

# Public Document Pack



To: All Members of the Council

Town House,  
ABERDEEN, 22 April 2025

## RECONVENED COUNCIL

The Members of the **COUNCIL** are requested to meet in Council Chamber - Town House on **MONDAY, 28 APRIL 2025 at 2.00pm**. This is a hybrid meeting, therefore Members may also attend remotely.

**\*\*\*\* Please note this agenda has been produced for the purposes of the website and the webcast. If Members and officers could refer to the original agenda for the meeting of 16 April for any annotations made and associated page numbers, that would be appreciated \*\*\*\***

ALAN THOMSON  
INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER - GOVERNANCE

## **B U S I N E S S**

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

9.1 Council Annual Effectiveness Report - CORS/24/349 (Pages 5 - 26)

**Carried forward from December and February Council meetings**

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### 10.1 Notice of Motion by Councillor Macdonald (Pages 27 - 28)

“That Council:

1. Acknowledges the importance of the United Nations Summit of the Future held on 22 September 2024, when world leaders adopted a Pact for the Future that includes a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future Generations.
2. Agrees that, by adopting the Pact, countries demonstrate that they are committed to an international system with the United Nations at its centre where Leaders set out a clear vision of a multilateralism that can deliver on its promises, is more representative of today's world and draws on the engagement and expertise of governments, civil society and other key partners.
3. Commends the Aberdeen Branch of the United Nations Association for organising an event to discuss the Pact in the St Nicholas Room, Town House, on 27 March 2025.
4. Endorses the spirit of the Pact for the Future.
5. Instructs the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to bring a report to a future Council meeting outlining what the Council can do to promote the involvement of our young people in expanding and strengthening youth participation in global decision-making.”

### 10.2 Urgent Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton

“That the Council:

1. Instruct the Chief Officer - City Development and Regeneration to continue to provide support to Castlegate Arts to help them to achieve the cultural investment framework requirements and meet the Council's criteria for Following the Public Pound, and provide them with a monthly funding stream up to an annual amount in 2025/26 of £100k, to be taken from the General Fund Contingencies budget;
2. Note that an offer of a long-term lease remains available to Castlegate Arts on current terms;
3. Instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to instruct and update the building condition survey (previous version has been shared with Castlegate Arts) and make these costs available to Elected Members to assist budget setting process for 2026/27. The General Fund Contingencies budget will provide funding of up to £15k to secure any specialist or other works required in completing the survey work; and
4. Agree that the above measures are needed to ensure that the charity Castlegate Arts can continue its good work in the city for a wide range of our citizens.”

Website Address: [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Karen Finch  
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## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Council
<b>DATE</b>	11 December 2024
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Council Annual Effectiveness Report
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	CORS/24/349
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Andy MacDonald
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Vikki Cuthbert
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Martyn Orchard
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	14

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the annual effectiveness report for Council to enable Members to provide comment on the data contained within.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:-

- 2.1 provide comments and observations on the data contained within the Council annual effectiveness report as appended to the report; and
- 2.2 note that the annual effectiveness reports of the committees have been, and are being, reported to the various committees from 5 November to 13 December 2024 inclusive.

### 3. CURRENT SITUATION

#### Annual Reports on Terms of Reference

- 3.1 The annual committee effectiveness reports were introduced in 2018/19 following a recommendation from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) as part of the Council's work towards securing that organisation's accreditation in governance excellence. The Terms of Reference set out that each committee will review its own effectiveness against its Terms of Reference through the mechanism of the annual report.
- 3.2 The annual effectiveness reports were mentioned by CIPFA in their report which awarded the Mark of Excellence in Governance accreditation to Aberdeen City Council. CIPFA highlighted the implementation of the annual effectiveness reports as a matter of good practice in governance and were encouraged that, during consideration of the reports at committee and Council, Members had made suggestions for improvements to the reports in future years.

