
**GLASGOW CITY REGION - CITY DEAL CABINET
JOINT COMMITTEE**

Annual Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2017

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❖ **Management Commentary**

History and Statutory Background

The Glasgow City Region is the largest city-region in Scotland and one of the largest in the United Kingdom, with a population of 1.75 million people. As such, Glasgow City Region is a key engine of economic growth for both the Scottish and UK economies, generating around 32% of Scotland's Gross Value Added, 33% of Scottish jobs and is home to 29% of all businesses in Scotland.

In 2014 eight Councils agreed in principle to establish a Joint Committee to govern the City Deal and determine the strategic economic development priorities for Glasgow City region.

The Glasgow City Region – City Deal is an agreement between the UK government, the Scottish government and the 8 local authorities across Glasgow City region.

The £1.13bn City Deal will fund major infrastructure projects, drive innovation and growth and address challenges in the region's labour market.

Glasgow City Region - City Deal Cabinet Joint Committee is comprised of eight local authorities: East Dunbartonshire Council, East Renfrewshire Council, Glasgow City Council, Inverclyde Council, North Lanarkshire Council, Renfrewshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council and West Dunbartonshire Council.

An Assurance Framework sets out the operational structure of the Joint Committee and how its functions are governed.

Glasgow City Council is the Lead Authority.

Structure

The Joint Committee is known as the Glasgow City Region City Deal Cabinet which has met bi-monthly, with six meetings taking place in 2016/17.

The Cabinet comprises the Leaders of the participating authorities and is responsible for the strategic direction of the City Deal and for approving the annual budget and business plan.

The Programme Management Office (PMO) provides administrative and technical support services to the Cabinet as may be required and acts as the central point for appraisal and monitoring of all aspects of City Deal.

The Cabinet is supported by a Chief Executives Group, which oversees the management of the PMO in its delivery of the operational functions of the Cabinet. The Group will also propose a programme of works and where required provide recommendations.

The Chief Executives Group is also supported by Sub-groups, comprised of officers from the participating councils, to provide advice as required, including a set of policy portfolios led by the respective Councils. The Cabinet takes advice from the Independent Commission on Urban Economic Growth (The Commission) and the Glasgow City Region Economic Leadership Board. The Commission is Chaired by Professor Muscatelli, Principal of Glasgow University, and 5 panel members.

Consultation and engagement with the UK and Scottish Governments has taken place through the Glasgow City Region Programme Liaison Group.

Strategic Aims

The City Deal is one of the largest agreed. It is an agreement between the UK Government, the Scottish Government and the eight local authorities across Glasgow City region. Over its 20 year lifetime, local leaders in Glasgow City Region estimate that the City Deal will:

- Support an overall increase in the economy of around 29,000 jobs in the city region.
- Work with 19,000 unemployed residents and support over 5,500 back into sustained employment.
- Secure £1 billion of Scottish Government and UK Government capital funding to support the proposed infrastructure investment programme for the area. This will be complemented by a minimum of £130 million of investment from Glasgow City Region City Deal local authorities.
- Leverage in an estimated £3.3 billion of private sector investment into the proposed infrastructure investment programme.
- Spread the benefits of economic growth across Glasgow City Region, ensuring deprived areas benefit from this growth.

Programme Performance

A total of 27 high-level projects have been approved to date across seven member authorities with a value in excess of £1.1bn with all infrastructure projects status' being at either green or amber. During 2016/17 major milestones included the opening of the Tontine, a new £4 million centre for business incubation and development in Glasgow's Merchant City. Medicity Scotland, a dedicated medical technology incubation facility opened in Newhouse, North Lanarkshire. In July 2016, East Renfrewshire Council completed the first infrastructure sub-project of the City Deal, with ten new commercial units developed at Crossmill Business Park in Barrhead. In February 2017 the Cathkin Relief Road opened in South Lanarkshire and in March 2017, the world-leading Imaging Centre of Excellence officially opened at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Glasgow.

August 2017 marks the three-year anniversary of the formal signing of the Glasgow City Region City Deal agreement between the 8 City Region councils and the UK and Scottish Governments, one of the largest in the UK and the first in Scotland. Three years into a twenty year programme, the partnership is working well and good progress continues to be made. Solid foundations have been established with the PMO team in place and formal governance structures and a range of key strategies developed. A number of milestones have been achieved, with significant funding approved by cabinet and a large part of the 27 projects underway to some extent or successfully completed.

