

Report

Report to:	Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2019
Report by:	Treasurer to Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

Subject:	Certified Annual Accounts 2018/2019
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise members of the outcome of the audit by the Joint Committee's external auditor, Audit Scotland
- ♦ advise members of the requirement to approve the Annual Accounts for 2018/2019 for signature

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Joint Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that it be noted that the Annual Accounts for 2018/2019 received a clean audit certificate (section 4.2); and
- (2) that the audited Annual Accounts for 2018/2019, be approved for signature (Appendix 1).

3. Background

- 3.1. The auditor, Audit Scotland, is required to supply an audit certificate outlining the findings of the audit process undertaken in relation to the Annual Accounts 2018/2019.
- 3.2. Following the publication of The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, the members of the Board are required to meet to consider whether to approve the audited Annual Accounts for signature, no later than 30 September 2019. The members are also required to have regard to any report made or advice provided on the Annual Accounts by the auditor.

4. Audited Accounts

- 4.1. As noted in 3.2 above, members are now required to approve the audited Annual Accounts for signature. Appendix 1 attached provides a copy of the Annual Accounts for members' consideration.
- 4.2. The Joint Committee's external auditors, Audit Scotland, have completed an audit which extends across the 2018/2019 Annual Accounts and related matters. In summary, the report provides a clean audit certificate with no audit actions identified. A full copy of the report has been provided to members at this meeting.

- 4.3. Copies of the audited Annual Accounts are attached at Appendix 1 to this report and will be available on South Lanarkshire Council's website.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The audited Annual Accounts indicate that the Committee's total revenue expenditure amounted to £0.055 million in 2018/2019 and was funded by other income of £0.057 million. This resulted in a £0.002 million surplus, which can be added to the revenue cash balance of £0.012 million brought forward from 2017/2018.
- 6.2. After taking account of any accruals and commitments, this leaves a revenue cash balance of £0.014 million to be carried forward into 2019/2020, for use in future years.
- 6.3. This position has been confirmed by the Joint Committee's external auditors, Audit Scotland.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. The main risk associated with the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee Annual Accounts was a qualified audit report. The risk was assessed as low due to the detailed preparation in relation to the year end process, technical training undertaken by key finance staff and the roll out of this to Resource finance staff as appropriate. Finance Services and the Project Steering Group work together to achieve key deadlines and actions set from timetables.
- 7.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained in this report

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in the report.

Jackie Taylor
Treasurer

5 August 2019

Previous References

- ◆ Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee, 10 June 2019

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee Annual Accounts 2018/2019 and External Auditor's report.

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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***CLYDE VALLEY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
JOINT COMMITTEE***

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

2018/19

CLYDE VALLEY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT JOINT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2018/2019

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Introduction by the Convener of Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Project has just completed its twelfth year of operation, and its second year of governance for the current Joint Committee. The year has also been characterised by the first radical change in the structure, governance and funding of the Project since it was first established in 2007.

As funding and savings targets continue to provide a challenging environment for all the councils associated with the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group, it was only right and fitting that the viability of maintaining the Project should be considered and evaluated.

As a result of this process the new structure that has been agreed over the past year gives great cause for optimism. The number of members who will be participating in the Project going forward has exceeded initial expectations, resulting in a stronger foundation for development and consolidation for the coming year.

As this new structure has been established, the ongoing project work has continued to deliver benefits to those involved and it is a testament to these positive outcomes that the new categories of membership have been taken up so enthusiastically.

As the Convenor of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee, I would like to recognise and thank all of the partner Councils involved for maintaining the Project's unique partnership. It is clear that the Project has been consistently successful in delivering real outcomes and shared benefits to Members during its time in existence.

It is now more important than ever that Project should continue to develop and deliver value to Members from all three of our new categories. The challenge now for the Group is to build on past successes while moving the agenda forward.

