

**South Ayrshire Council**

**Report by Chief Financial Officer  
to Audit and Governance Panel  
of 25 June 2025**

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**Subject: Annual Accounts 2024/25**

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the unaudited Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 ('the unaudited Accounts').

**2. Recommendation**

**2.1 It is recommended that the Panel:**

**2.1.1 approves the accounting policies (contained in Appendix 1 (to follow)) used in preparing the 2024/25 Annual Accounts;**

**2.1.2 considers the unaudited Annual Accounts (Appendix 1 (to follow)), noting that all figures remain subject to audit;**

**2.1.3 considers the unaudited Charitable Trust Accounts (Appendix 2 (to follow)), noting that all figures remain subject to audit; and**

**2.1.4 requests the Chief Financial Officer to report back to the Panel following completion of the audit.**

**3. Background**

3.1 Each year, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) issues new accounting guidance called the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). All local authorities use the Code in preparing their annual accounts.

3.2 Where appropriate, the accounting policies have been revised in line with changes required by 2024/25 Code.

3.3 The unaudited Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) and were submitted to the Council's external auditors, Audit Scotland, before the statutory deadline of 30 June 2025.

3.4 A full and separate audit is also required for each registered charity where Members of South Ayrshire Council are sole trustees..

3.5 Notice has been given under Regulation 5 (1) of the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1985 to allow public inspection of the unaudited Accounts.

3.6 The Chief Internal Auditor's statement on the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control system of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2025 is being provided to the members of the Audit and Governance Panel as a separate item on this agenda.

3.7 Members should note that the unaudited Accounts are currently subject to audit.

#### **4. Proposals**

4.1 A copy of the unaudited Accounts is attached to this report for information and consideration (please refer to Appendix 1 (to follow)).

4.2 Copies of the unaudited Charitable Trust Accounts are attached to this report for information and consideration (please refer to Appendix 2 (to follow)).

4.3 The audit of the Accounts will commence in July and will conclude with an Annual Audit report and Report to those Charged with Governance being presented to the Audit and Governance Panel in September 2025. The report will provide the independent auditor's report to Members of the Council, and will allow the auditor to communicate the matters raised during the audit to the Panel.

#### **5. Legal and Procurement Implications**

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 None arising from this report.

#### **7. Human Resources Implications**

7.1 Not applicable.

#### **8. Risk**

##### **8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations**

8.1.1. There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

##### **8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations**

8.2.1 There are no risks associated with rejecting the recommendations.

#### **9. Integrated Impact Assessment (incorporating Equalities)**

9.1 The proposals in this report do not require to be assessed through an Integrated Impact Assessment.

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**10. Sustainable Development Implications**

10.1 **Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

**11. Options Appraisal**

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

**12. Link to Council Plan**

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and effective enabling services.

**13. Link to Shaping Our Future Council** Yes  No

13.1 Not applicable.

**14. Results of Consultation**

14.1 As indicated at paragraph 3.3 above, the unaudited Accounts will be available for public inspection during the audit process.

14.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Ian Davis, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Human Resources and ICT, due to tight timescales to produce the report.

**Background Papers** None

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