The main risks reflected in the risk register were largely unchanged over the year. The top financial risks include ensuring financial projections are realistic, delays in overall programme delivery leading to non-achievement of milestones and delay in development and approval of business cases leading to pressure on programme delivery and milestone achievement. More immediate operational risks are reviewed in a programme of internal and external audit. The City Deal Programme is funded over a twenty year period. The PMO is funded by the eight member authorities and this contribution is managed within each authorities financial resources. The PMO budget is set and recharged to member authorities annually and on the grounds of materiality the long-term funding of the PMO is currently not considered to be a major financial risk.

Financial Performance

The cost of running the Programme Management Office (PMO) is the main item of expenditure of the Cabinet. Salary costs and any administrative expenses incurred by the PMO are re-imbursed in full from the participating authorities.

The total gross budget for the Programme Management Office was set at £917,036 with an additional £134,500 KPMG recharges making a total £1,051,536. There was an underspend of £73,456 on the total gross budget for 2016/17. This was in the main due to savings in employee costs.

Expenditure of **£978,080** was incurred for the period and was re-charged in total to the participating authorities on the basis set out in the Joint Committee Agreement. There was a nil balance of funds as at 31 March 2017. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis

Councillor Susan Aitken
Council Leader and Chair
Glasgow City Region Cabinet

Annemarie O'Donnell
Chief Executive
Glasgow City Council

Morag Johnston
Acting Executive Director
of Financial Services

15 August 2017

15 August 2017

15 August 2017

❖ **Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts**

1. The lead authority's responsibilities

The lead authority is required:

- To make arrangements for the proper administration of the financial affairs of the Joint Committee and to ensure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In Glasgow City Council, that officer is the Executive Director of Financial Services.
- To manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of the 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
- Approve the Annual Accounts for signature.

I certify that the Annual Accounts have been approved for signature by Glasgow City Region City Deal Cabinet at its meeting on 15 August 2017.

Councillor Susan Aitken
Council Leader and Chair,
Glasgow City Region Cabinet
15 August 2017

2. Responsibilities of the Executive Director of Financial Services, Glasgow City Council

The Executive Director of Financial Services in Glasgow City Council is responsible for the preparation of the statement of accounts of the Joint Committee , in accordance with proper practices as required by legislation and as set out in the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code').

In preparing the Annual Accounts, the Executive Director of Financial Services has:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgments and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the legislation; and
- Complied with the local authority Accounting Code (in so far as it is compatible with legislation).

The Executive Director of Financial Services has also:

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

I certify that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Glasgow City Region City Deal Cabinet Joint Committee as at 31 March 2017 and the transactions for the year then ended.

Morag Johnston CPFA
Acting Executive Director of Financial Services
Glasgow City Council
15 August 2017

3. Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 March 2017

2015/16 Net Expenditure £	Service	Note	2016/17 Net Expenditure £
713,213	Gross expenditure	3	978,080
(713,213)	Gross income	3	(978,080)
0	Cost of Services		0
0	Interest and investment income		0
0	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure		0
0	(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services		0
0	Other Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure		0
0	Total Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure		0

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – shows income and expenditure incurred in the year relating to the provision of services for the Joint Committee.

4. Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2017

31 March 2016 £		Note	31 March 2017 £
0	Short-term debtors	6	228,710
141,805	Cash and cash equivalents		0
141,805	Current Assets		228,710
(141,805)	Short-term creditors	6	(228,710)
(141,805)	Current Liabilities		(228,710)
0	Net Assets / (Liabilities)		0
0	Usable Reserves		0
0	Unusable Reserves		0
0	Total Reserves		0

Balance Sheet – The balance sheet of the Joint Committee shows that there were no reserve balances as at 31 March 2017.

The unaudited accounts were issued on 13 June 2017 and the audited accounts were authorised for publication on 15 August 2017.

Morag Johnston, CPFA
Acting Executive Director of Financial
Services
Glasgow City Council
15 August 2017

5. Cash Flow Statement for the Year ended 31 March 2017

2015/16 £	Revenue Activities	2016/17 £
0	Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services	0
	Adjustments for non-cash items:	
0	(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(228,710)
129,040	Increase / (decrease) in creditors	86,905
129,040		(141,805)
129,040	Net cash inflow / (outflow) from activities	(141,805)
12,765	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	141,805
141,805	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	0

Cash Flow Statement – details the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Joint Committee.