I look forward optimistically to the coming year for the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group and would once again encourage all Joint Committee Members and officers from the Member Councils to continue to take an active role in ensuring the continued success of the Project.

Councillor Katy Loudon
Convener
Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

Management Commentary 2018/19

Introduction

The Management Commentary of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee will provide the reader with information on the environment in which the Joint Committee operates and on the Joint Committee's performance, both operationally and financially.

The following commentary relates to the 2018/2019 financial year, which within the context of the challenges facing all our public services, Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee continues to maintain a strong presence.

Objectives

The overall objective of the project remains to establish and deliver a number of shared approaches to training, learning and development between the Clyde Valley Councils (South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, Glasgow City, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Councils) which will result in:

- ◆ Greater efficiency due to shared working rather than a council-by-council approach
- ◆ Reduced duplication of effort
- ◆ The identification, development and sharing of best practice
- ◆ Setting, achieving and maintaining the highest standards of service delivery
- ◆ Modernising service delivery by improving practice and making best use of information technology
- ◆ A consistent approach to training, learning and development,
- ◆ Ensuring equality of opportunity for all Clyde Valley employees in accessing appropriate learning and development.
- ◆ Developing centres of excellence from which to deliver models suitable for replication nationally

Financial Statements

The purpose of the financial statements is to demonstrate stewardship of the public monies which fund the work of the Committee.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/2019, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) which ensures a set of statements is produced, each statement with a single clear objective.

The cumulative underspend at the end of the year will be held by the Committee for utilisation in future years. These monies are reflected as a creditor balance on the Balance Sheet.

Management Commentary 2018/19 (continued)

Performance Review 2018/2019

The Clyde Valley Councils continue to monitor the benefits and outcomes they achieve through their involvement in the project on an ongoing basis. As the project's stability is maintained and the achievements are considered each year, the collaborative approach to learning and development continues to demonstrate added value to the Member Councils.

In the financial year 2018/2019, benefits have been realised through making cost savings and developing best practice in the following areas:

- ◆ Ongoing contracts achieved through joint procurement
- ◆ E-Learning development, improvements and content sharing
- ◆ Savings in delivery of Scottish Vocational Qualifications
- ◆ Learning and training for Social Care
- ◆ Food hygiene online training and award
- ◆ Promoting Positive Behaviour
- ◆ Accredited Front Line Management training (CMI)

In addition to the recurring benefits identified by the Members, it is clear that the established infrastructure, culture and practice prevalent within the Clyde Valley Project, promotes and facilitates countless opportunities for networking, exploring new opportunities and sharing best practice.

The Project remains a source of interest for other organisations seeking to participate in Clyde Valley activities. Historically this has been demonstrated through the admission of Associate Members to the Group, resulting in an increased network for sharing best practice and for delivery of benefits further afield.

In addition, the recognition of the strategic significance and contribution to the project from the Social Care Group has resulted in this group taking on a shared governance role along with the project Steering Group. This approach reflects the scope of influence of each dimension of the project as well as the resourcing implications of delivering the Project's programmes.

Due to the operational success of the project and consequent number of additional organisations wishing to participate, it was agreed that a review of the current funding structure should take place, with the new fee structure being introduced in 2019/20.

Following an evaluation of a number of options, a new three tier fee structure has been agreed which will reflect the level of participation by each of the members. The 2 new tiers – Participating and Procurement Membership will complement the existing Full Membership category. The evident benefits on offer has resulted in a healthy update in membership for all three categories.

The Project's membership going into 2019/20 currently stands at:

- 6 Full Members
- 11 Participating Members
- 2 Procurement Members

This will result in sustainable income which supports a contribution to running costs for South Lanarkshire Council as lead authority, (£0.059m) and also provides a modest project fund of £0.032m for specific project activities incurring costs. The allocation and disbursement of this fund will be managed by consensus between the Project Steering Group and the Social Care Group.