- 3.3 Data from the annual effectiveness reports is used to inform the review of the Scheme of Governance, ensuring that Committee Terms of Reference are correctly aligned, and identifying any areas of the Terms of Reference which had not been used throughout the year in order that they can be reviewed and revised if necessary. The information from the effectiveness reports has also been used in the past to feed into the Annual Governance Statement.
- 3.4 The reports provide a mechanism for each committee to annually review its effectiveness, including data on attendance, any late reports, referrals to Council and the number of times officer recommendations were amended, and to ensure that it is following its Terms of Reference.
- 3.5 Similarly, recording the sections or stretch outcomes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) which apply to each report allows Members to be aware of the direct impact of any proposals before them on the LOIP, and gives a general overview at the end of each year of the number of reports which have had an impact on the LOIP stretch outcomes.
- 3.6 Any comments from Members on areas of data that should be considered would be welcomed to ensure that Members are presented with meaningful data.
- 3.7 The annual effectiveness report for 2023/2024 is therefore appended for Council's consideration.
- 3.8 Below are links to the annual effectiveness reports for the various committees which have been (or shortly will be) considered by the respective committees. At the time of publication of this report, the annual reports have been considered by nine of the ten committees, with the Pensions Committee still to meet on 13 December 2024.
- [Finance and Resources Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Planning Development Management Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Staff Governance Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Education and Children's Services Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Licensing Committee Annual Report](#)
  - [Pensions Committee Annual Report](#)
- 3.9 The annual effectiveness reports have been noted at all committee meetings where they have been considered to date.
- 3.10 Section 14 of the Council annual effectiveness report provides combined data for all committees during the reporting period.

#### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications from the recommendations of this report.

#### 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

#### 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

#### 7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	N/A			Yes
Compliance	Failure to submit this report would mean that the Council would not be complying with its instruction that all committees and Full Council receive such a report each year.	L	Council is given the opportunity to consider the report and provide feedback on any amendments Members would wish to see in the content so that this can be taken on board for next year's Scheme of Governance review.	Yes
Operational	N/A			Yes
Financial	N/A			Yes
Reputational	N/A			Yes
Environment / Climate	N/A			Yes

#### 8. OUTCOMES

There are no links to the Council Delivery Plan, however the committee effectiveness annual reports link to the Scheme of Governance, by ensuring that each committee is fulfilling its Terms of Reference.

## 9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	It is confirmed by Interim Chief Officer - Governance (Assurance), Vikki Cuthbert, that no impact assessment is required.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

## 11. APPENDICES

A Council Annual Effectiveness Report 2023/2024

## 11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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# Council Annual Effectiveness Report 2023/2024



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## 1. Introduction from the Lord Provost

- 1.1 I am pleased to present the fifth annual effectiveness report for Full Council. During 2023/24, the Council made a number of significant decisions, for example the progression of the City Centre and Beach Masterplans and in relation to the presence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) within some of the city's housing stock. Furthermore, the annual review of the Scheme of Governance has resulted in a number of positive changes in terms of how the organisation conducts its business and makes decisions.
- 1.2 One of my many highlights of the past year was in September, when I hosted a civic reception at the Town House for Community Councillors and the staff who support them. I was honoured to present a number of long service certificates to Community Councillors who have given many years of distinguished service to their communities and the city as a whole. In my speech that evening, I commented that Community Councils are the first pillar of local government, and I hugely appreciated the work they do. On that note, it was very pleasing to see the progress made with the review of the Community Council governance documents which were unanimously approved by Council in April 2024.
- 1.3 It is very encouraging to see that only one exempt/confidential report was considered by Full Council in the past year, and this demonstrates our commitment to conducting as much business in public as possible. Furthermore, there were no late reports which provides a good level of assurance with regard to our governance arrangements.
- 1.4 The number and length of Full Council meetings remains a challenge, however I remain resolute in my view that it is better to adjourn lengthier meetings and re-convene on a second day, rather than continuing late into the night, without sufficient breaks and where due diligence on very important matters could be sacrificed.
- 1.5 As we approach the end of the year and the start of the festive season, I wish you all the best and good wishes for 2025.



