



# Mugdock Country Park

Joint Management  
Committee

Annual Accounts

2020-21



**MUGDOCK**  
COUNTRY PARK

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# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Management Commentary

### A Strategy, Objectives & Business Model

Mugdock Country Park (the Park) is one of Scotland's leading Tourist Attractions, a Country Park maintaining Scotland's Natural Heritage. The Park provides a Countryside Ranger Service and leads on outdoor learning & environmental activities throughout East Dunbartonshire & South-West Stirling. The Park is working to develop a sustainable operating and business model to reflect the current financial pressures facing the two funding authorities, East Dunbartonshire Council and Stirling Council. The Park works to maximise its income and consequently deliver its aspirations as a leading Tourist Attraction. The Park staff are in contact with a wide range of groups including schools, community groups and those with additional support needs. A full events programme takes place over the course of the year for all ages, however in 2020/21 the COVID-19 pandemic meant that usual activities were unable to go ahead as Scottish Government guidance was followed and most services and facilities were closed.

During the year, The Park worked on a number of activities to achieve the following outcomes:



# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Most of the Park's income is generated through events, land/room hire and business rentals. During 2020/21, the COVID-19 pandemic meant that most of the Park's services and facilities were closed. Income earning opportunities were therefore reduced as there was little land or room hire available and the events programme was cancelled. Filming was able to continue and a number of productions used the Park for filming purposes. The tearoom and coffee bar were able, in line with government guidelines, to sell takeaway refreshments with an appropriate queueing system in place.

Footfall is the Park's key performance indicator and monitoring this provides information about trends in usage of the Park for commercial and non-commercial purposes. During the year footfall was high as people were encouraged to exercise close to home. The Park signed up to Visit Scotland's Good to Go scheme, which was publicised by poster and on social media. Toilets were closed for part of the year and available to the public when it became safe for them to open. Some essential maintenance work was carried out to the Walled Garden, the children's Playpark and to the paths and boardwalks.

## **B Fair Review of Business**

The Annual Accounts present the financial position of Mugdock Country Park as at 31 March 2021.

The principal financial statements comprise Movement in Reserves Statement ([page 15](#)), Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement ([page 15](#)), Balance Sheet ([page 16](#)) and Cash Flow Statement ([page 16](#)). Explanatory notes are also provided.

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## a) Management Committee

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**Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee**

	
<b>Chair</b> Councillor Gibbons <b>East Dunbartonshire Council</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b> Councillor Lambie <b>Stirling Council</b>

**Elected Members**

		
<b>Councillor Moody</b> <b>East Dunbartonshire Council</b>	<b>Councillor Thornton</b> <b>East Dunbartonshire Council</b>	<b>Councillor O'Neil</b> <b>East Dunbartonshire Council</b>
		
<b>Councillor Ferretti</b> <b>East Dunbartonshire Council</b>	<b>Councillor Fischer</b> <b>East Dunbartonshire Council</b>	<b>Councillor Bennill</b> <b>Stirling Council</b>



**Telephone: 0300 123 4510**

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# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Councillor Graham Lambie

In February 2021 Councillor Lambie sadly passed away. Graham Lambie was a committed member of the committee and ensured that the services provided by Mugdock Country Park continued to be important and relevant to local residents.

During his tenure Charlie's Coffee Bar was built, the Playpark and Adventure Trail was upgraded, the Visitor Centre was opened and the BBQ Hut was installed. Councillor Lambie was a regular visitor and said that, "It's clear that Mugdock Country Park is a well-used, popular and much-loved local asset. It's reassuring to know just how much people value this wonderful resource." His contribution, calming influence, dedication and selflessness will be sorely missed.

The position of Vice Chairman is currently vacant after the passing of the late Councillor Graham Lambie.