Projects already under consideration include the evaluation of the Promoting Positive Behaviour (PPB) Programme, a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) event for PPB practitioners and development sprints to add additional functionality to the Clyde Valley Learning Management System (Brightwave).

Existing Programmes

During this year the emphasis has continued to focus on consolidation of activities carried out by the Group. Again these were primarily focused on the most active aspects of the Group's work, such as e-learning and Promoting Positive Behaviour.

In August 2018, the existing contract for the provision of an e-learning management system (LMS) reached the end of its four year cycle. The majority of Full and Associate Members opted to trigger the contract extension for a further three years. In addition to the continued sharing and development of content, a more modern platform has also been widely introduced to reflect the changing needs of learners across the membership.

Existing contracts have been maintained for accessing online portfolios for the delivery of SVQs, and there is now a widespread uptake of the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS)/Clyde Valley Joint Award in introductory food hygiene. The Clyde Valley's Chartered Management Institution (CMI) accredited centre for the delivery of Front Line Management continues to thrive and is used by six Councils.

Other examples of Clyde Valley activities undertaken this year include the following:

Development of e-learning:

This workstream remains at the centre of the Clyde Valley Project work. A new workplan was identified by the e-learning Group and approved by the Steering Group. This workplan will be the focus of the agenda for the newly constituted group over the next year. The delivery of the workplan has been allocated to separate working groups in order to encourage greater participation and allow each work stream to develop simultaneously. The activity and participation in this Group reflects the new membership structure with both Full and Participating members working as equal partners.

The bi-monthly meetings of the Group continue to be well attended with an average of 12 councils meeting on a regular basis, either in person, via conference call or by online virtual meeting. This remains a powerful forum for problem solving, developing and sharing new skills and techniques and for managing the ongoing improvements to the Brightwave product set (known as sprints).

Promoting Positive Behaviour (PPB)

Both the governance structure and the PPB programme itself is firmly established within the core group of Clyde Valley Councils. The programme is jointly owned and governed by the original eight full member councils who are the signatories of the PPB Minute of Agreement.

As the eight councils are now actively delivering programmes the emphasis has turned to building internal capacity for the programme to remain sustainable in the future. Each council has been asked to nominate additional Principal Trainers as part of this process to manage continued and increasing demand.

The potential to access the PPB programme has been instrumental in driving the decision of Participating Members to retain membership and it is anticipated that the ongoing discussions with Falkirk, City of Edinburgh and Dundee City Councils will lead to the establishment of further programmes in some or all of these councils in the coming year.

Financial Performance

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and its accompanying notes and statements summarise the costs and sources of funding in carrying out the Committee's activities.

For 2018/2019, the Revenue Expenditure results for the Committee are shown on page 10 – an underspend position (£0.002m) on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement which will be carried forward into 2019/2020.

Support expenses of £0.028m were paid to South Lanarkshire Council. The majority of the remainder of the Project's expenditure is incurred in respect of Training Costs incurred on behalf of Member Councils (£0.025m, 45.45%). This is a minor decrease of £0.006m from 2017/2018. The training costs relate to accredited management training which is provided to employees across Member Councils by the Chartered Management Institute, and annual City and Guilds subscriptions. These costs are incurred by Clyde Valley and recharged to individual Member Councils at the end of the financial year. Costs associated with other streams of Clyde Valley activity are incurred directly by individual authorities.

The Committee's income is mainly made up of contributions from Member Councils. There is a small amount of funding remaining from the Scottish Government (via South Lanarkshire Council) who contributed to the start-up costs of the project. This contribution totalled £0.560m in 2007/2008 and the unutilised balance, along with underspends in the years 2014/2015 to 2017/2018 has been carried forward into 2018/2019 as a Creditor (£0.012m). The underspend of £0.002m for 2018/2019 will be added to this Creditor balance and these monies will be used for future progress on the project.

This reflects the practical arrangement that exists between the Joint Committee and South Lanarkshire Council where the Council's Loans Fund lends or borrows according to the required cash flow and activities of the Committee.

