

Classification of recommendations

Classification of recommendations			
Grade 1: Key risks and / or significant deficiencies which are critical to the achievement of strategic objectives. Consequently management needs to address and seek resolution urgently.		Grade 2: Risks or potential weaknesses which impact on individual objectives, or impact the operation of a single process, and so require prompt but not immediate action by management.	
Grade 3: Less significant issues and / or areas for improvement which we consider merit attention but do not require to be prioritised by management.			
No.	Findings and / or risk	Recommendation / grading	Management response / Implementation timeframe
9	There is scope to learn wider lessons from whistleblowing and emerging cultural issues within individual services as they could impact the trust and reputation of the Council. Any review should be overseen by the Audit Committee as part of its governance and risk management role.	The number and nature of concerns expressed about the culture within individual services present a reputational risk to the Council. A review of the control environment should be undertaken and monitored by the Audit Committee. <i>Grade 1</i>	Response: Actions are being implemented by services to review the culture change referred to, and to take positive steps. This will be reviewed by Internal Audit and reported as required. Responsible officer: Internal Audit Manager Implementation date: June 2023
10	While we acknowledge that performance reporting remains under development, reporting does not yet provide a user-friendly, accessible source of performance information for members of the public.	The Council's performance reporting arrangement should continue to be reviewed to ensure performance can be readily assessed and scrutinised. This should include greater use of graphics where appropriate. <i>Grade 2</i>	Response: The corporate group reviewing the Council's performance reporting framework will progress this action ensuring positive changes to the information provided to Members and to the public. Responsible officer: Change Manager Implementation date: June 2023
11	The Council has acknowledged that the level of investment in climate change is not sufficient to deliver its 2030 target. Updated, realistic plans are needed to deliver the Scottish Government's target in the context of the Financial Strategy.	The Council should ensure that the updated Climate Emergency Strategy provides a realistic plan to achieve the Scottish Government's emissions targets. <i>Grade 2</i>	Response: A Climate Emergency Strategy is being prepared for Member consideration and will take this into account. Responsible officer: Head of Growth, Planning and Climate Implementation date: By December 2023

Follow up of prior year recommendations

Classification of recommendations

Grade 1: Key risks and / or significant deficiencies which are critical to the achievement of strategic objectives. Consequently management needs to address and seek resolution urgently.

Grade 2: Risks or potential weaknesses which impact on individual objectives, or impact the operation of a single process, and so require prompt but not immediate action by management.

Grade 3: Less significant issues and / or areas for improvement which we consider merit attention but do not require to be prioritised by management.

No.	Findings and / or risk	Management response / Implementation timeframe	Our assessment of progress
1	<p>The accounting for assets which are subject to revaluation continues to be an area of significant estimation uncertainty.</p> <p>A session has been planned for January 2022 to discuss arrangements in more detail with management.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Grade 1</i></p>	<p>Agreed, Management are pleased that the improvements made during 2020/21 have been acknowledged by Audit but recognise that more work is required. A meeting is scheduled with Audit in January 2022 to ensure that the Council has a better understanding of the Audit requirements. A more detailed plan will be put in place following this meeting.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Capital & Treasury Manager</p> <p>Implementation date: 31 March 2022</p>	<p>Our assessment: Improving</p> <p>As we note within page 18, management has taken on board previous feedback and recommendations in respect of reviewing the frequency of the valuation cycle to ensure asset values do not materially change in intervening years between revaluations. We did, however, note that valuers could be better informed by drawing on property services knowledge.</p> <p>We also note the continuing audit focus in this area means that the Council are likely to require additional external valuations. A more cost effective solution may be to explore a shared service for internal valuations with another council.</p>
2	<p>As we have highlighted for a number of years, the Council will be required to adopt IFRS 16 in 2021/22. Early preparation should assist an efficient preparation and audit of the financial statements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Grade 2</i></p>	<p>Agreed. Preparations are currently ongoing and arrangements will be put in place to comply with the Code and reporting requirements.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Corporate Finance Manager</p> <p>Implementation date: 31 March 2022</p>	<p>Our assessment: Ongoing</p> <p>As we note within page 24, the implementation of IFRS 16 has been delayed until 1 April 2024.</p>