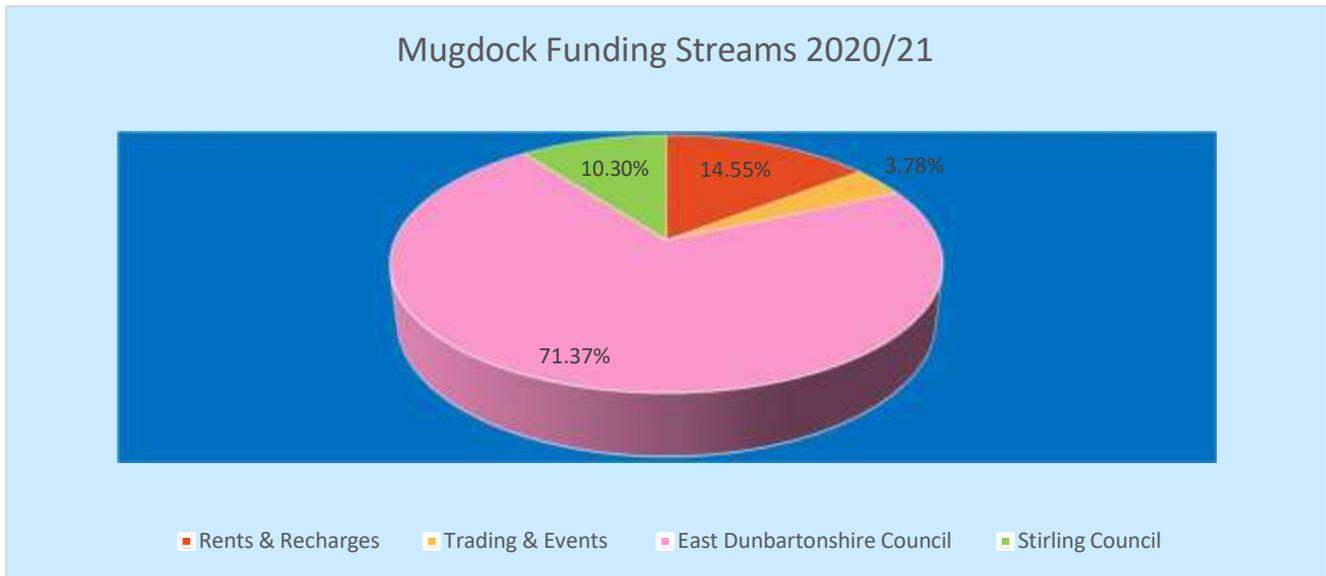
## b) Administrative and Funding Arrangements

Administrative and funding arrangements for the Park are conducted in accordance with the Minute of Agreement between East Dunbartonshire Council and Stirling Council. A new Minute of Agreement between the authorities is effective for the period 2019-2024 and, although the signing has been delayed, it is intended that it will be concluded in 2021. Capital expenditure is split 50/50 between the respective authorities with Stirling Council paying a fixed revenue contribution of £50,000 per annum.

The Park is funded and managed jointly by East Dunbartonshire Council and Stirling Council through the Mugdock Joint Management Committee. In addition, there is support and funding from Mugdock Trust and the Clan Graham Society of North America ([www.clangrahamsociety.org](http://www.clangrahamsociety.org)). The Clan Graham Society's visit to Scotland has been postponed until it is safe to travel internationally. There are usually many volunteers at Mugdock, including Conservation volunteers, Castle volunteers, Garden volunteers and Cinema volunteers who all contribute their time and efforts to the Park. Unfortunately, during the pandemic there was no volunteering carried out at the Park.

Rental income comes from Caulders Garden Centre, Charlie's Coffee Bar, Stables Tearoom and Mugdock Makers Art & Crafts Gallery and Giftshop. The cycle hire moved out of the Park to larger premises at the end of October 2020 and land hire also comes from animal grazing on Khyber Field. In addition to this land and room hires contribute to the Park's income streams as well as revenue from the Gift Shop in the Visitor Centre. However, in 2020/21 the Visitor Centre remained closed for most of the year as did the gift shop and income from this reduced considerably. Businesses were offered a rent deferral during the first lockdown and this was taken up by some.

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee



East Dunbartonshire Council is responsible for overseeing the administrative arrangements of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee, for all financial arrangements for the Park and, as permanent employer of the staff at the Park, is liable for any IAS19 (International Accounting Standard 19: Employee Benefits) commitments arising.