The Statement of Accounting Policies has been included which details the policies implemented when compiling and presenting the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and related statements. The accounting policies are those recommended by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, as supported by the International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Statement of Responsibilities advises that the Head of Finance for South Lanarkshire Council is the designated Treasurer to the Committee and is responsible for the proper administration of the Committee's financial affairs. Full details of the Treasurer's responsibilities are included in the statement.

Management Commentary 2018/19 (continued)

Outlook

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Group continue to seek out opportunities to deliver innovation in learning and development through collaborative working. Although the work remains extremely challenging in the context of significant savings target for all, the outcomes achieved are still demonstrably adding value to Member Councils.

The introduction of the new funding model has been positively received and the challenge for the future will be to maintain the high standards of delivery and innovation through partnership working which will encourage retained membership from all three categories of membership.

The new governance and management structure being shared between the Steering Group and the Social Care Group has generated a renewed enthusiasm to continue and develop the Project's work and to share best practice. The goodwill, time and resources allocated to the work by members remains central to the success of the Project and shows every sign of being maintained over the coming year.

Although the funding from the Scottish Government has now come to an end, financial contributions from member Councils have been secured for 2019/2020, and as such the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Jackie Taylor

Treasurer - Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

9 September 2019

Annual Governance Statement

This statement sets out the framework within which the Joint Committee has proper arrangements for the governance of the Joint Committee's affairs, thereby facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place for the management of risk and appropriate systems of internal control are in place. While the Joint Committee's governance arrangements have not been consolidated in a formal Code of Corporate Governance, the Annual Governance Statement has been prepared within the context of the Joint Committee's governance framework and meets legislative requirements to include the Annual Governance Statement within the Annual Accounts.

Scope of Responsibility

In delivering its aims and objectives, the 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 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.

Governance Framework

The Joint Committee operates a system of internal control designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. Internal controls cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable assurance 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.

The main features of our governance arrangements are:

- All full member Councils continue to be represented on the Joint Committee.
- The scheme of delegation, terms of reference, standing orders, financial regulations and stakeholder roles and responsibilities defined in 2007/2008 remain in place, and have been reviewed for relevance and to determine if they are still appropriate.
- Meetings of the Joint Committee are held three times a year chaired by the elected Convener of the Joint Committee. For 2018/2019, this was Councillor Katy Loudon (South Lanarkshire Council).
- Scheme of delegation allows for Clyde Valley Implementation Steering Group to manage, direct and prioritise the work programme.
- Minute of agreement has been produced and signed by each of the participating Councils, with a revised Minute of Agreement drafted to reflect the changes in membership and fee structure for 2019/20.
- Effective risk management arrangements are embedded within the Member Councils.

The system of internal controls is based on a framework of regular management information, financial regulations, administrative procedures, management and supervision and a system of delegation and accountability.

These arrangements follow the systems of financial management in place within the lead authority, South Lanarkshire Council and are subject to the relevant controls in place which are reviewed by the Internal/External Audit through a programme of audit work.

The system includes:

- Centralised invoicing and re-charging administered through South Lanarkshire Council.
- Financial Management arrangements through South Lanarkshire Council's FMS Ledger system supported by Financial Regulations.
- Risks are identified and managed by the Project Manager on an ongoing basis.
- Preparation of financial reports that compare actual expenditure and income against budgets.

Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer

CIPFA published the statement on the role of the Chief Financial Officer in 2010 and under the Code, the Joint Committee is required to state whether it complies with the statement, and if not, to explain how their governance arrangements deliver the same impact.

The Joint Committee's financial management arrangements comply with the principles set out in CIPFA's statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer.

Continuous Improvement

As the work of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee develops, I am aware of our governance duties and will continue my commitment to transparency and openness in our governance arrangements. No issues have been identified during 2018/2019 and I will continue to review these as appropriate during 2019/2020.