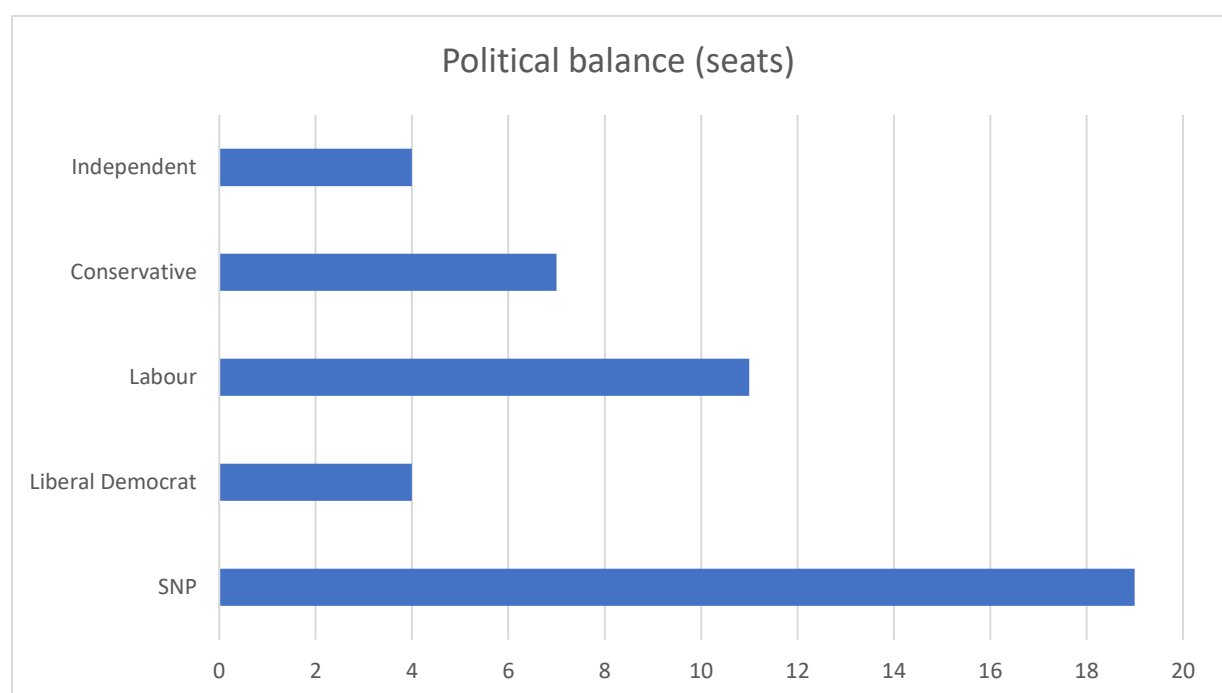
Councillor David Cameron  
Lord Provost

## 2. The Role of the Council

- 2.1 The Council is the overall decision-making body of the organisation. It is responsible for agreeing the Council's budget and setting Council Tax. Council delegates the discharge of its functions to various committees and joint committees, as well as officers under the terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. However, any delegation to a committee or an officer does not prevent the Council from determining the matter, or exercising the power so delegated.
- 2.2 The Terms of Reference for Council, as approved by Council in August 2024, are appended to the report.

## 3. Membership of the Council during 2023/2024

- 3.1 The Council has 45 Elected Members, and the composition during the reporting period (15 October 2023 to 15 October 2024) was:-



## 4. Membership Changes

4.1 There were no membership changes during 2023/24.

## 5. Member Attendance

Member	Total Anticipated Attendances	Total Attendances
Lord Provost	18	18
Depute Provost	18	18
Councillor Al-Samarai	18	16
Councillor Ali	18	18
Councillor Allard	18	18
Councillor Alphonse	18	18
Councillor Blake	18	15
Councillor Bonsell	18	18
Councillor Boulton	18	16
Councillor Bouse	18	17
Councillor Brooks	18	18
Councillor Hazel Cameron	18	18
Councillor Clark	18	18
Councillor Cooke	18	18
Councillor Copland	18	18
Councillor Cormie	18	18
Councillor Crockett	18	18
Councillor Cross	18	10
Councillor Davidson	18	18
Councillor Fairfull	18	10
Councillor Farquhar	18	18
Councillor Graham	18	18
Councillor Grant	18	18
Councillor Greig	18	18
Councillor Henrickson	18	18
Councillor Houghton	18	7
Councillor Hutchison	18	18
Councillor Kusznir	18	14
Councillor Lawrence	18	18
Councillor Macdonald	18	18
Councillor MacGregor	18	18
Councillor McLellan	18	18
Councillor McLeod	18	16
Councillor McRae	18	14
Councillor Malik	18	16

