



**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2023/24**

Report by Chief Financial Officer

**PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of the Report is to seek Comhairle approval for signing the audited Annual Accounts for 2023/24.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 require the local authority, or a committee of the local authority, to meet to approve the audited accounts for signature. The Comhairle has delegated that matter to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.2 In considering the Accounts, the regulations require elected members, either as the local authority, or a committee whose remit includes audit and governance functions, to have regard to any report made or advice provided on the Annual Accounts by the appointed auditor.
- 2.3 The Annual Audit Report by Audit Scotland will also be presented to the committee and representatives will be in attendance to present the report.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Comhairle:
  - (a) notes the Annual Audit Report to the Comhairle and the Controller of Audit; and
  - (b) approves the audited Annual Accounts for signature.

Contact Officer:	Sandy Gomez, Chief Financial Officer
Appendix:	Annual Accounts 2023/24
Background Papers:	Draft Annual Accounts Report 2023/24 to Audit & Scrutiny 12 December 2024

## IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The following implications are applicable in terms of the Report.

Resource Implications	Implications/None
Financial	None
Legal	The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 requires that all local authorities, or a committee of the local authority, meet to approve the audited annual accounts for signature. The Comhairle has delegated this to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.
Staffing	None
Assets and Property	None
Strategic Implications	Implications/None
Risk	Financial Sustainability and associated risks are addressed in the Audit Annual Report
Equalities	None
Corporate Strategy	<p>The Comhairle will continue to have in place proper arrangements (known as the Governance Framework) for the governance of the Comhairle's affairs and to facilitate the exercise of its functions.</p> <p>Co-ordinating the production of the Comhairle's budget in line with the timetable and producing Annual Accounts by the statutory deadline with no qualification contribute towards achieving strategic priority 4.1.1. <i>"The Comhairle has achieved a systematic approach to improving organisational effectiveness that aligns strategy, people and processes and the service provided is high quality, continually improving and cost effective."</i></p>
Environmental Impact	None
Consultation	None