Assurance

The system of internal control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, that transactions are properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

It is my view that in the twelfth year of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee (financial year 2018/2019), reasonable assurance can be placed on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Committee's framework of governance, risk management and control arrangements.

Jackie Taylor

Treasurer - Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

9 September 2019

Movement in Reserves Statement

The Movement in Reserves Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Joint Committee, analysed into useable reserves and other reserves. This gives a summary of the changes that have taken place in the funding section of the Balance Sheet over the financial year.

A statement of Movement in Reserves has not been included as there is no movement in the funding section of the balance sheet and the General Fund balance for year ended 31 March 2019 is zero.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement For the Year Ended 31 March 2019

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement gives a summary of resources generated and consumed by the Joint Committee in the year.

2017/18		2018/19		Notes
£000		£000		
28	Support Expenses paid to South Lanarkshire Council	28		
31	Training Costs for Member Councils	25		
2	Payments to Other Bodies	2		1
<hr/>		<hr/>		
61	Total Expenditure	55		
(62)	Income	(57)		
(1)	(Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Service	(2)		
(1)	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(2)		
<hr/>		<hr/>		
1	Transfer of Surplus to Creditors	2		
0		0		
<hr/>		<hr/>		

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019

The Balance Sheet summaries the assets and liabilities of the Joint Committee at the Balance Sheet date.

31 March 2018 £000		31 March 2019 £000	Notes
	<u>Current Assets</u>		
0	Debtors	0	
41	Short Term Investments	72	2
41	Total Current Assets	41	
	<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
(41)	Creditors	(72)	3
0	Net Current Assets	0	
	<u>Represented By :</u>		
0	General Fund Balance	0	
0		0	

The notes on pages 13-15 form part of the financial statements.

The unaudited accounts were approved for issue by the Treasurer on 10 June 2019, and the audited accounts were authorised for issue on 9 September 2019.

Jackie Taylor
Treasurer – Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee
9 September 2019

Cash Flow Statement
For the year ended 31 March 2019

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents held by the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee during the reporting year. The statement shows how the Joint Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating and investing activities.

2017/18		2018/19
£000		£000
0	Net (surplus) on the provision of services after year end transfer	0
(1)	Adjust net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non cash movements	(31)
(1)	Net cash flows from Operating Activities	(31)
1	Investing Activities (note below)	31
0	Net increase or decrease in cash and cash equivalents	0
0	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting year	0
0	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting year	0

Cash Flow Statement Note - Non Cash Movements

2017/18		2018/19
£000	Description	£000
0	Movement in Debtors	0
(1)	Movement in Creditors	(31)
(1)		(31)

Cash Flow Statement Note – Investing Activities

2017/18		2018/19
£000		£000
1	Purchase or (Sale) of short-term and long-term investments	31
1	Net cash flows generated from/(used in) investing activities	31

Notes to the Accounts

1 Auditors' Remuneration

The auditors' remuneration is included in the Payments to Other Bodies' expenditure.

	2018/19 £000	2017/18 £000
Auditors' Remuneration:		
Fees payable to Audit Scotland with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditors	2	2
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee has incurred fees of £1,880 for the statutory audit of the financial statements by Audit Scotland. The comparable figure for 2017/2018 was £1,820. Fees payable in respect of other services provided by the appointed auditor were £nil. (2017/2018: £nil)

2 Financial Instruments

The following category of financial instrument is carried in the balance sheet:

	31 March 2019 £000	31 March 2019 £000	31 March 2019 £000	31 March 2018 £000	31 March 2018 £000	31 March 2018 £000
	Long Term	Current	Total	Long Term	Current	Total
Investments	0	72	72	0	41	41
Loans and Receivables						
Total						
Investments	<u>0</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>41</u>

3 Creditors

The Creditors figure is analysed as follows:

	2018/19 £000	2017/18 £000
Training invoices	0	1
Audit fee	1	1
Prepaid Contributions from Local Authorities	57	27
Balance of Efficiency and Reform Monies held on behalf of constituent councils and the Training Project	5	5
Balance of funding held on behalf of constituent councils and the Training Project	9	7
	<u>72</u>	<u>41</u>

4 Related Parties

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Joint Committee. Disclosure of these transactions 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.