## c) Financial Summary

The Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement on [page 15](#) shows that net revenue expenditure to be met by constituent authorities in 2020/21 was £397,266, £38,068 more than in the previous year.

Spend on employee costs were higher in 2020/21 due to the pay increase received by employees. Overall, the net cost of service for 2020/21 was lower than budget by £94,812 due to the current pandemic. Spend is also lower than the previous year for the same reason. The contribution from Stirling Council was budgeted at £50,000 to reflect their share of costs, in line with the Minute of Agreement.

	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual £'000	2020/21 Variation £'000
Expenditure	558	486	72
Income	-116	-139 *	23
<b>Net</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>95</b>

\*Includes 2020/21 Stirling Contribution

The Balance Sheet Statement on [page 16](#) shows that, as at the financial year-end, there is a temporary advance to East Dunbartonshire Council of £20,855. This reflects the net position of current assets and liabilities at the year-end and represents a net cash inflow position as at 31 March 2021.

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

The Cash Flow statement on [page 16](#) summarises the external transactions associated with the Park on a cash basis.

## d) Performance Information

Over 2020/21, Mugdock Country Park footfall counters stopped working and visitor numbers were unable to be collected. New counters have now been installed and footfall will be collated for future management committee reports. Although the facilities at Mugdock were closed for most of the year, the Park was still well used by local visitors. A full events programme normally takes place over the course of the year however, in 2020-2021 all Mugdock events were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As work with schools, community groups, volunteering activities, room hire and land hires were also suspended, the opportunities for generating income were reduced while the impact on Park facilities appeared to increase. As an important facility for exercise during the periods of lockdown the Park was busier than ever. With only essential maintenance being carried out and with wear and tear on the paths and car parks this will be a cost to the Park when normality resumes.

Mugdock Visitor Centre is usually the hub for visitor information and booking events. Visitors can enquire on-line and call or come in to make bookings for room and land hire, BBQs and event tickets as well as general enquiries. In 2020/21, bookings could not be made and therefore performance information was unable to be collected. There is a display of information about the Clan Graham with members coming from many countries to visit Mugdock and find out about their ancestral heritage. However, this past year there were no international visitors and the planned five yearly visit by the Clan Graham Society of North America was postponed. There is information about the history and ecology of the Park and the Visitor Centre, also houses the Park's gift shop. Although the gift shop was open briefly during the year people were reluctant to go indoors, preferring to remain outdoors. The Park's website was refreshed and new photographs taken to replace older images and a move is being made through the website to increase an on-line option for bookings and sales.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic most of the capital projects for the Park were put on hold including further work on the Mugdock Barns project, replacement of the septic tank (waste water treatment works), path improvements and work to the East and Khyber car parks. During the year, essential repair work was carried out on the quarry fencing, the children's play park and some information panels were completed at Craigend Castle.

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee



## C Future Developments

A new strategy for Mugdock is currently being developed covering the period 2022-27. Capital from East Dunbartonshire and Stirling Council was approved for the Mugdock Barns project, which will provide new facilities for education, events and business development, and for a septic tank upgrade which will accommodate the increased footfall to the Park. The additional pressure on car parks and the path network will see these projects being prioritised with work anticipated in 2021-22. Developments are underway for an Outdoor Nursery that will be based at the Park.

A Quarry Action Plan is being developed to reduce the amount of unauthorised access to the site. New fencing and signage will be installed, and working with Police Scotland, will allow the site to be more regularly monitored. The Astronomical Society of Glasgow continues to work with the Park in relation to the Observatory to be sited to the north of the Park. Filming enquiries continue which may lead to filming and land hire income to the Park. The Park is a member of the Scottish Locations Network, which is chaired by Creative Scotland.



## D Principal Risks & Uncertainties

Risks to the Park are identified through the on-going risk management assessment processes. Risks include those in relation to income realisation and on-going financial pressures. The most recent and prevailing risk facing the Park is in relation to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This has affected footfall, income and increased on-going financial pressures. In responding to this risk, and throughout March 2021, the Council's Civil Contingency Planning Group met on an ongoing basis to ensure that the park remained prepared and due consideration was given to emerging information, advice and guidance which often changed from day to day. Services and facilities at Mugdock have been closed during most of the year in line with Scottish government advice and timescales.