❖ **Notes to the accounts**

The main objective of these notes is to provide further explanation for certain aspects of the core Financial Statements.

1. Statement of accounting policies

- 1.1** The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2017 have been compiled on the basis of recommendations made by the Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee (LASAAC) and have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17 (the Code). The Code is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) with interpretation appropriate to the public sector. The statements are designed to give a 'true and fair view' of the financial performance and position of the Joint Committee.
- 1.2** The accounting concepts of 'materiality', 'accruals', 'going concern' and 'primacy of legislative requirements' have been considered in the application of accounting policies. In this regard the materiality concept means that information is included where the information is of such significance as to justify its inclusion. The accruals concept requires the non-cash effects of transactions to be included in the financial statement for the year in which they occur, not in the period in which the cash is paid or received. The going concern concept assumes that the Joint Committee will not significantly curtail the scale of its operation. Wherever accounting principles and legislative requirements are in conflict the latter shall apply.
- 1.3** Suppliers' invoices received up to 31 March 2017 have been included in the accounts. In addition, expenditure has been accrued, in accordance with the Code, where the goods or services were received prior to 31 March 2017. Salaries and wages earned to 31 March 2017 are included in the accounts for 2016/17 irrespective of when the actual payments were made.
- 1.4** Income includes all sums due in respect of contributions from participating authorities. No interest was earned on fund balances for the year ended 31 March 2017.
- 1.5** There were no complex transactions or potential future uncertainties requiring critical judgments or estimations of uncertainty in preparing the 2016/17 accounts.

2. Accounting Standards Issued not Adopted

There are no accounting standards which have been issued, but not adopted, that would have a material effect on the 2016/17 Financial Statements of the Joint Committee.

3. Income and expenditure statement

The table below provides a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure of the Joint Committee during 2016/17.

	Note	2015/16 Net Expenditure £	2016/17 Net Expenditure £
Income			
Expenditure re-imburement from participating local authorities	4	(713,213)	(978,080)
Total income		(713,213)	(978,080)
Expenditure			
Employee costs		570,605	694,283
Transport		51	335
Supplies and services		134,557	275,582
Third Party Payments		8,000	7,880
Total expenditure		713,213	978,080
(Surplus) or deficit for period		0	0
(Surplus) brought forward		0	0
Accumulated (surplus) or deficit		0	0

4. PMO Budget and Funding

Based on the initial agreement signed by participating authorities, parameters were set out to determine the method for funding of the Programme Management Office (PMO). The Contribution Sum is to be calculated as a proportion of the PMO budget, based on the population of each Member Authority's area and expressed as a percentage of the total population within the areas of the Member Authorities.

A detailed breakdown of each member's contribution towards the cost of running the PMO is shown in the table below:-

Local Authority	Contribution 2016/17 £
East Dunbartonshire Council	53,695
East Renfrewshire Council	49,604
Glasgow City Council	324,625
Inverclyde Council	44,508
North Lanarkshire Council	184,804
Renfrewshire Council	95,725
South Lanarkshire Council	171,642
West Dunbartonshire Council	49,672
SPT	3,805
Total	978,080

5. Employee benefits

All 9 full time members of staff of the Joint committee were employed on a secondment basis. All members of staff were employed by Glasgow City Council. There were no secondments from any other member authority.

In accordance with International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS 19) – Employee Benefits, the employing council is required to disclose certain information concerning assets, liabilities, income and expenditure, of the pension scheme. As the Cabinet does not directly employ staff, the staff pension costs of the PMO will be reflected in the figures disclosed in the financial statements of Glasgow City Council.

The Code requires that employee benefits are recognised in the accounts when they are earned rather than when they are paid. As a result, there is a requirement to consider notional entitlements to annual leave earned but not taken as at 31 March 2017. Employees providing professional services to the PMO are contracted to Glasgow City Council and therefore any notional liability will have been included within the accounts of Glasgow City Council who hold the contract of employment.

6. Short-term debtors and creditors

The short-term debtors of £228,710 are all in relation to the member authorities. The short-term creditors figure for 2016/17 of £228,710 comprises the following:-

Short-term creditors	31 March 2017 £
Gleeds Consultancy Services	24,951
Audit Scotland Audit Fee 16/17	7,870
KPMG	25,000
National Panel and Commission	36,383
TPO	860
Skills Development Plan	18,000
Lighthouse Economic Strategy Launch	1,000
Glasgow City Council	62,598
City Region 16/17 Credit Recharge	52,048
Total sundry creditors	228,710

7. Remuneration Report

Glasgow City Region – City Deal Cabinet is a Joint Committee comprising eight participating local authorities. The Cabinet does not directly employ any members of staff, with all services being provided by staff of the participating authorities on a secondment basis.

