

Mugdock Country Park

Joint Management Committee Unaudited Accounts 2025-26

MUGDOCK
COUNTRY PARK

Contents

Page

Management Commentary……1

Annual Governance Statement……11

Statement of responsibilities for the Accounts……17

Principal Financial Statements……19

Principal Statements……19

Movement in Reserves……20

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement……20

Cashflow Statement……21

Balance Sheet……21

Notes to the Principal Financial Statements……22

Accounting Policies……22

Accounting Standards Issued, not Adopted……23

Pension Commitments……23

Exit Packages……24

Stock Trading Account……24

Prior Year Adjustments ……24

Related Parties……24

Government and Non-Government Grants……25

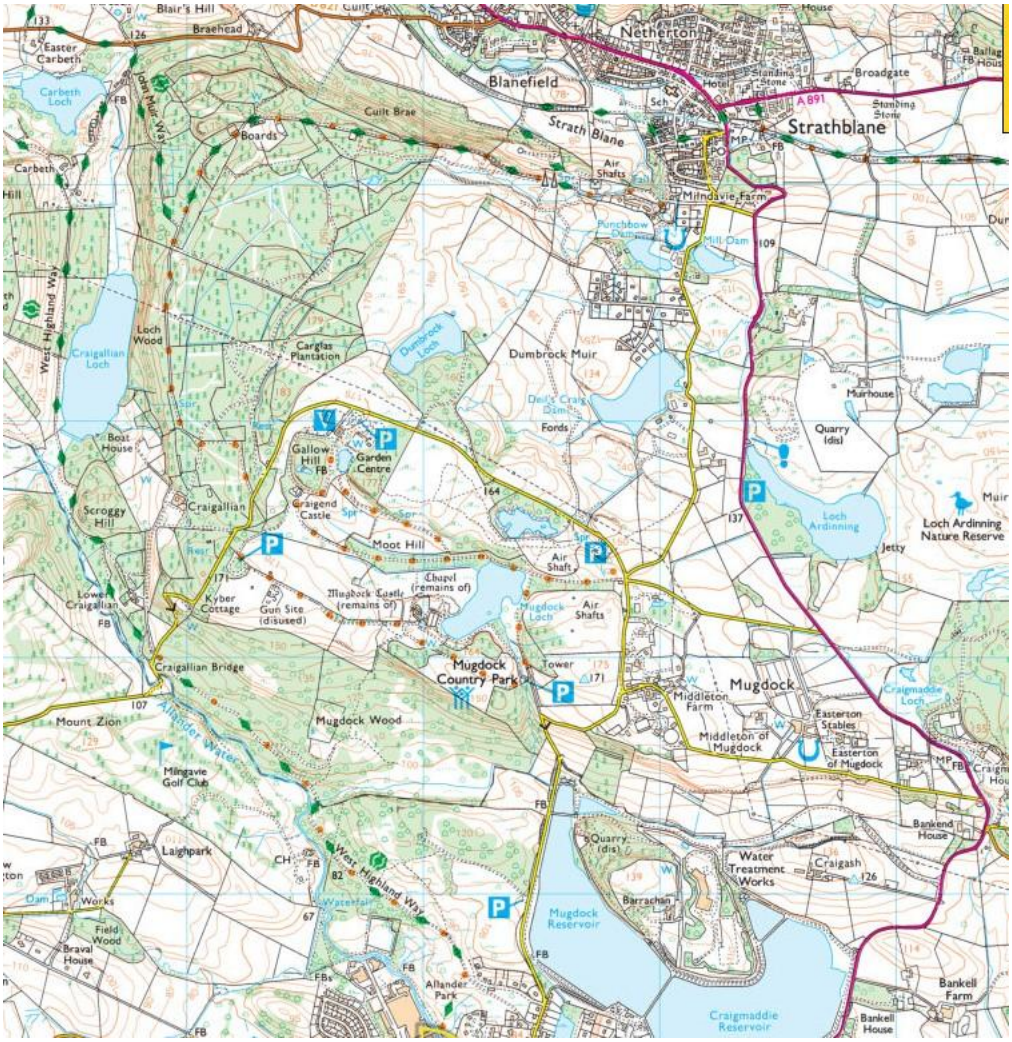
Independent Auditors Report……26

Management Commentary

A Strategy, Objectives & Business Model

The Management Commentary sets out the key messages on Mugdock Country Park's (the Park) performance for 2025/26. The Park is a major community asset in the Green Network of East Dunbartonshire & Stirling. The facility extends over 260 hectares of environmental greenspace with 70% of the Park designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Park lands were gifted in 1982 by Sir Hugh Fraser and designated a Country Park in 1987. The Country Park is located 10 miles north of Glasgow close to the populations of Milngavie and Strathblane and combines woodland, heathland, marshland and moor along with formal walking routes and sites of interest including Mugdock Castle, Mugdock Loch, Craigend Castle Estate, Walled Garden and WWII Gunsite remains on Khyber field.