Follow up of prior year recommendations

Classification of recommendations

Grade 1: Key risks and / or significant deficiencies which are critical to the achievement of strategic objectives. Consequently management needs to address and seek resolution urgently.		Grade 2: Risks or potential weaknesses which impact on individual objectives, or impact the operation of a single process, and so require prompt but not immediate action by management.	Grade 3: Less significant issues and / or areas for improvement which we consider merit attention but do not require to be prioritised by management.
No.	Findings and / or risk	Management response / Implementation timeframe	Our assessment of progress
3	<p>We note that the Council has developed a draft Improvement Plan to response to the Best Value Assurance Report, which includes an updated and refreshed Business Plan. The updated Plan must support robust and transparent scrutiny of planned transformation to deliver the pace and depth of change that the Council envisages.</p> <p><i>Grade 1</i></p>	<p>Agreed. The Council will hold collaboration sessions with officers and elected members during January 2022 to firm up the strategic action plan in response to the Best Value Assurance Report (BVAR). The strategic action plan will run till the end of 2022/23, taking into account ramped up activity to support a new Council, post-election in May 2022.</p> <p>The strategic action plan will hold officers and members to account via the identification of clear owners, timescales and governance of the plan. This will be established as part of the collaboration sessions. A request will be made to the council's audit partner to support this.</p> <p>Kick off sessions took place w/c 13/12/21 with members and officers to review the BVAR Audit Scotland findings and begin building on the draft improvement plan already on place. The Council's full response to the BVAR will be reported to Council in February 2022. A range of tactical plans will also be developed to deliver the strategic action plan.</p> <p>These plans will weave into an update on the Council's business plan, married with the Council's budget report, that will go to Council on 02 March 2022. This update will include an update on the Change Fund.</p> <p>Post-election, work will be done on a new corporate / business plan that will refresh the COTF programme, which, in turn, will impact savings and state any Change Fund investment required to support the transformation of Falkirk Council against a new corporate priority framework. This will necessarily involve Children's Services' savings and projects which, alongside the business plan, will be subject to support and scrutiny through the COTF governance framework.</p> <p>Responsible officer: R McDonald/K Algie</p> <p>Implementation date: March 2023</p>	<p>Our assessment: Ongoing</p> <p>As we note within page 41, the Council has taken significant steps to progress the Best Value Strategic Action Plan. It is too early to conclude on the impact of actions.</p>

Follow up of prior year recommendations

Classification of recommendations

Grade 1: Key risks and / or significant deficiencies which are critical to the achievement of strategic objectives. Consequently management needs to address and seek resolution urgently.

Grade 2: Risks or potential weaknesses which impact on individual objectives, or impact the operation of a single process, and so require prompt but not immediate action by management.

Grade 3: Less significant issues and / or areas for improvement which we consider merit attention but do not require to be prioritised by management.

No.	Findings and / or risk	Management response / Implementation timeframe	Our assessment of progress
4	<p>While good progress has been made overall to update key financial governance documents, we note that the work to update and approve the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and the Procedures for the Investigation of Fraud has not been completed.</p> <p><i>Grade 1</i></p>	<p>Response: Accepted.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Internal Audit, Risk, and Corporate Fraud Manager</p> <p>Implementation date: 28 February 2022</p>	<p>Our assessment: Complete</p>
5	<p>Like all local authorities in the UK, the Council will be required to conduct a self-assessment of its performance against the CIPFA Financial Management Code in 2021/22. This, together with the retirement of the Chief Finance Officer, provides an opportunity to consider the role and capacity of the Finance Team within the Council structure.</p> <p><i>Grade 1</i></p>	<p>Response: Accepted. From an initial evaluation the Council is able to confirm that it conforms to the FM Code in all major aspects. However, a more detailed evaluation will take place and any actions to enhance the existing compliance will be implemented.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Chief Finance Officer</p> <p>Implementation date: 31 March 2022</p>	<p>Our assessment: Incomplete</p> <p>Refer to updated recommendation 7.</p>
6	<p>We noted there may be scope to review the current structure of the Governance Statement against good practice outlined within CIPFA's Delivering Good Governance Guidance. This includes ensuring that the statement captures the key strategic challenges and risks that face the Council and communicating significant issues alongside an action plan for improvement.</p> <p><i>Grade 3</i></p>	<p>Response: Agreed.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Internal Audit, Risk, and Corporate Fraud Manager</p> <p>Implementation date: 30 June 2022</p>	<p>Our assessment: Complete</p> <p>The updated Annual Governance Statement has been improved to align with good practice guidance.</p>