Other risks included within the Park register, include failure to upkeep car parks sufficiently and ICT connectivity which could impact on income and security. These risks will be mitigated through phased resurfacing of car parks in 2021/22. A community broadband scheme championed by residents in Mugdock Village and supported by the Park has been approved by BT Openreach for superfast broadband and should be in place within the year. This

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

will assist with connectivity issues and make the Park more digitally accessible. A set of Park Management Rules is being developed with the involvement of legal services to ensure the uses permitted within the Park are clear and consistent and reduce risk from unwanted activities.

The lease for Mugdock between East Dunbartonshire Council and Stirling Council extends from 1999 to 2049 and the Minute of Agreement details the operational and financial arrangements between the two Councils. On-line payments are under development in order to be more customer focused. Future developments, which are currently being progressed aim to maximise income, whenever possible, to improve the long-term financial viability of the Park.

Councillor Jim Gibbons

Chairperson, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

Ann Davie

Depute Chief Executive, Education, People & Business, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

Jamie Robertson

Treasurer, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

### What we are Responsible For

The Mugdock Joint Management Committee (the Joint Committee) comprises six East Dunbartonshire Councillors and two Stirling Councillors and is responsible for overseeing the spend and the activity of Mugdock Country Park. To meet its responsibilities, the Joint Committee has put in place proper arrangements for overseeing the Park's operation. These arrangements form the basis of its governance framework, which is intended to make sure that it does the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in good time, and in a fair, open, honest and accountable way.

### The Aim of the Governance Framework

The Joint Committee is responsible for ensuring that the business of Mugdock Country Park is conducted in accordance with legislation and appropriate standards, that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used in an economic, efficient and effective way. The governance arrangements in place allow us to monitor how we are achieving our long-term aims, and ensure we deliver appropriate services that are value for money.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise those risks that may affect the ability of the Joint Committee to deliver its aims and objectives. In doing so, it evaluates the likelihood and impact of those risks and seeks to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. Key parts of the systems of internal control are provided by and supported by East Dunbartonshire Council, including Finance, IT and Payroll functions.

### Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Governance arrangements were in place throughout the year and to the date of the approval of the statement of accounts. Necessary changes were implemented from 23 March 2020, including the suspension of the Joint Committee's usual cycle of quarterly meetings, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to support East Dunbartonshire Council in meeting its obligations as a Category 1 civil contingencies responder. These temporary arrangements were required given the unprecedented circumstances, and the Joint Committee met virtually in November 2020 as the only meeting in 2020/21.

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted all Mugdock Country Park services from the end of 2019/20 and throughout 2020/21, and whilst the park has now opened and some services have now resumed, it continues to impact on service priorities and how services are delivered. The temporary closure of the park had a negative impact on Mugdock's Trading & Events income generating streams in the short term. In the longer term, there remains a great degree of uncertainty regarding the virus and the resulting impacts.

### The Governance Framework

Some of the key features of the governance framework are set out in the following paragraphs.

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Purpose, Outcomes & Vision

The Joint Committee's purpose and outcomes form a consistent thread cascading from the vision of working together to achieve the best with the people of East Dunbartonshire & Stirling through the Local Outcome Improvement Plan to its strategic and local outcomes and priorities. The performance of the Joint Committee is monitored by East Dunbartonshire Council Officers and developed to meet agreed targets, with this oversight being provided by the Roads & Environment portfolio and the Council's Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets Committee.

## Common Purpose, Clear Functions & Roles

The Minute of Agreement between Stirling Council and East Dunbartonshire Council provides a clear statement of roles and responsibilities for the management of the estate as a Country Park, with a subsequent Variation to the Minute covering the period 2019-2024.

## Promoting Values

The Joint Committee promotes positive values and demonstrates good governance through upholding standards of conduct and behaviour. This is achieved using East Dunbartonshire Council's established code of conduct for its employees who work at or for Mugdock Country Park on behalf of the Joint Committee. In addition, Elected Members from both funding councils are bound by the Code of Conduct for Councillors in accordance with the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000.