The area has a long and interesting history with 13th century Mugdock Castle designated a 'Scheduled Ancient Monument'. Craigend Castle is 'C' listed and the Courtyard (former

Stables buildings) is ‘B’ listed. Mugdock Country Park is currently owned by Stirling Council, and leased to East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC), and managed by both East Dunbartonshire and Stirling Councils through a Joint Management Committee (JMC), which meets on a quarterly basis throughout the year.

The Joint Management Committee seeks to ensure the Country Park remains fit for purpose and delivers the widest possible benefits for its communities and stakeholders. The approved Mugdock Strategy 2022-27 highlights the Vision for Mugdock ‘A Park of choice, of heritage, a Park for everyone – a place of natural inspiration’.

As one of Scotland's leading tourist attractions, the Country Park is developing a sustainable operating and business model. The approved Strategy sets out plans to;

1) Recognise and celebrate the heritage of Mugdock.
2) Build capacity to best utilise our outstanding natural assets.
3) Improve access and facilities for all.
4) Create new opportunities for our local community and visitors to enjoy and connect with Mugdock country Park.
5) Create a sustainable and welcoming place for all.



Visitor footfall, which increased last year and has continued to grow with 835,413 in 2025, similar to the previous couple of years.. This is due to increased demands for outdoor space and, also to the range of activities and events held within the Country Park.

The JMC is keen to maintain services and support development in a manner that secures best value through a high quality and efficient service delivery. Mugdock has an important and growing role in the delivery of constituent Council objectives in maximising the use of the outdoor environment and greenspace assets; encouraging enhanced levels of physical activity, walking, cycling and supporting health and well-being through organised and informal leisure activity.

In addition, the JMC continues to work with external partners to secure funding that supports investment and offsets revenue costs. Such activities include commercial operations through the café and retail operations, land leases for public & private events and filming, event rentals including room hire, long term leases as well as other activities which have little or no impact on day-to-day operation and support the core mission and purpose of the Country Park.

B Fair Review of Business

The Annual Accounts present the financial position of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee as at 31 March 2026.

The principal financial statements comprise Movement in Reserves Statement (page 20), Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement (page20), Balance Sheet (page 21) and Cash Flow Statement (page 21). Explanatory notes are also provided.

- **Management Committee**



The Council records with great sadness the passing of Councillor Henke who died in April 2026. Councillor Henke served the Mugdock Joint Board with dedication and commitment and made a valued contribution to the work of the Park. The Park extends its sincere condolences to Councillor Henkes family, friends and colleagues at this difficult time, Councillor Henke will be remembered with respect and gratitude for their service to the Park.

a) 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. The Minute of Agreement for the period 2024-2029 is with Legal Services from both Councils, with a variation signed on 4th December 2024. Capital expenditure is proposed to be split 50/50 between the respective authorities with each Council committing up to £75,000 per year. Stirling Council pays a fixed revenue contribution of £50,000 per annum.

The Joint Management Committee is governed by the Minute of Agreement, and a Committee was elected following Local Government elections in 2022. There are 8 Councilors in total on the JMC, 6 representing East Dunbartonshire and 2 from Stirling Council. Further, non-voting, representatives provide input from Milngavie Community Council, Strathblane Community Council and Mugdock Trust.

There is funding support from Mugdock Trust and the Clan Graham Society of North America (www.clangrahamsociety.org). Over the years, Mugdock Trust has been involved in projects, which improve and develop the Park. This has mainly focused on Mugdock Castle, and the Trust is currently working with EDC Officers on potential developments in the Castle's Walled Garden.