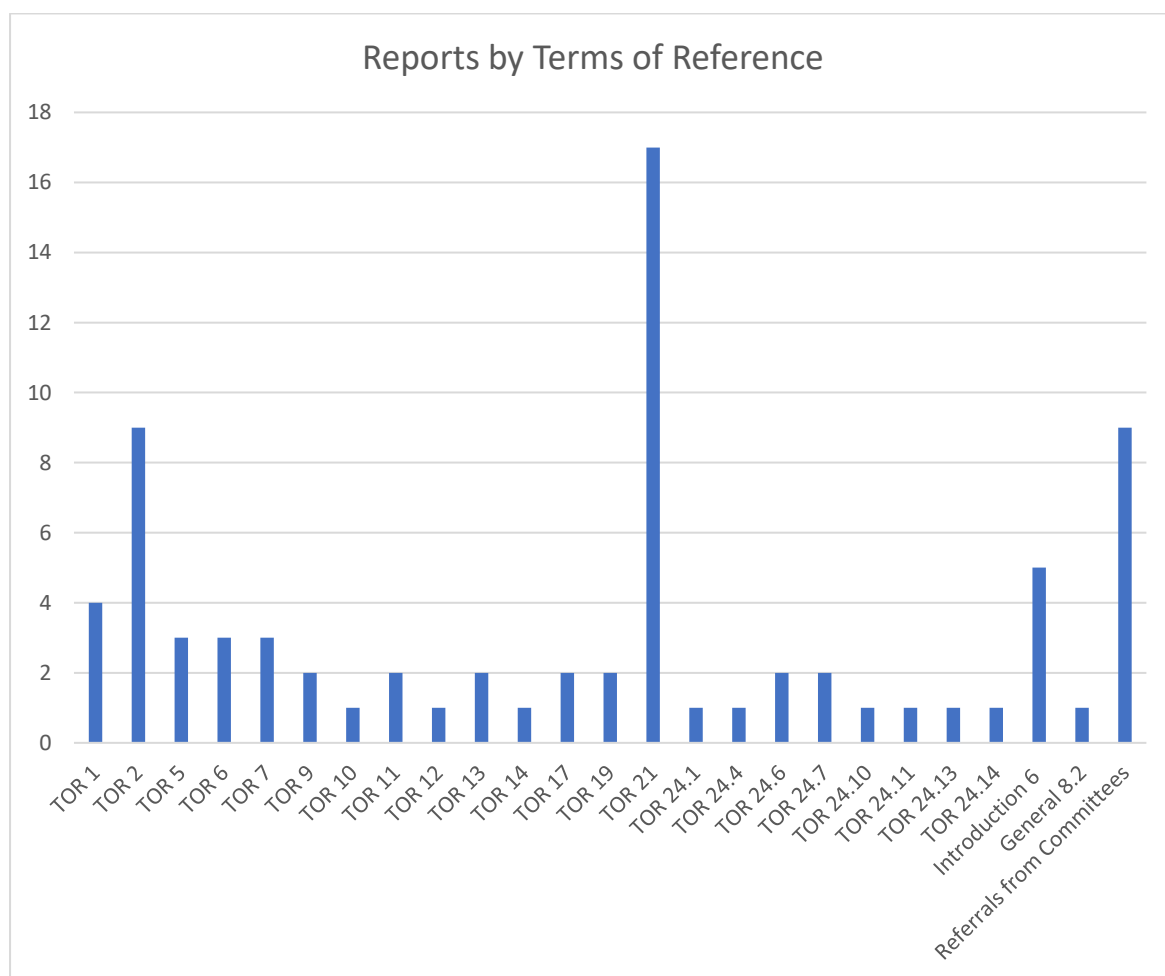
<b>Member</b>	<b>Total Anticipated Attendances</b>	<b>Total Attendances</b>
Councillor Massey	18	14
Councillor Mennie	18	18
Councillor Nicoll	18	17
Councillor Radley	18	18
Councillor Mrs Stewart	18	10
Councillor van Sweeden	18	18
Councillor Thomson	18	17
Councillor Tissera	18	14
Councillor Watson	18	17
Councillor Yuill	18	18

## 6. Meeting Content

6.1 During the 2023/2024 reporting period (15 October 2023 to 15 October 2024), the Council had 18 meetings and considered a total of 64 reports. This is a higher number of meetings than previous years, and an increase of 4 meetings from last year. Of the 18 meetings, 7 were scheduled meetings, 2 were special meetings for Community Council Governance, 4 were re-convened meetings and 5 were requisitioned meetings under Standing Order 8.2.