A remuneration report providing disclosures in respect of elected members and chief officers of the Councils, including those with authority and responsibility for the Cabinet, are included in the Annual Accounts of each of the participating local authorities.

8. Related Parties

Glasgow City Council is the administering body responsible for the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee uses the administering body's financial and payroll systems and banking facilities. The related party transactions between the Joint Committee and Glasgow City Council are shown in the table below:

Related Party transactions and balances	2016/17 Expenditure £	2016/17 Income £	Debtor/(Creditor) at 31 March 2017 £
Related bodies			
Glasgow City Council	312,278	312,278	(62,598)

9. Auditor remuneration

Audit Scotland has agreed with the Joint Committee that the audit fee would be £7,870 for the 2016/17 financial year. No fees were payable in respect of other services provided by the appointed auditor.

10. Events after the balance sheet date

There were no material events between 31 March 2017 and the date of signing that require to be reflected in the Financial Statements.

Annual Governance Statement 2016/17

Role and responsibilities

The Glasgow City Region Cabinet is a Joint Committee established under Section 57 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, by the eight member authorities.

The main functions of the Cabinet are to determine the strategic economic development opportunities for the Glasgow City Region area, to deliver the City Deal and to approve the remits and workplans of the Independent Commission on Urban Growth and the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Economic Leadership Board. The Cabinet will also deal with any areas of activity as are delegated to it by the member authorities.

The matters reserved to the member authorities for decision making which cannot be dealt with by the Cabinet are as follows:

- Any material financial decisions over and above what has been committed through the City Deal.
- Any amendment of the Joint Committee.
- Any requests for the addition of another local authority as member authority.
- Approval by a member authority to enter into a grant agreement in relation to a specific City Deal project.

Lead Authority

Glasgow City Council is the lead authority for the Glasgow City Region Cabinet and City Deal. As lead authority, the Council holds and disburses the City Deal grant funding through grant agreements with member authorities; manages the budget for the Project Management Office (PMO); signs grant offers with the Scottish and UK Governments, and where appropriate the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS); and makes disbursements to member authorities and other bodies as appropriate under the terms of the grant agreement.

Cabinet meetings

Meetings of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet are held on an 8 weekly basis. Occasional ad hoc meetings are also held as required. Cabinet meeting dates are listed in the Council Diary which is available at:

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/calendar.asp>

Representation

The Glasgow City Region Cabinet is comprised of the Council Leaders (or their nominee) of each of the eight member authorities, and is chaired by the Leader of Glasgow City Council as lead authority.

Chief Executives' Group

A management group has been established comprising the Chief Executive of each of the member authorities (or their nominee). The group has responsibility on a collective basis for the overall supervision and management and for the monitoring of the performance of the PMO in delivering the City Deal. The group is chaired by the Chief Executive of Glasgow City Council as lead authority.

Project Management Office

The PMO undertakes the administrative role required to support the Cabinet, its sub-groups and portfolios. The PMO is delivered by Glasgow City Council as lead authority, and the role includes:

- Provision of administrative and technical support services
- Preparation and circulation of meeting minutes and agendas
- Publishing the Cabinet processes and outcomes
- Facilitating engagement by the stakeholders, and

- Managing Cabinet communications including the Glasgow City Region website.

Support Groups

A number of support groups have been created to support the delivery of the City Deal and share knowledge and information. The remit of these groups has been agreed by the Chief Executives and cover the following areas:

- Lead Officers group
- Finance Officers group
- Legal and procurement
- Transport
- Economic Development
- Audit

Scope of responsibility

As the lead authority for the Glasgow City Region Cabinet, Glasgow City Council is responsible for ensuring that its business, including that of the PMO, is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a statutory duty to make arrangements to secure best value under the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Cabinet is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements (known as the governance framework) for the governance of its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk. Key elements of the governance framework are noted below. The framework was in place throughout 2016/17.

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values, by which the Cabinet is directed and controlled. Through the framework, the Cabinet is accountable to and engages with the community. The framework enables the Cabinet to monitor the progress being achieved.