Much of the JMC8's income comes through room and land hire as well as rental of units to Caulder's Garden Centre, Charlie's Coffee Bar/Spider Monkey, Stables Tearoom and Mugdock Makker's Gallery and Giftshop. There is a land lease for animal grazing on Khyber Field with a further ground lease in place for the Astronomical Society of Glasgow's new Observatory to the north of th-e Park. The Mugdock Visitor Centre is run by park staff and sells gifts, maps, toys and outdoor wear as well as taking payment for Ranger sessions and activities and room/land hires. Event tickets are now sold through Eventbrite. Donation posts and honesty boxes are located at a number of locations. A range of fixed and seasonal trails around the Park bring in regular income along with events and educational visits. Volunteering opportunities are available for Trustees who may act as Castle Stewards.

Land and room hire income increases depending on the season with the annual Pantomime bringing in a theatre hire cost and a Pumpkin Patch event run by Beautiful Events bringing in a land hire charge. Filming has seen a steady income with most hires for small location fees and the occasional larger production.

External funding was secured for a partnership project with Scottish Water and has developed to employ Rangers as part of Scottish Water's 'Visitor Engagement Strategy'. This has enabled cross-over work with the Park's Ranger service and has brought in a management fee. The project ran until 31st January 2026 and provided valuable resource and cross site working between the Park and the Reservoir.

External funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund enabled significant upgrade work to the Walled Garden, enabling volunteering work, installation of decorative panels and new lighting. The Park will promote the area for functions to bring in additional income while further promoting the site as an event space.

Capital works included the finalisation of the installation of the Septic Tank along with installation of an upgraded Play Park, partly funded from the Scottish Government's Play Restoration Fund. 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.

b) Financial Summary

The Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement on page 20 shows that net revenue expenditure to be met by constituent authorities in 2025/26 was £377,871 which is £22,006 less than in the previous year.

Spend on employee costs were higher in 2025/26 due to the pay increase and increments received by employees, as well as additional staff through grants received. Overall, the net cost of service for 2025/26 was lower than budget by £75,141 mainly due to higher trading & events income and close monitoring of expenditure.

Budget Outturn

	2025/26 Budget £'000	2025/26 Actual £'000	Variation £'000
Expenditure	600	749	-149
Contribution East Dunbartonshire Council	-403	-328	-75
Contribution Stirling Council	-50	-50	0
Other Income	-147	-371	224
Net	0	0	0

The contribution from Stirling Council was budgeted at £50,000 to reflect their share of costs, in line with the Minute of Agreement.

The Balance Sheet Statement on page 21 shows that, as at the financial year-end, there is a temporary advance to East Dunbartonshire Council of £18,724. 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 2026.

The Cash Flow statement on page 21 summarises the external transactions associated with the Park on a cash basis.

c) Performance Information

The main performance indicator is footfall although increases in visitor numbers brings additional maintenance pressures to the Park's infrastructure and facilities. Most repairs and maintenance tasks are carried out by staff and volunteers where possible including pathwork, removing invasive species, tree maintenance and drainage. Some tasks require specialist skills to meet NatureScot's standards, and a program of bracken control and deer management has been carried out.

Projects taken forward over 2025/2026 include improvements to the Courtyard, replacement barbeque shelters, upgrade to the Walled Garden, play park renovation work and completion of the replacement wastewater treatment plant.

Educational work has continued with Countryside Rangers providing sessions for schools, nurseries and community groups. An events program takes place over the year with seasonal events for children such as pond dipping, sensational safaris, 'wildlife weans' and forest schools. Adult events have included whittling, dawn chorus bird identification and star gazing. The theatre has been used for cinema parties and corporate events.

Progress has been made with IT connectivity, which has been problematic in the past. The Park now links in with EDC Staff, and the public can access the internet through EDC Wi-Fi. This will help our events bookings with visitors able to use online services. Work has taken place on the upgrading of the CCTV system.

With the assistance of volunteers, the Rangers have cleared vegetation from the pond at Gallowhill with a view to sourcing funding for a bridge. Significant storm clearance works were required in 2025 as a result of Storms Eowyn, Amy and Floris.

At the request of NatureScot deer control is carried out at the Park with up to 40 deer per year culled by a contractor. This is to protect young trees at risk of damage from deer. Contractors also target bracken on Drumclog Moor. This reduces the vigor of bracken which, if left unchecked, will smother the flora beneath it.