### 6.2 Terms of Reference

6.2.1 The following chart details how reports aligned to the Terms of Reference for Council. A small number of reports (5) did not fall within specific Terms of Reference and were reported to Council in accordance with Introduction 6 within the Terms of Reference document - “in accordance with Standing Order 47.7, Council can determine any matter which would otherwise fall to be determined by a committee or sub-committee”. It should be noted that the combined total is more than 64 as some reports fell within more than one of the Terms of Reference.



- 6.2.2 During the course of 2023/2024 the Council received reports under 22 of the 38 sections of the Terms of Reference, with the highest number (17) of reports falling under Terms of Reference 21 – “to consider any matter which the Council has previously considered and agreed to receive a further report on”. This is predominantly due to reports relating to the City Centre and Beach Masterplans and Reinforced Autoclaved Aeriated Concrete (RAAC) having been considered, which were previously considered at the Finance and Resources Committee or the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee.
- 6.2.3 Of the sections of the Terms of Reference where there were no reports, no reports were required in 2023/2024 - for example no members required to be elected to the Licensing Board and no reports needed to be considered relating to the Standards Commission for Scotland with regard to the overseeing of members’ standards of conduct. However, those Terms of Reference need to remain in place as reports will fall under those Terms of Reference in the future.
- 6.2.4 As the committee structure was reviewed in late 2022, few changes to the Terms of Reference were made following the Scheme of Governance reviews in 2023 and 2024. Any changes that were made, were generally in relation to committees to provide clarity where required, to ensure consistency between committees and to reflect the new management structure. The Terms of Reference will continue to be monitored throughout the year, in preparation for the 2025 Scheme of Governance review.



## 7. Reports and Decisions

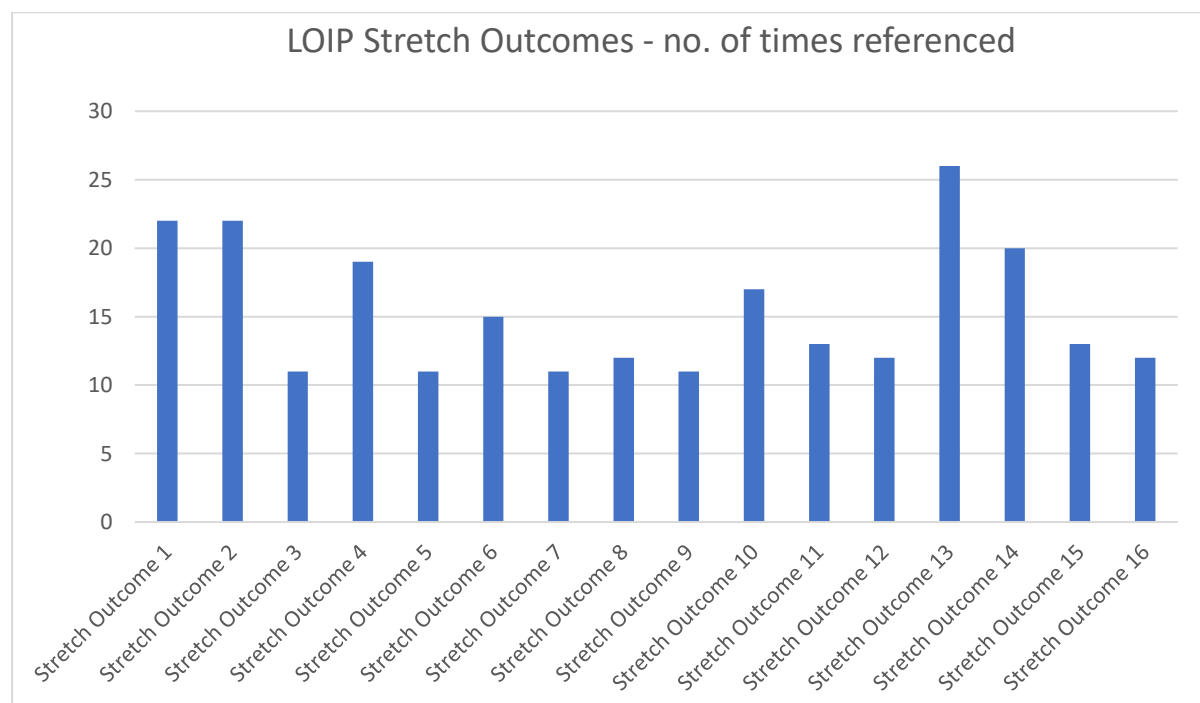
- 7.1 The following information relates to the reports and Notices of Motion presented to Council throughout the reporting period, as well as the use of Standing Orders and engagement with members of the public.

