual Accounts by its presence or omission.

B Accruals of Expenditure and Income

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Joint Committee transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser, and it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Joint Committee;
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the authority satisfies the performance obligation of the transaction, and it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Joint Committee;
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed. Where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption,

they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet;

- Where income and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where there is evidence that debts are unlikely to be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected;
- Suppliers' invoices paid in the one week following the year-end are accrued together with specific accruals in respect of further material items provided the goods or services were received by the Balance Sheet date.

C Contingent Liabilities

Contingent liabilities are disclosed in the accounts, but not recognised in the Balance Sheet, in circumstances where:

- an event has taken place that gives the Committee a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Joint Committee; or
- a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

D Employee Benefits

Benefits payable during employment

All salaries and wages earned up to the Balance Sheet date are included in the accounts irrespective of when payment was made. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements earned by employees but not taken before the year end; and which employees may carry forward into the next financial year.

Post-employment benefits

The Joint Committee participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme which is administered by the Strathclyde Pension Fund. The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefit scheme, and in accordance with International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS19) the Joint Committee has disclosed certain information concerning the assets, liabilities, income and expenditure relating to the pension scheme. IAS 19 requires that an organisation must account for retirement benefits when it is committed to giving them, even if the payment will be many years into the future.

This involves the recognition in the Balance Sheet of the Joint Committee's share of the net pension asset or liability in the Strathclyde Pension Fund and a pension reserve. The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also recognises changes during the year in the pension asset or liability. Service expenditure includes pension costs based on employers' pension contributions payable and payments to pensioners in the year.

The liabilities of the Strathclyde Pension Fund attributable to the Joint Committee are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method i.e., an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates and projections of earnings for current employees. Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices using a discount rate based on the current rate of return available on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities.

The assets of the Strathclyde Pension Fund attributable to the Joint Committee are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value, principally the bid price for quoted securities, and estimated fair value for unquoted securities.

E Events after the Balance Sheet date

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statements are authorised for issue. There are two types of events:

- Adjusting events – those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period, and the Statements are adjusted to reflect such events;
- Non-adjusting events – those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period, and the Statements are not adjusted. Where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the event and its estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statements.

F Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e., in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are made only when required by proper accounting practices, or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Committee's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless otherwise stated) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts

for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material misstatement or omission discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively (unless otherwise stated) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

G Government Grants and other Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third-party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Joint Committee when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Joint Committee will comply with the conditions attached to the payments; and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Joint Committee are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attaching to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Monies advanced as grants and contributions are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the Specific Grant Income line in the CIES.

H Non-current Assets

Clydeplan carried out a review during 2021/22 on plant and equipment and intangible assets and deemed that no items currently qualify for recognition. Assets that are held for use in the supply of services or other administrative purposes and are expected to be used for more than one year are classed as property, plant and equipment and intangible assets. Assets costing less than £9,000 are not treated as capital expenditure.

I Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Joint Committee a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires a settlement by a transfer of economic benefit or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year.

J Reserves

Reserves are classified under accounting regulations into two categories: usable reserves, which are available to spend; and unusable reserves, which are unrealised net gains that have a deferred impact on the Joint Committee.

Usable Reserves

The Revenue Reserve represents surplus funds held by the Joint Committee, which are ultimately repayable to the constituent authorities in the same allocation proportions as the requisitions.

Unusable Reserves

The Pension Reserve arises from the IAS19 accounting disclosures for retirement benefits and recognises the Joint Committee's share of actuarial gains and losses in the Strathclyde Pension Fund and the change in the Joint Committee's share of the Pension Fund net liability chargeable to the CIES.

The Employee Statutory Adjustment Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the Revenue Reserve from accruing for compensated absences earned, but not taken in the year, e.g., annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March each year.

K Value Added Tax

Income and Expenditure excludes any amount relating to Value Added Tax (VAT), as all VAT is payable to HM Revenue & Customs and all VAT is recoverable from them.

Note 13: Assumptions made about the future

The Annual Accounts contain estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Joint Committee about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates. The items in the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2023 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Results differ from Assumption
Pensions Liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Joint Committee with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.1% decrease in the discount rate assumption would result in an increase in the pension asset of £0.063m, equating to an 2% increase. For further details see Note 10: Retirement Benefits.

Note 14: Green Network Partnership

Overview

The Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership (GCVGNP) was formed in 2006 to develop a co-ordinated approach that will deliver major improvement in the scale and quality of green network provision across Glasgow Clyde Valley. There is a strong relationship between Clydeplan and the GCVGNP: The Strategic Development Plan Manager and Assistant Manager are Chair and Vice-Chair of the GCVGNP Committee respectively; the Clydeplan Joint Committee acts for its constituent local authorities to agree local authority funding to support the GCVGNP Business Plan; the Clydeplan Joint Committee approves the GCVGNP business plan and revenue estimates, in respect of local authority contributions only; progress against business plan targets are monitored annually by the Joint Committee; the executive team of Clydeplan and GCVGNP share offices in 40 John Street, Glasgow.

As well as the Strategic Development Plan Manager, the GCVGNP committee is comprised of senior employees from the eight local authorities. The relationship between the Clydeplan and the GCVGNP is not a joint arrangement and so outside the scope of IFRS 11 (Joint Arrangements).

Financial Performance

Revenue

GCVGNP has returned a surplus of £2k for the financial year 2022/23 (deficit of £13k in 2021/22). This follows a transfer of £47,500 from ClydePlan to fund a fixed-term Development Officer post. GCVGNP is a significant regional component of the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN). As a result, the GCVGNP secures additional funding for various projects related to the CSGN. In 2022/23, funding was received from Nature Scotland for two new GCVGNP projects: Clyde Grasslands Development Phase Project and Clyde Peatlands Project totalling (£16k).

Reserves

The Partnership retains financial reserves to offset any liabilities of the Partnership. The following table shows the value of the Partnerships reserves at 31 March 2023. This is analysed into Usable reserves, which is derived from partnership funding and can be used to fund expenditure, and Unusable reserves, which cannot be used to fund expenditure.

2021/22	Reserves	2022/23 £
(99,630)	Usable Reserves	(101,899)
	Unusable Reserves:	
173	Employee Statutory Adjustment Account	1,463
114,000	Pension Reserve	(590,000)
14,543	Total	(690,436)

Budget 2023/24

The 2023/24 budget for GCVGNP was approved by the ClydePlan Joint Committee on 12 December 2022.

The GCVGNP partners have contributed funding in the following proportions to enable it to carry out its objectives:

2021/22 £	Council	%	2022/23 £
5,756	East Dunbartonshire	5.1%	5,756
4,900	East Renfrewshire	4.4%	4,900
31,949	Glasgow City	28.4%	31,949
4,451	Inverclyde	4.0%	4,451
17,825	North Lanarkshire	15.9%	17,825
9,311	Renfrewshire	8.3%	9,311
16,992	South Lanarkshire	15.1%	16,992
5,001	West Dunbartonshire	4.5%	5,001
	Other organisations		
0	Nature Scot	14.4%	16,116
96,185	Total Green Network Partnership Funding	100.0%	112,301