C Future Developments

The Country Park's Strategy covering the period 2022-27 has been guiding the direction of the park priorities. It details that the key strengths of Mugdock are:

- Natural Environment Assets.
- Woodland including SSSI / Wildlife Interest.
- Historic Environment.
- Scenic Value.
- Activities (Play/Walking Environment/Ranger Led Activities).
- The Country Park Staff & volunteers



To build on strengths and address weaknesses the masterplan within the Strategy focuses on:

- Visitor Welcome and Orientation.
- Heritage Focus.
- Protect the SSSI.
- Biodiversity.
- Trails, Routes & Signage.
- Connectivity.

The Strategy includes a capital program for the Country Park, which sets out those projects best placed to deliver the aims of the masterplan. This includes:

- Improvements to the Park entry with clearer signage and gateway features,
- Improved connectivity to the Park considering the impact on the SSSI area,
- SSSI signage,
- Upgrading of peripheral car parks,
- Mugdock Castle improvements,
- Zoo related trail around Craigend,
- Interpretation at WWII gunsite,
- Connectivity between the Stables and the Walled Garden,
- Tree management and landscape management plans.



These developments will take place over 5 years and will be dependent on external funding as well as capital from East Dunbartonshire and Stirling Councils.

In 2026 a draft brief was written for a Heritage Environment Audit & Strategy, and the Park intends to engage consultants and liaise with Historic Environment Scotland on projects that will enhance and celebrate the Park's built heritage.

The Astronomical Society of Glasgow's new Eric Tomney Memorial Observatory (ETMO) has enabled the society to liaise closely with the Ranger service to promote the opportunity of star gazing from the Park.

Future developments include:



D Principal Risks & Uncertainties

Risks to the Park are identified through ongoing risk management assessment processes. Risks include those in relation to income realisation and financial pressures. The new Strategy looks into business models and ways of increasing income to the Park. The main source of income is from room and land hires, and this can be increased by ensuring the facilities are well maintained and that supply meets demand.

Other risks included within the Park's risk register include the potential failure to maintain car parks and buildings to a sufficient standard. Some risks have been addressed throughout the year including unauthorised access to Craigend Quarry and ICT connectivity. These risks have been mitigated by improved fencing and signage at the Quarry and achievement of BT ultrafast broadband. This will assist with connectivity issues and make the Park more digitally accessible. A set of 'Park Management Rules' will be progressed 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 Country Park 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. Online payments through Eventbrite have been introduced 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

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

Date:

Jamie Robertson

Treasurer, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee Date:

Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

Executive Summary

Subject to the sections below, and on the basis of the assurances provided, we consider the governance arrangements operating during 2025/26 to be fit for purpose in that they are operating effectively and support the achievement of the Joint Committee's strategic priorities. It is our opinion that reasonable assurance can be placed upon the adequacy and effectiveness of the Joint Committee's systems of governance.

This statement has been prepared in accordance with Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (CIPFA/Solace, 2016) Addendum 2025.

To meet its responsibilities, the Joint Management 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.

There were no significant governance issues or failures identified by the Joint Committee's governance review in the year 2025/26 or between 31 March 2026 and the date of signing. The Joint Committee is committed to ensuring that governance arrangements remain fit for purpose and effective in 2026/27 and beyond.

Councillor Jim Gibbons

Chairperson, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

Ann Davie

Chief Executive of East Dunbartonshire Council, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee

Date:

Our Assessment of Effectiveness

The Joint Management 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 & Neighbourhood Services within East Dunbartonshire Council, who for 2025/26 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 Chief Internal Auditor's Annual Report as it relates to Council systems on which the Joint Management 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.

In the previous year, 2024/25, a review of the key financial controls of the JMC was performed by Internal Audit with an audit opinion of reasonable assurance provided.

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 affecting 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 either are prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

We consider the governance and internal control environment operating in 2025/26 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.