	Total	Total Percentage of Reports
Confidential Reports	1	2%
Exempt Reports	1	2%
Number of reports where the Council amended officer recommendations	11	17%
Number of reports approved unanimously	22	34%
Number of reports or service updates requested during the consideration of another report to provide additional assurance and not in business planner	12	
Number of reports deferred or referred to a committee	7	11%
Number of times the Lord Provost has had to remind Members about acceptable behaviour in terms of the Member Officer Relations Protocol/Councillors' Code of Conduct	9 (an increase of 1 from the previous year)	
Late reports received (i.e. reports not available for inspection at least 3 clear days before the meeting)	0	0%
Number of referrals to Council under SO 34.1	7 (an increase of 2 from the previous year)	

Notices of Motion, Suspension of Standing Orders, Interface with the Public	
Number of Notices of Motion to Council	17
Number of times Standing Orders suspended	6
Specific Standing Orders suspended	29.2 (submission of budgets) 40.2 - 4 times (length of meeting) 42.1 ("six month rule")
Number of deputations heard	12
Number of petitions considered	1

## 8. Reports with links to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

- 8.1 The following table details of the 64 reports, how each report linked to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). The LOIP Stretch Outcomes are appended to this report for reference at Appendix 1. As can be seen from the chart below, the most common Stretch Outcomes referred to were Stretch Outcomes 1 (20% reduction in the percentage of people who report they have been worried they would not have enough food to eat and/or not be able to heat their home by 2026), 2 (74% employment rate for Aberdeen City by 2026), 13 (Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate) and 14 (increase sustainable travel: 38% of people walking; 5% of people cycling and wheeling as main mode of travel and a 5% reduction in car miles by 2026).



## 9. Training and Development

- 9.1 Committee specific training opportunities for Members during the reporting period are covered within the committee annual effectiveness reports. Further development opportunities will be considered for next year based on committee business throughout the year, Executive Lead proposals and Member feedback on what may be required to assist them in performing their roles.

## 10. Code of Conduct Declarations and Transparency Statements

- 10.1 14 declarations of interest and 113 transparency statements were made by Members during the reporting period. Information in respect of declarations of interest and transparency statements is measured to evidence awareness of the requirements to adhere to the Councillors' Code of Conduct and the responsibility to ensure fair decision-making.

## 11. Civic Engagement

- 11.1 Civic leadership and engagement are at the heart of the Council's Operating Model. The values and principles of civic leadership and engagement are being driven through the Council's transformation programme.
- 11.2 There have been good examples of civic engagement in the course of business submitted to Council in 2023/24, for example in relation to Community Council Governance, the City Centre and Beach Masterplans, the Council's budget consultation and in relation to the review of polling districts and polling places. A number of different consultation events took place with good levels of attendance and high levels of engagement.
- 11.3 Further civic engagement activities are set out in each committee's individual annual effectiveness report.

## 12. Executive Lead - Commentary

- 12.1 This has been an extremely busy year for Council which has made key decisions on city centre masterplanning projects, transformation activity and the very complex response to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in some of the city's housing stock. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy was the subject of two comprehensive reports, updating members on the serious financial challenges faced within the city and on the public's response to two rounds of engagement on potential budget options. It has also responded to an increased number of referrals from committees. The volume of business under consideration has resulted in some scheduled Council meetings being adjourned in order that business can be concluded on a second day.
- 12.2 Notwithstanding, Council has achieved some significant milestones by setting a balanced budget in March 2024, approving the revised Council Delivery Plan and Community Planning Aberdeen Outcome Improvement Report and Locality Reports, and the Scheme of Governance following its annual review by the cross-party Governance Reference Group. In addition, the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils was unanimously approved, including some boundary changes, in order to support our growing number of operational community councils in the city.