## Informed & Transparent Decision Making

The Joint Committee sets out its processes and controls to be vigorous and transparent about how decisions are taken and listening and acting on the outcome of constructive scrutiny. This includes having good quality information, advice and support to ensure that services are delivered effectively and are what the community wants. The Joint Committee has developed a risk register, which is updated on an on-going basis and is monitored by the Mugdock Joint Management Committee.

## Developing Capability & Capacity

The Joint Committee seeks to ensure that members and officers have the skills, knowledge, experience and resources they need to perform well in their roles. This includes developing the capability of people with governance responsibilities and evaluating their performance as individuals and as a group. The Joint Committee looks to encourage new talent for membership of the Joint Management Committee so that best use can be made of the mix of individuals' skills and experience.

## Engaging with Local People & Stakeholders

The Joint Committee seeks to engage with stakeholders through developing effective partnerships and ensuring positive relationships are in place. Mugdock management actively facilitates feedback from visitors and provides

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

sufficient opportunities to allow constructive input to the park. In addition, the Joint Committee includes non-voting community representatives who are able to attend committee meetings and are encouraged to participate in discussions.

## Review of Effectiveness

The Joint Committee has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Executive Officer - Roads & Environment within East Dunbartonshire Council who for 2020/21 had responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment. The review of the effectiveness of the governance framework is also informed by the Council's Audit & Risk Manager's Annual Report as it relates to Council systems on which the Joint Committee relies, and by comments made by the external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates. During the year, East Dunbartonshire Council continued to put in place appropriate management and reporting arrangements to enable it to be satisfied that its approach to corporate governance is both appropriate and effective in practice as it relates to Mugdock Country Park.

The reports issued by the Council's external auditors, Audit Scotland, have also been considered as part of our overall review of effectiveness. In their 2019/20 Annual Audit Report, Audit Scotland recommended that the revised Minute of Agreement, covering the period of 2019 to 2024 is formally approved by the Joint Management Committee. The minute of agreement will be presented to a future meeting, the timing of which is uncertain due to the current COVID-19 conditions. With the new minute being on the same basis as that previously agreed, this risk remains managed.

## Conclusion

The system of governance (including the system of internal control) provides reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded; that transactions are authorised and properly recorded; and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period. The governance system provides reasonable assurance that significant risks impacting on the achievement of our strategic priorities and outcomes will be mitigated. The system of internal control can only provide 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. The current COVID-19 pandemic represents an unprecedented challenge, which, as referred to above, has resulted in temporary changes to governance arrangements, including fewer committee meetings than usual, which will be reinstated when circumstances allow.

We consider the governance and internal control environment operating in 2020/21 for the Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee to provide reasonable and objective assurance that significant risks affecting the achievement of our principal strategic priorities and outcomes will be identified and actions taken to avoid or mitigate their impact.

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Councillor Jim Gibbons

Chairperson, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

Ann Davie

Depute Chief Executive, Education, People & Business – Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts

### The Joint Management Committee is responsible for:

- arranging for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to ensure that an appropriate Officer has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. The Joint Management Committee has appointed the Treasurer to that role.
- managing its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- ensure 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 the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020.
- approve the Annual Accounts for signature.

Councillor Jim Gibbons

Chairperson, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

### The Treasurer is Responsible for:

- the preparation of the Joint Management Committee's Annual Accounts which, in terms of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, is required to present fairly the financial position of the Joint Management Committee at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.
- selecting suitable accounting policies and applying them consistently.
- making judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent.
- complying with the Code of Practice.
- keeping proper accounting records which are up to date; and
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Jamie Robertson

Treasurer, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Principal Financial Statements

### Movement in Reserves Statement

31 March 2020 £	31 March 2021 £
0 Balance at the 1st April	0
0 Surplus / (Deficit) for the Financial Year	0
<b>0 Balance at the 31st March</b>	<b>0</b>

### Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2019/20 £		2020/21 £
	<b>Expenditure</b>	
393,204	Employees	405,768
13,475	Maintenance	14,641
38,430	Utilities	22,779
57,809	Trading & Events	28,440
16,360	Operating	11,385
3,518	Publicity	90
3,050	External Audit Fees	3,120
<b>525,846</b>	<b>Operating Costs</b>	<b>486,223</b>
	<b>Income</b>	
76,082	Rents & Recharges	70,610
2,360	Grants & Donations	0
92,511	Trading & Events	18,348
<b>170,954</b>		<b>88,958</b>
<b>354,892</b>	<b>Net Revenue Expenditure</b>	<b>397,266</b>
	<b>Amount to be met from constituent authorities</b>	
304,892	East Dunbartonshire Council	347,266
50,000	Stirling Council	50,000
<b>354,892</b>		<b>397,266</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>0</b>

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Cash Flow Statement

2019/20		2020/21
£		£
	<b>Cash Outflows</b>	
399,659	Employee Costs	402,968
163,235	Other Operating Costs	90,512
<b>562,894</b>		<b>493,480</b>
	<b>Cash Inflows</b>	
(354,892)	Requisitions from Constituent Authorities	(397,266)
(89,768)	Received for Goods and Services	(23,777)
(78,442)	Other Operating Receipts	(70,610)
<b>(523,102)</b>		<b>(491,653)</b>
<b>39,792</b>	<b>Net Cash Flow from Revenue Activities</b>	<b>1,827</b>

## Balance Sheet

31 March 2020		31 March 2021
		£
	<b>Current Asset</b>	
6,159	Receivables	730
9,337	Inventory	8,025
22,682	Temporary Advance to East Dunbartonshire Council	20,855
<b>38,178</b>		<b>29,610</b>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
38,178	Payables	29,610
<b>38,178</b>		<b>29,610</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>

The audited accounts were issued on 19 October 2021.

I certify that this presents fairly the financial position of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee at 31 March 2021 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Jamie Robertson  
Treasurer, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## Notes to Principal Financial Statements

### 1. Accounting Policies

#### a) General Principles

The Annual Accounts summarise Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee's transactions for the 2020/21 financial year, and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2021. The Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 requires Annual Accounts to be prepared, and section 12 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 requires these 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 2020/21 (the Code), supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). In cases where accounting practices and legislative requirements conflict, the latter will apply. This is in agreement with the accounting concept of 'primacy of legislative requirements'.

The accounts are designed to give a 'true and fair view' of the financial performance and position of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee for 2020/21. Comparative figures for 2019/20 are provided. The accounting convention adopted in the Annual Accounts is principally historical cost.

The accounting concepts of 'materiality', 'accruals' and 'going concern' have been considered in the application of accounting policies. The materiality concept means that information is shown where it is of such significance as to justify its inclusion. The accruals concept means that financial activities are accounted for on an accruals basis in the year that they take place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. The going concern concept is based on the assumption that the functions of the Park will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

#### b) Employee Benefits

Post-Employment Benefits: Employees of the Park are members of The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which is a defined benefit statutory scheme, operated by Strathclyde Pension Fund, and administered by Glasgow City Council in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 1998. LGPS is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme.

Under the terms of the Minute of Agreement between East Dunbartonshire Council and Stirling Council, East Dunbartonshire Council is the permanent employer of the staff of the Park and deals with all payments related to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and STACA (Short Term Accumulating Compensated Absences). For that reason, revenue commitments and balance sheet disclosures for the purposes of IAS19 & STACA are identified within the accounts for East Dunbartonshire Council rather than those for the Park.

#### c) Long Term Assets

Title to the community assets of the Park rests with Stirling Council. However, under the revised management agreement signed by the constituent authorities, East Dunbartonshire Council has beneficial use of the fixed

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

assets of Mugdock Country Park. In addition, East Dunbartonshire Council entered into a lease arrangement commencing 1 April 1999 to operate the designated assets as a Country Park as defined in the Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967. This lease arrangement is for a peppercorn rent of £1 per annum, and will continue until 31 March 2049.

Accordingly, it has been considered appropriate that the Park's fixed assets are consolidated into the accounts of the Council. At 31 March 2021, the total net book value of the Park's buildings & equipment was £653,562 and of community assets was £2,180,000.