The Council has approved and adopted a Local Code of Corporate Governance (the Code), which is consistent with the principles of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. A copy of The Code is available on the council's website at:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17539>

The work of the Cabinet is governed by the Code and by its Assurance Framework. This includes requirements for the preparation and production of a number of key policy documents including an Economic Strategy, a Procurement Strategy and a Risk Management Strategy. These documents set out the Cabinet's objectives together with the main risks facing the programme and the key controls in place to mitigate those risks. A Risk Register is maintained to facilitate detailed risk monitoring, and an Annual Implementation Plan is produced each year to support the Programme Business Case, which is the business case for overall delivery of the Programme. Scrutiny is provided by the Cabinet's Internal and External Auditors.

The Cabinet complies with the CIPFA Statement on "*The Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government 2010*". The Glasgow City Council Acting Executive Director of Financial Services has overall responsibility for the PMO's financial arrangements and is professionally qualified and suitably experienced to lead the finance function and to direct finance staff.

Review of effectiveness

The Council and Glasgow City Region Cabinet have systems of internal control designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. Internal controls cannot eliminate risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised.

The Assurance Framework is subject to regular review to ensure that it provides an effective governance platform for the Cabinet. The effectiveness of the key elements included in the Scope of Responsibility section have been reviewed and are considered to be adequate. This review informs the Internal Audit opinion given below. The arrangements continue to be regarded as fit for purpose in accordance with the governance framework.

A revised version of the Assurance Framework is expected to be agreed in 2017/18.

Update on Significant Governance Issues Previously Reported

There were no significant governance issues reported in 2015/16.

Internal Audit Opinion

Assurance work undertaken within the Glasgow City Region Cabinet in 2016/17 included:

- The arrangements for monitoring the financial position of the City Deal programme.
- The arrangements in place over the financial transactions made between partners and funding bodies.
- The risk management arrangements in place within the City Deal programme.
- The implementation of recommended actions arising from previous audit work.

Glasgow City Council's Head of Audit and Inspection has confirmed that there are no significant governance issues that require to be reported as a result of the work undertaken by Internal Audit in 2016/17, and no significant governance issues have been reported by the Internal Audit teams of the member authorities during the year.

Certification

It is our opinion that reasonable assurance can be placed upon the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of governance that operate in the Glasgow City Region Cabinet. We consider the governance and internal control environment operating during 2016/17 to provide reasonable and objective assurance that any significant risks impacting on the Glasgow City Region Cabinet's ability to achieve its objectives will be identified and actions taken to avoid or mitigate the impact.

Where areas for improvement have been identified and action plans agreed, we will ensure that they are treated as priority and progress towards implementation is reviewed by the Chief Executives' Group and the Cabinet.

We will continue to review and enhance, as necessary, our governance arrangements.

**Council Leader and
Chair, Glasgow City Region Cabinet
(Susan Aitken)
15 August 2017**

**Chief Executive
Glasgow City Council
(Annemarie O'Donnell)
15 August 2017**

Independent Auditor's Report

Independent auditor's report to the members of Glasgow City Region - City Deal Cabinet Joint Committee and the Accounts Commission

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 approved by the Accounts Commission, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

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 Glasgow City Region - City Deal Cabinet Joint Committee for the year ended 31 March 2017 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The financial statements comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet and 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 2016/17 (the 2016/17 Code).

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view in accordance with applicable law and the 2016/17 Code of the state of affairs of the Glasgow City Region - City Deal Cabinet Joint Committee as at 31 March 2017 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 2016/17 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 of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing in the UK and Ireland (ISAs (UK&I)). 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 am independent of the Glasgow City Region - City Deal Cabinet 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 Standards for Auditors, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the Acting Executive Director of Financial Services for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Acting Executive Director of Financial Services 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 Acting Executive Director of Financial Services determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable legal requirements and ISAs (UK&I) as required by the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Accounts Commission. Those standards require me to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standards for Auditors. An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the Glasgow City Region - City Deal Cabinet Joint Committee and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Acting Executive Director of Financial Services; and the overall presentation 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&I) 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.

Other information in the annual accounts

The Acting Executive Director of Financial Services 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 in accordance with ISAs (UK&I), my responsibility is to read all the financial and non-financial information in the annual accounts to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Report on other requirements

Opinions on other prescribed matters

I am required by the Accounts Commission to express an opinion on the following matters.

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
- there has been a failure to achieve a prescribed financial objective.

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Stephen O'Hagan
Senior Audit Manager
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August 2017