## 13. The Year Ahead

- 13.1 In December 2024, the Council will consider a report on Phase 2 of the Budget consultation which follows on from the Council decision of 3 July 2024 to update the Budget Protocol as part of the Scheme of Governance. This helps to ensure that elected members understand the impact, under the Public Sector Equality Duty, of the budget agreed by Council in March 2025.
- 13.2 During the 2024/25 annual reporting period, officers will progress the transformation programme to allow the Council to set a budget in a manner that strategically allocates resources against the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The Council's outcome focused approach recognises the influence which local authority services can have on the health and wellbeing of citizens. These wider determinants of health, specifically how they might prevent poor outcomes, will be reflected in the budget report and associated delivery plan due to come before Full Council in March 2025. A development programme to increase awareness and understanding of the wider determinants of health and support the use of relevant evidence in decision making will be available for elected members and staff during 2024/25.

## 14. Combined Committee Data

- 14.1 During the reporting period, 366 reports were considered by the 10 committees which are the subject of annual effectiveness reports. This does not include reports relating to planning or licensing applications which are subject to a separate reporting process, however these are covered in the annual reports for the Planning Development Management and Licensing Committees.

	Total	Total Percentage of Reports
Confidential Reports	0	0%
Exempt Reports	24	6.5%
Number of reports where the Committee amended officer recommendations	11	3%
Number of reports approved unanimously	304	83%
Number of reports or service updates requested during the consideration of another report to provide additional assurance and not in business planner	16	
Number of reports delayed for further information	0	0%
Number of times the Convener has had to remind Members about acceptable behaviour in terms of the Code of Conduct	0	
Late reports received (i.e. reports not available for inspection at least 3 clear days before the meeting)	2	0.5%
Number of referrals to Council under SO 34.1	7	

Number of Notices of Motion	12
Number of times Standing Orders suspended	9
Number of deputations heard	16
Number of petitions considered	0

## Appendix 1 - Local Outcome Improvement Plan Stretch Outcomes

<b>Economy</b>	
1.	20% reduction in the percentage of people who report they have been worried they would not have enough food to eat and/ or not be able to heat their home by 2026
2.	74% employment rate for Aberdeen City by 2026
<b>People (Children &amp; Young People)</b>	
3.	95% of all children will reach their expected developmental milestones by their 27-30 month review by 2026
4.	90% of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time by 2026
5.	By meeting the health and emotional wellbeing needs of our care experienced children and young people they will have the same levels of attainment in education and positive destinations as their peers by 2026
6.	95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods (Quintiles 1 & 2) will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026
7.	83.5% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026
8.	100% of our children with Additional Support Needs/disabilities will experience a positive destination
<b>People (Adults)</b>	
9.	10% fewer adults (over 18) charged with more than one offence by 2026
10.	Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026
11.	Reduce the rate of both alcohol related deaths and drug related deaths by 10% by 2026
12.	Reduce homelessness by 10% and youth homelessness by 6% by 2026, ensuring it is rare, brief and non-recurring with a longer term ambition to end homelessness in Aberdeen City.
<b>Place</b>	
13.	Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate
14.	Increase sustainable travel: 38% of people walking; 5% of people cycling and wheeling as main mode of travel and a 5% reduction in car miles by 2026
15.	26% of Aberdeen's area will be protected and/or managed for nature and 60% of people report they feel that spaces and buildings are well cared for by 2026
<b>Community Empowerment</b>	
16.	100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026

## Appendix 2 - Council Terms of Reference

## **ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL**

The Council reserves the following functions:

1. The setting of council tax in accordance with s93(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 or the setting of a reduced amount of council tax under s94 of that Act or paragraph 3 of Schedule 7 to that Act.
2. The setting of a balanced budget annually, including the setting of fees and charges, including the approval of commissioning intentions and service standards.
3. The approval of the capital programme.
4. The borrowing of money as provided for in s56(6)(d) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.
5. The approval of any annual investment strategy or annual investment report required by any consent issued by Scottish Ministers under s40 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.
6. The approval of the Council's Treasury Management Policy and Strategy.
7. The appointment of committees, including external members, and the number and allocation of committee places, the appointment and removal from office of the Lord Provost, Depute Provost, Leader or Co Leaders and/or Depute Leader and a convener for each committee and a vice convener as appropriate and the approval of senior councillor allowances. However the appointment of external *advisers* to committees is not reserved to the Council and may be undertaken by the relevant committees themselves.
8. The election of members to the Licensing Board.
9. The review of polling districts and polling places.
10. Subject to the Powers Delegated to Officers, the administration of trusts in respect of which the Council is sole Trustee.
11. The approval of the Local Development Plan.
12. The approval of an Administration's political priorities.
13. The consideration of the Council's Delivery Plan.
14. The consideration of its annual report of its effectiveness.
15. The consideration, where required, of reports by both the Standards Commission for Scotland and the Financial Conduct Authority, and the overseeing of members' standards of conduct.
16. The establishment of the Appointment Panel in accordance with the Standing Orders for Council, Committees and Sub Committees.
17. The approval of the Council's Scheme of Governance.
18. The approval of the Council/Committee Diary.
19. The approval of Schemes for the Establishment for Community Councils and the review or amendment of such Schemes in terms of sections 52 and 53 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973; and the revocation of such Schemes (or amended Schemes) and the making of new Schemes in accordance with section 22 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.
20. The establishment of Working Groups.