Follow up of prior year recommendations

Classification of recommendations

Grade 1: Key risks and / or significant deficiencies which are critical to the achievement of strategic objectives. Consequently management needs to address and seek resolution urgently.

Grade 2: Risks or potential weaknesses which impact on individual objectives, or impact the operation of a single process, and so require prompt but not immediate action by management.

Grade 3: Less significant issues and / or areas for improvement which we consider merit attention but do not require to be prioritised by management.

No.	Findings and / or risk	Management response / Implementation timeframe	Our assessment of progress
6	<p>We noted there may be scope to review the current structure of the Governance Statement against good practice outlined within CIPFA's Delivering Good Governance Guidance. This includes ensuring that the statement captures the key strategic challenges and risks that face the Council and communicating significant issues alongside an action plan for improvement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Grade 3</i></p>	<p>Response: Agreed.</p> <p>Responsible officer: Internal Audit, Risk, and Corporate Fraud Manager</p> <p>Implementation date: 30 June 2022</p>	<p>Our assessment: Complete</p>

Appendix E: Adjusted errors identified during the audit

This appendix sets out the significant adjustments processed as part of finalisation of the financial statements. There were 5 unadjusted audit differences identified above our reporting threshold.

Adjusted differences

No.	Description	Income and Expenditure Impact / £000's	Balance Sheet Impact / £000's
1	<i>IJB service income incorrectly reflected within Social Work income and expenditure.</i>	Dr Social Work Income £76,364,598 Cr Social Work Expenditure £76,364,598	
2	<i>Error within Children's Services Internal Recharge elimination</i>	Dr Children's Services Income £27,210,364 Cr Children's Services Income £27,210,364	
3	<i>Entries updated to reflect the final Actuarial Report</i>		Dr Pension Liability £13,376,000 Cr Pension Reserve £13,376,000

Unadjusted differences

No.	Description	Income and Expenditure Impact / £000's	Balance Sheet Impact / £000's
1	<i>Overstatement of PPE identified from existence testing</i>	Dr Expenditure £829,823	Cr PPE £829,823
2	<i>Reclassification of housing suspense credit balances in debtors to creditors</i>		Dr Debtors £1,762,482 Cr Creditors £1,762,482
3	<i>Overaccrual of manual provision</i>	Cr Expenditure £644,015	Dr Provision £644,015
4	<i>2020-21 jobs included in HRA voids report due to timing of checks</i>	Cr Expenditure £447,766	Dr Equity £447,766
5	<i>Recognition of Capital Grants for work completed by March 2022</i>	Cr Revenue £351,351	Dr CGRIA £351,351

Appendix F: Timing and deliverables of the audit

We delivered our audit in accordance with the timeline set by the Council, in accordance with the annual audit planning guidance from Audit Scotland. Below is a timetable showing the key stages of the audit and the deliverables through the 2021/22 audit cycle, including the remaining areas of work with completion deadlines subsequent to this report.