All transactions with Councils were entered into under the terms of the Joint Committee and, where appropriate, reported through the Joint Committee. During the year the Joint Committee transacted with the following Councils:

	Receipts 2018/19 £000	Payments 2018/19 £000	Receipts 2017/18 £000	Payments 2017/18 £000
South Lanarkshire Council	7	28	12	28
East Dunbartonshire Council	3	0	3	0
East Renfrewshire Council	5	0	5	0
Glasgow City Council	6	0	6	0
Inverclyde Council	3	0	3	0
North Lanarkshire Council	9	0	11	0
Renfrewshire Council	13	0	10	0
West Dunbartonshire	7	0	7	0
Total	53	28	57	28

At the year end the Joint Committee held Short Term Investments and creditor balances with the Local Authorities detailed below:

	Short Term Investment Balances 2018/19 £000	Creditors Balances 2018/19 £000	Short Term Investment Balances 2017/18 £000	Creditors Balances 2017/18 £000
South Lanarkshire Council	72	15	41	13
East Dunbartonshire	0	0	0	3
East Renfrewshire Council	0	0	0	3
Glasgow City Council	0	10	0	5
Inverclyde Council	0	0	0	3
North Lanarkshire Council	0	10	0	5
Renfrewshire Council	0	7	0	5
West Dunbartonshire	0	0	0	3
Total	72	42	41	40

5 Financing and Management of Liquid Resources

Liquid Resources are held by South Lanarkshire Council as lead authority and are available to Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee as required.

6 Remuneration Report

The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2011 require local authorities in Scotland to prepare a Remuneration Report as part of the Financial Statements.

In accordance with the Regulations, and the relevant definition of individuals that are to be disclosed in this report, Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee has no employees that require to be disclosed.

Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee makes no payment of salary, allowances or pension contributions to any of the Councillors who are appointed as members of the Joint Committee.

7 Date of Signing of the Accounts

The audited accounts were authorised for issue on 9 September 2019, by the Treasurer to the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee.

8 Post Balance Sheet Events

No events occurred between 1 April 2019 and 9 September 2019 that would have an impact on the 2018/2019 financial statements. The later date is the date on which the audited accounts were authorised for issue by the Treasurer to the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee.

9 Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis on the basis that funding from Local Authorities has been received for 2019/2020.

Statement of Accounting Policies

(a) General

The general policies adopted in compiling and presenting the financial statements are those required by the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, section 12 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, requires they be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise Code of Practice on Local Authority in the United Kingdom 2018/2019, issued jointly by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee (LASAAC), supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). There are no significant departures from those recommendations.

The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and accounting policies have been applied consistently.

(b) Accruals basis

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is compiled on an accruals basis. Income and expenditure activities are accounted for in the year which they take place, not simply when payments are made or received. Where services have been provided but the income not received by end 31 March 2019 or services have been received but not paid for by end 31 March 2019, then the income and expenditure account has been amended to reflect the outstanding amounts and a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the balance sheet.

(c) Debtors and Creditors

All specific and material sums payable to and paid by the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee have been brought into account.

(d) Allocation of Support Expenses

The allocation of Support Expenses is the cost of those South Lanarkshire employees who provide a direct service to the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee. The individual support department is Personnel Services where employees are directly involved in the operations of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee. The recharge is made on a consistent basis.

(e) Borrowing Facilities

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee is a separate legal entity and has South Lanarkshire Council as its lead authority. The loans' fund of South Lanarkshire Council acts as banker to the Joint Committee and consequently lends or borrows according to the required cash flow and activities of the Joint Committee.