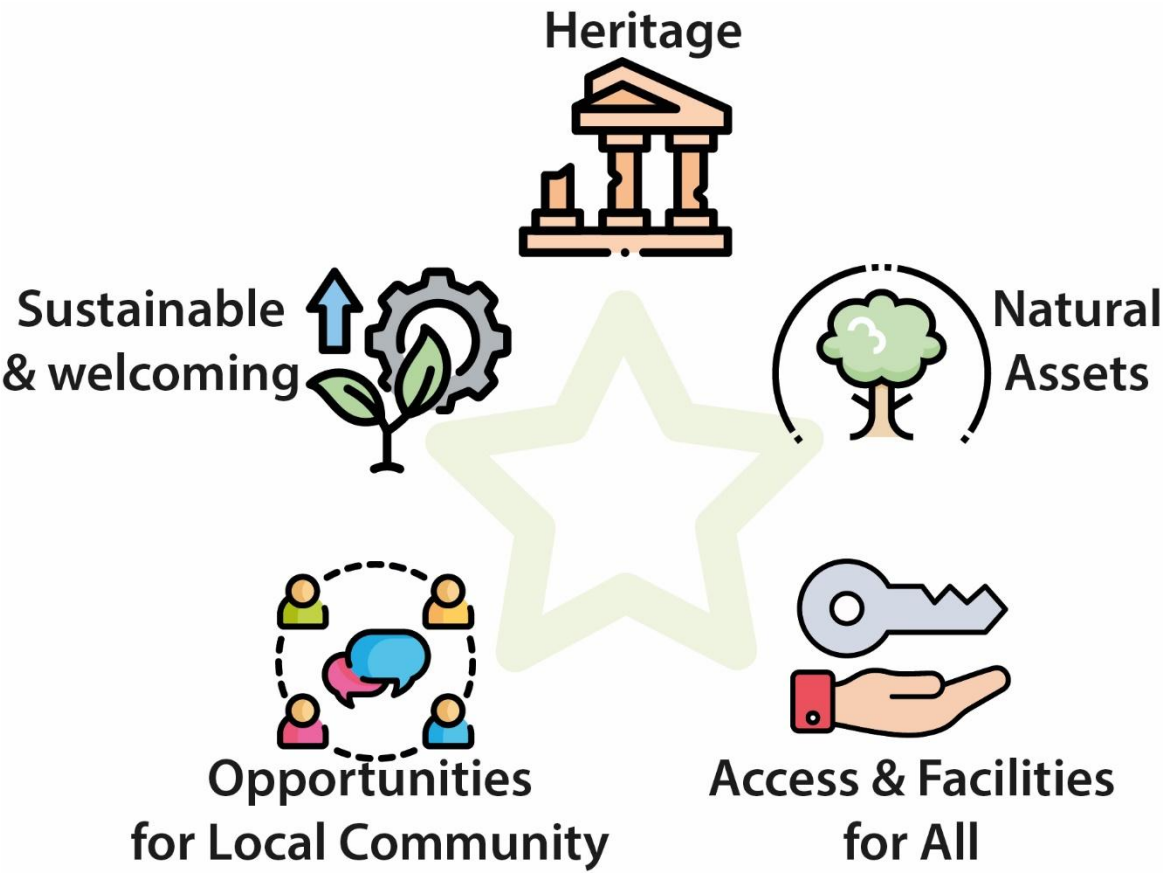
Key Features of Governance Arrangements

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

Purpose, Outcomes & Vision

The Vision of the Mugdock Country Park Strategy 2022-2027 is to:

- recognise and celebrate the heritage of Mugdock;
- protect its natural environment;
- build capacity to best utilise our outstanding natural assets;
- improve access and facilities for all;
- create new opportunities for our local community and visitors to enjoy and connect with Mugdock Country Park; and
- create a sustainable and welcoming place for all.



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 2024-2029.

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

Management Committee. In addition, Elected Members from both funding councils are bound by the Code of Conduct for Councillor's in accordance with the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000.

Informed & Transparent Decision Making

The Joint Management 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.

Developing Capability & Capacity

The Joint Management 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 Management Committee looks to encourage new talent for membership so that best use can be made of the mix of individuals' skills and experience.

Engaging with Local People & Stakeholders

The Joint Management Committee seeks to engage with stakeholders through developing effective partnerships and ensuring positive relationships are in place. The JMC actively facilitates feedback from visitors and provides sufficient opportunities to allow constructive input to the park. In addition, the Joint Management Committee includes non-voting community representatives who can attend committee meetings and are encouraged to participate in discussions.

Purpose of the Governance Framework

The Joint Management 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 & Neighbourhood Services portfolio and the Council's Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets Committee.

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 governance framework needs to correlate to the size of the organization. Mugdock Country Park complies with relevant elements in a proportionate manner of the Role of the Chief Finance Officer in Local Government, and the Role of the Head of Internal Audit. The costs of fully implementing and maintaining compliance with these codes and embedding such posts within the organisation would outweigh the benefits given the size of the organisation.

Nevertheless, the system of internal control is a significant part of the governance 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.

Scope of Responsibility

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.

Joint Committee members are committed to the concept of sound internal control and the effective delivery of the organisation's Strategic Objectives.