Overall, the net cost of capital for 2020/21 was lower than budget by £103,000 due to projects being re-phased into 2021/22.

	Budget	Actual	Variation
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure	259	56	203
Income	-156	-56	-100
Net Cost of Capital	<u>103</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>103</u>

## d) Inventories

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned using the weighted average costing formula. This figure has been calculated as at the year end through an actual stock count. Within 2019/20 an estimated stock take based on previous years averages was used as an actual stock take was unable to be completed due to COVID-19.

## 2. Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted

IAS8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors requires disclosure of information on the expected impact of new accounting standards that have been issued but are not yet effective. These have been reviewed and are not deemed significant for the financial statements.

## 3. Pensions Commitment

The Council is the permanent employer of the staff of the Park, and deals with all payments related to the Local Government Pension Scheme. Accordingly, revenue commitments and balance sheet disclosures for the purposes of IAS19 are identified within the accounts for the Council rather than those for the Park. Mugdock Country Park pensions contribution payments for 2020/21 were £60,122 (2019/20 £58,321).

## 4. Exit Packages

During 2020/21 there were no exit packages by way of voluntary redundancy (2019/20 £Nil).

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## 5. Shop Trading Account

2019/20	2019/20		2020/21	2020/21
£	£		£	£
	20,949	Sales		3,588
10,128		Inventory at start of the year	9,337	
11,025		Purchases	1,395	
(9,337)		Less: Inventory at the end of the year	(8,025)	
	11,816	Cost of Goods Sold		2,707
	<b>9,133</b>	<b>Gross Profit / (loss)</b>		<b>881</b>

The Joint Management Committee operates a shop within the Visitors Centre at Mugdock Country Park, selling souvenirs and other sundry items. Sales income in 2020/21 is lower than the previous year within shop sales. The gross profit for the year to 31 March 2021 is as follows:

## 6. Net Cash Flow from Revenue Activities

2019/20	2019/20		2020/21	2020/21
£	£		£	£
10,128		Change in Inventory - opening balance	9,337	
9,337	(791)	Change in Inventory - closing balance	8,025	(1,312)
3,415		Change in receivables - opening balance	6,159	
6,159	2,744	Change in receivables - closing balance	730	(5,429)
76,017		Change in payables - opening balance	38,178	
(38,178)	37,839	Change in payables - closing balance	(29,610)	8,568
	<b>39,792</b>			<b>1,827</b>

## 7. Temporary Advance (to)/from East Dunbartonshire Council

2019/20	2020/21	Movement
£	£	
(22,682)	(20,855)	1,827

# Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

## 8. Independent Auditor's Report

Independent auditor's report to the members of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management 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 Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee for the year ended 31 March 2021 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The financial statements comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Movement in Reserves Statement, Cash Flow Statement, Balance Sheet and notes to the principal 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 2020/21 (the 2020/21 Code).

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view in accordance with applicable law and the 2020/21 Code of the state of affairs of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee as at 31 March 2021 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 2020/21 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 10 April 2017. The period of total uninterrupted appointment is five years. I am independent of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management 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 Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee. 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 concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee's ability 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.

## Risks of material misstatement

I report in a separate Annual Audit Report, 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 Joint Management 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 Mugdock Country Park Joint Management 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 Joint Management Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process.

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

My 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 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. I design procedures in line with my 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 Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee is complying with that framework;
- identifying which laws and regulations are significant in the context of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee;
- 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 my procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

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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 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.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of my auditor's report.

## Reporting on other requirements

### Statutory other information

The Treasurer is responsible for the statutory other information in the annual accounts. The statutory other information comprises the Management Commentary, Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Responsibilities.

My responsibility is to read all the statutory other information and, in doing so, consider whether the statutory 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this statutory other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the statutory other information and I 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 Management Commentary and Annual Governance Statement

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

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- 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

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.

Peter Lindsay  
Senior Audit Manager  
Audit Scotland  
4th Floor  
8 Nelson Mandela Place  
Glasgow  
G2 1BT