(f) Financial Instruments

For investments due within 12 months, prevailing benchmark rates have been used to provide the fair value. Where an instrument has a maturity of less than 12 months the fair value is taken to be the principal outstanding. Creditors due within 12 months are not classed as a financial instrument.

Statement of Responsibilities for the Annual Accounts

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee's responsibilities

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Committee, that officer is the Treasurer;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- approve the Annual Accounts for signature

Signed on behalf of Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

Chair - Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee

The Treasurer's responsibilities

The Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee's Annual Accounts in accordance with proper practices 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 the local authority Code.

The Treasurer has also:

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

I certify that the Annual Accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Joint Committee at 31 March 2019 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2019

Jackie Taylor

Treasurer – Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee
9 September 2019

Independent auditor's report to the Members of Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee and the Accounts Commission

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on financial statements

I certify that I have audited the financial statements in the annual accounts of Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee for the year ended 31 March 2019 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The financial statements comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union, and as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19 (the 2018/19 Code).

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with applicable law and the 2018/19 Code, of the state of affairs of Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee as at 31 March 2019 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union, as interpreted and adapted by the 2018/19 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

I conducted my 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. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I was appointed under arrangements approved by the Accounts Commission on 18 July 2016. The period of total uninterrupted appointment is three years. I am independent of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. Non-audit services prohibited by the Ethical Standard were not provided to the Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern basis of accounting

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require me to report to you where:

- the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or

- the Treasurer has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Risks of material misstatement

I have reported in a separate Annual Audit Report, which is available from the [Audit Scotland website](#), the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement that I identified and my conclusions thereon.

Responsibilities of the Treasurer and Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Treasurer 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 Treasurer 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 Treasurer is responsible for assessing the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless deemed inappropriate.

The Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements.

My objectives are to achieve 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 my 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 economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting 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 skilfulness 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. I therefore design and perform audit procedures which respond to the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website

<http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Other information in the annual accounts

The Treasurer is responsible for the other information in the annual accounts. The other information comprises the information other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon except on matters prescribed by the Accounts Commission to the extent explicitly stated later in this report.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read all the other information in the annual accounts and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Report on other requirements

Opinions on matters prescribed by the Accounts Commission

In my 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 I am required to report by exception

I am required by the Accounts Commission to report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit; or

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Use of my 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, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

**Dave Richardson FCCA
Audit Scotland
4th Floor, South Suite
The Athenaeum Building
8 Nelson Mandela Place
Glasgow
G2 1BT**

9 September 2019

Glossary of Terms

Much of the terminology used in this Report is intended to be self-explanatory, however, the following additional definition and interpretation of terms used may be helpful:

1. Borrowing Facilities and Temporary Interest on Revenue Balances

The loans fund of South Lanarkshire Council lends or borrows according to the cash flow of the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee. This temporary interest credited / debited to the Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee's Income and Expenditure Account reflects the interest earned or charged to the Committee for funds lent to or borrowed from the loans fund of South Lanarkshire Council.

2018/2019 Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee Members

Council

East Dunbartonshire Council
East Renfrewshire Council
Glasgow City Council
Inverclyde Council
North Lanarkshire Council
Renfrewshire Council
South Lanarkshire Council
West Dunbartonshire Council

Member

Councillor Jim Gibbons (Vice Convener)
Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor Richard Bell
Councillor Martin Brennan
Councillor Angela Campbell
Councillor Jim Paterson
Councillor Katy Loudon (Convener)
Councillor Karen Conaghan

2019/2020 Clyde Valley Learning and Development Joint Committee Members

Council

East Renfrewshire Council
Glasgow City Council
Inverclyde Council
North Lanarkshire Council
Renfrewshire Council
South Lanarkshire Council

Member

Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor Richard Bell
Councillor Martin Brennan
Councillor Angela Campbell
Councillor Jim Paterson
Councillor Katy Loudon (Convener)