Where our Governance Needs to Improve

The remaining internal audit actions relating to Reconciliations and the Booking System require to be addressed in 2026/27.

Improvement Area identified	**Responsible Officer**
A previous audit noted that the method of taking payment for schools and room bookings presented a risk as it could not be easily reconciled. As a result, a series of changes were instigated to provide assurances that all income due has been correctly raised on Oracle Fusion. A web based system that uses EDC payment mechanisms is being developed by the Business Change Team. This will put all room bookings, BBQs and event tickets through EDC pay360. School payments are no longer handled by Rangers to introduce segregation of duties. All schools complete a booking form and EDC schools pay by invoice. Non EDC schools and independent schools can pay by bank transfer or cheque if not possible.	Team Leader Mugdock Country Park

How we have improved our governance arrangements in 2025/26.

Governance arrangements have largely continued on a consistent basis to prior years as they are deemed fit for purpose. In terms on improved controls internal audit actions relating to Financial Monitoring and Invoicing have been implemented.

Future Governance Considerations

There are not currently any significant changes planned to governance arrangements.

Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts

The Joint Management Committee is responsible for:

- Arranging for the proper administration of its financial affairs and ensuring 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.
- ensuring 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).
- approving the Annual Accounts for signature.

I confirm that these Annual Accounts were approved for signature by the Joint Management Committee at its meeting on ……..

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 2026.
- Selecting suitable accounting policies and applying them consistently.
- Making judgements and estimates that are 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.

I certify that the financial statements give a true & fair view of the financial position of the Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee at the reporting date and the transactions for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Jamie Robertson

Treasurer, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee Date:

Principal Financial Statements

Principal Financial Statements of Single Entity

The Annual Accounts summarise the JMC's transactions for the year, its year end position at 31 March 2026 and its cash flows. The Annual Accounts are prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2025/26 (the Code), which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

The Park presents statements in respect of:

- Single entity accounts – representing the transactions of the Council only

The principal statements and their relationships are explained in more detail below:

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation.

Movement in Reserves Statement – this shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the JMC.

.

Balance Sheet – this shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the JMC.

Cash Flow Statement – this shows the change in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the JMC generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.

Notes to the Principal Financial Statements provide further information in support of that disclosed in the main accounting statements and also where the materiality is such that further disclosure is merited.

Movement in Reserves Statement

31 March 2025 £		31 March 2026 £
0	Balance as at 1st April	0
0	Surplus / (Deficit) for the Financial Year	0
0	**Balance Sheet as at 31st March**	**0**

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2024/25 £		2025/26 £
	Expenditure	
569,066	Agency Staff Costs	591,508
5,794	Maintenance	14,955
59,752	Utilities	49,904
13,292	Trading & Events	14,765
92,488	Operating	69,712
2,077	Publicity	2,797
3,900	External Audit Fees	5,555
746,369	**Operating Costs**	**749,196**
	Income	
95,673	Rents & Recharges	99,005
163,546	Grants & Donations	191,500
87,274	Trading & Events	80,820
346,493		**371,325**
399,877	**Net Revenue Expenditure**	**377,871**
	Amount to be met from constituent authorities	
349,876	East Dunbartonshire Council	327,871
50,000	Stirling Council	50,000
399,876		**377,871**
0	**Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year**	**0**

Cash Flow Statement

31 March 2025 £		31 March 2026 £
0	**Net (surplus) or Deficit on the provision of services**	*0*
0	**Adjust net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for Non Cash movements**	*0*
24,594	Increase / (Decrease) in Debtors	(29,924)
(30,929)	(Increase) / Decrease in Creditors	22,055
4,581	Increase / (Decrease) in Inventories	(1,666)
1,754	Other non Cash Transactions	9,535
0	**Adjust for items in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities**	0
0	**Net Cashflows from operating activities**	0
0	Investing Activities	0
0	Financing Activities	0
0	**Net (increase) / Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivaler**	0
0	**Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April**	0
0	**Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March**	0

Balance Sheet

31 March 2025 £		31 March 2026 £
	Current Assets	
42,272	Receivables	12,348
7,235	Inventory	5,569
9,188	Temporary Advance to East Dunbartonshire Council	18,724
58,696		36,641
	Current Liabilities	
53,403	Payables	33,063
5,293	Deferred Income	3,578
58,696		36,641
(0)	**Total Assets less Total Liabilities**	0

The audited accounts were authorised for issue on ……..