	Audit Activity	Deliverable	Timing
JAN			
FEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Onsite fieldwork, documentation and walkthrough of key accounting processes 	Annual Audit Plan	Finalised and submitted to Audit Scotland March 2022
MAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping of wider scope work for year 		
APR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current issues impacting the Council 	Quarterly current issue return submission	Quarterly throughout the audit cycle
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of reported frauds 	Quarterly fraud return submission	
MAY			
JUN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year-end substantive audit fieldwork on unaudited financial statements 	Whole of Government Accounts assurance statement to NAO (as required)	[Financial statements audit and annual audit report on course for submission October 2022.]
JUL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conclude on results of audit procedures 	Certify Annual Financial Statements	
AUG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue opinion on the Council's financial statements 	Issue Annual Audit Report	WGA guidance and further minimum dataset return requests awaited.
		Submit minimum dataset return to Audit Scotland	
SEP			
OCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Non-Domestic Rates return testing 	Certified Non-Domestic Rates return	On course for completion October 2022
NOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Housing Benefits claim testing 	Certified Housing Benefit subsidy claim	On course for completion October 2022
DEC			

Appendix G: Likely developments in sustainability reporting

In the corporate sector, significant financial reporting developments has meant that there has been a step change in the level of climate related disclosures within company financial statements. There is not yet an equivalent requirement for local government accounting, but guidance from the Scottish Government recently issued [Public Sector Leadership on the global climate emergency guidance](#) which recommends that public bodies should consider reporting to external frameworks such as the Taskforce for Climate Related Financial Disclosure. We outline the key elements below:

The governance processes, controls and procedures the entity uses to monitor and manage climate related risks and opportunities

How climate related risks and opportunities are identified, assessed, managed and mitigated

Cross-reference to where the disclosure can be found. If cross-referencing to another document, explain why the information is not included in the annual report.

Set out key focus areas for next year

Consider explaining readiness to comply with any changes to requirements applicable for next reporting cycle

TCFD elements	TCFD recommendations	Cross-reference or explanation of non-compliance	Next steps and other comments
Governance	a. Board oversight	Consider commenting on progress in preparing a climate transition plan	
	b. Management's role		
Strategy	a. Climate-related risks and opportunities		
	b. Impact on the organisation's businesses, strategy and financial planning		
	c. Resilience of the organisation's strategy to climate-related risks		
Risk Management	a. Risk identification and assessment processes	Consider commenting on progress in being able to report scope 3 GHG emissions	
	b. Risk management process		
	c. Integration into overall risk management		
Metrics and Targets	Climate-related metrics in line with strategy and risk management process		
	Scope 1, 2 (and 3) Green House Gas (GHG) metrics and the related risks		
	Climate-related targets and performance against targets		

Source: Adapted from [Continuing the journey towards TCFD compliance](#), EY Centre for Board Studies, May 2022

About EY

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

Ernst & Young LLP

The UK firm Ernst & Young LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC300001 and is a member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited.

Ernst & Young LLP, 1 More London Place, London, SE1 2AF.

© 2022 Ernst & Young LLP. Published in the UK.
All Rights Reserved.

ey.com

Reporting on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on financial statements

We certify that we have audited the financial statements in the annual accounts of Falkirk Council and its group for the year ended 31 March 2022 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The financial statements comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements, Movement in Reserves Statements, Balance Sheets, and Cash Flow Statements, the council-only Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement, the Council Tax Income Account, and the Non-domestic Rate Account, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards, as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the 2021/22 Code).

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements:

- ☐ give a true and fair view in accordance with applicable law and the 2021/22 Code of the state of affairs of the council and its group as at 31 March 2022 and of the income and expenditure of the council and its group for the year then ended;
- ☐ have been properly prepared in accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards, as interpreted and adapted by the 2021/22 Code; and
- ☐ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, and the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)), as required by the [Code of Audit Practice](#) approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We were appointed by the Accounts Commission on 26 July 2016. The period of total uninterrupted appointment is six years. We are independent of the council and its group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. Non-audit services prohibited by the Ethical Standard were not provided to the council. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern basis of accounting

We have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the ability of the council and its group to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

These conclusions are not intended to, nor do they, provide assurance on the current or future financial sustainability of the council and its group. However, we report on the council's arrangements for financial sustainability in a separate Annual Audit Report available from the [Audit Scotland website](#).