I certify that the Balance Sheet presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee at 31 March 2026 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Jamie Robertson

Treasurer, Mugdock Country Park Joint Management Committee Date:

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 2025/26 financial year, and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2026. 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 2025/26 (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 2025/26. Comparative figures for 2024/25 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 accrual's 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 Country Park will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

EDC is VAT registered and accounts for the VAT for Mugdock's transactions within its own single entity accounts - and that VAT does not feature within Mugdock's accounts.

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. Therefore, the cost of STACA is held within the CIES (page 20) as EDC pay this and recharge Mugdock Country 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 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 2026, the total net book value of the Park's buildings & equipment was £1,814,338 and of community assets was £2,311,976.

Overall, the capital programme had an underspend against its expenditure budget due to projects being re-phased into 2026/27. As such, income was only applied in year to cover actual expenditure. Income that was not drawn down in 2025/26 will be carried into 2024/25 to be applied against the re-phased projects.

	2025/26 Budget £000	2025/26 Actual £000	2025/26 Variance £000
Expenditure	314.00	311.00	(3.00)
Income	(314.00)	(311.00)	3.00
Net Cost of Capital	0.00	0.00	0.00

d) Inventories

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the invoice value. This figure has been calculated as at the year-end through an actual stock count.

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 2025/26 were £31,280 (2024/25 £31,677).

4. Exit Packages

During 2024/25 there were no exit packages by way of voluntary redundancy or any other means. This is the same as the prior year (2024/25 £Nil).

5. Stock Trading Account

The Joint Management Committee operates a shop within the Visitors Centre at Mugdock Country Park, selling souvenirs and other sundry items. Sales income in 2025/26 is higher than the previous year within shop sales due a change in products. The gross profit for the year to 31 March 2026 is as below.

2024/25 £	*2024/25* £		*2025/26* £	*2025/26* £
	29,769	Sales		30,891
3,660		Inventory at start of the year	7,235	
9,245		Purchases	12,213	
(7,235)		Less: Inventory at the end of the year	(5,569)	
	5,670	Cost of Goods Sold		13,879
	24,099	**Gross Profit / (loss)**		**17,012**

6. Prior Year Adjustments

At this time no prior year adjustments have been made

7. Related Parties

In the course of its business, the JMC enters into transactions with parties, these parties could be related and it is, as defined by accounting standards for the accounts for these transactions to be reviewed and reported where related when material (i.e. organization's which the JMC can influence should be disclosed), and all material transactions with related parties have been appropriately accounted.

East Dunbartonshire Council and Stirling Council hold the information for any of these sums within their annual accounts. The CIES on page 18 notes the monies paid by both Stirling Council and East Dunbartonshire Council to pay their share of the JMC. For the purpose of this note, related parties could include:

- Central Government
- Members
- Officers
- Other Public Bodies.
- Entities controlled or significantly influenced by either Council in relation to the JMC,
- Entities controlled by Members or Officers.

Stirling and East Dunbartonshire Council are parents of the JMC, through the relationship described within the management commentary, and it is therefore appropriate that the amounts are disclosed here;

	Related Parties							
	2024/25				2025/26			
	Income	Expenditure	Debtor	Creditor	Income	Expenditure	Debtor	Creditor
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
East Dunbartonshire Council	-353	569	5	-42	-328	592	4	-12
Stirling Council	-50	0	0	0	-50	0	0	0
	-403	569	5	-42	-378	592	4	-12

Central Government

Central government, in the form of Scottish Government, has significant influence over the general operations of Mugdock Country Park. The Scottish Government exerts significant influence also through legislation which Mugdock must follow.

Members

Members of the Committee have significant influence over the Park's financial and operating policies. There were no Members' Allowances paid in 2025/26..

There are no other significant related party transactions with members of the JMC or entities in which they have control.

Officers

All Officers of the Committee and the Park, including Council Officers, have significant influence over the JMC's financial and operating policies and have organisational control over their implementation. Other than remuneration, which is disclosed in the Council's Remuneration Report, there are no significant related party transactions with officers of the Committee.

8. Government & Non-Government Grants

Mugdock credited grants to the CIES in the financial years shown on page 20. Amounts recognised as due to the JMC are not credited to the CIES until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. Where conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited.

8. Independent Auditor's Report

Independent auditor's report to the members of the Mugdock Country Park Joint Committee and the Accounts Commission

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements

Will follow on after final accounts.