Risks of material misstatement

We report in our Annual Audit Report the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement that we identified and our judgements thereon.

Responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer and Audit Committee for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting framework, and for such internal control as the Chief Finance Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for assessing the ability of the council and its group to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention to discontinue the operations of the council and its group.

The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities outlined above to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

Procedures include:

- obtaining an understanding of the applicable legal and regulatory framework and how the council and its group is complying with that Framework;
- identifying which laws and regulations are significant in the context of the council and its group;
- assessing the susceptibility of the financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur; and
- considering whether the audit team collectively has the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify or recognise non-compliance with laws and regulations.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the council's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

Irregularities that result from fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error as fraud may involve collusion, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. The capability of the audit to detect fraud and other irregularities depends on factors such as the skillfulness of the perpetrator, the frequency and extent of manipulation, the degree of collusion involved, the relative size of individual amounts manipulated, and the seniority of those individuals involved.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Reporting on other requirements

Opinion prescribed by the Accounts Commission on the audited part of the Remuneration Report

We have audited the part of the Remuneration Report described as audited. In our opinion, the audited part of the Remuneration Report has been properly prepared in accordance with The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014.

Other information

The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for other information in the annual accounts. The other information comprises the Management Commentary, Annual Governance Statement, Statement of Responsibilities and the unaudited part of the Remuneration Report.

Our responsibility is to read all the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon except on the Management Commentary and Annual Governance Statement to the extent explicitly stated in the following opinions prescribed by the Accounts Commission.

Opinions prescribed by the Accounts Commission on the Management Commentary and Annual Governance Statement

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Management Commentary for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and that report has been prepared in accordance with statutory guidance issued under the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003; and
- the information given in the Annual Governance Statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and that report has been prepared in accordance with the Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016).

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We are required by the Accounts Commission to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ☐ adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- ☐ the financial statements and the audited part of the Remuneration Report are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- ☐ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- ☐ there has been a failure to achieve a prescribed financial objective.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Conclusions on wider scope responsibilities

In addition to our responsibilities for the annual accounts, our conclusions on the wider scope responsibilities specified in the Code of Audit Practice, including those in respect of Best Value, are set out in our Annual Audit Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the parties to whom it is addressed in accordance with Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and for no other purpose. In accordance with paragraph 120 of the Code of Audit Practice, we do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

[Signature]

Stephen Reid (for and on behalf of EY)

Ernst & Young LLP

Atria One

144 Morrison Street

Edinburgh

EH3 8EX

Date

Enquiries to: Amanda Templeman
Direct Dial: (01324) 506340
Date: 19 October 2022



Falkirk Council
*Transformation, Communities
& Corporate Services*

Ernst & Young
Atria One
144 Morrison Street
EH3 8EX

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the consolidated and council financial statements of Falkirk Council ("the Group and Council") for the year ended 31 March 2022. We recognise that obtaining representations from us concerning the information contained in this letter is a significant procedure in enabling you to form an opinion as to whether the consolidated and Council financial statements give a true and fair view of the Group and Council financial position of Falkirk Council as of 31 March 2022 and of its financial performance (or operations) and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with for the Group and Council, CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of our consolidated and Council financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, which involves an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, and is not designed to identify - nor necessarily be expected to disclose - all fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Accordingly, we make the following representations, which are true to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

A. Financial Statements and Financial Records

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, under the relevant statutory authorities, for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with for the Group and Council, the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 and CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.
2. We acknowledge, as members of management of the Group and Council, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the consolidated and Council financial statements. We believe the consolidated and Council financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance (or results of operations) and cash flows of the Group and Council in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22. and are free of material misstatements, including omissions. We have approved the consolidated and Council financial statements.
3. The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the Group and Council financial statements are appropriately described in the Group and Council financial statements.

Director: Karen Algie
The Foundry
4 Central Boulevard, Central Park
Larbert, FK5 4RU
DX 556562 Falkirk 6
Telephone: 01324 506070
www.falkirk.gov.uk