- 21. To consider any matter which the Council has previously considered and agreed to receive a report (or further report) on.
- 22. To consider Monitoring Officer reports under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 23. Making schemes for the reorganisation of educational endowments under section 112(2) or 112(3) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980.

#### 24. ANALYSIS

- 24.1 to receive a bi-annual Population Needs Assessment to understand the needs which public bodies must address;
- 24.2 to receive, as appropriate, an in-depth analysis of key groups, priorities and challenges across public services to identify and action potential efficiencies and improvements to help ensure that the needs of customers and citizens are met and commissioning intentions are delivered; and
- 24.3 to receive, as appropriate, sufficiency and market analyses to understand existing and potential provider strengths and weaknesses, and identify and take action in respect of any opportunities for improvement or change in providers.

#### PLANNING

- 24.4 to endorse the refresh of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) including recommending any changes which may be required; and
- 24.5 to approve annual procurement workplans, reflecting the LOIP, the Population Needs Assessment, the Council's commissioning intentions, the Council's service standards, the views of customers and citizens, and the best evidence of effective interventions to ensure a preventative focus on demand reduction.

#### DOING

- 24.6 to establish Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs) where it is determined that services should not be provided in-house;
- 24.7 to decommission services, including ALEOs, that do not meet the Council's commissioning intentions and outcomes;
- 24.8 to take such action to ensure that appropriate supply management and capacity building (market facilitation) is in place to ensure a good mix of resilient service providers, that offer customers an element of choice in how their needs are met; and
- 24.9 to approve the Strategy Framework to facilitate the delivery of agreed outcomes.

#### REVIEWING

- 24.10 to approve amendments to the Council's Performance Management Framework (PMF);
- 24.11 to receive annual reports on the LOIP and Locality Partnership Plans;
- 24.12 to consider and monitor performance associated with the Council's agreed commissioning intentions and ultimate contribution to the LOIP outcomes;
- 24.13 to receive annual reports from each of the Council's ALEOs to enable scrutiny of performance;

**24.14** to receive an annual procurement performance report to enable scrutiny of performance; and

**24.15** to receive reports on any changes in legislative requirements, policy and population needs which may facilitate opportunities to work differently to improve outcomes or may require revisions to existing commissioning intentions and outcomes.

For the avoidance of any doubt, this reservation 24 does not affect the Terms of Reference of the Pensions Committee, Aberdeen City Region Deal Joint Committee or Aberdeen City Integration Joint Board, and it does not prevent the exercise of delegated powers where authority is delegated to officers under the Powers Delegated to Officers, Procurement Regulations or otherwise.

**EXECUTIVE LEAD: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

## PACT FOR THE FUTURE: WHAT IT DELIVERS

### SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

At the Summit of the Future on 22 September 2024, world leaders adopted a Pact for the Future that includes a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future Generations. This Pact is the culmination of a years-long process to adapt international cooperation to the realities of today and the challenges of tomorrow. The hard work of implementation begins immediately.

The adoption of the Pact demonstrates that countries are committed to an international system with the United Nations at its center. Leaders set out a clear vision of a multilateralism that can deliver on its promises, is more representative of today's world and draws on the engagement and expertise of governments, civil society and other key partners.

### (IM)PACT FOR THE FUTURE

The Pact is the most wide-ranging international [United Nations] agreement in many years, covering both new areas and issues on which agreement has not been possible in decades. Above all, it aims to ensure that that international institutions can deliver in the face of a world that has changed dramatically since they were created. It makes **clear commitments and achieves concrete deliverables** on a range of issues, with **strong attention to human rights, gender and sustainable development**.

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING

Member States recommitted to accelerate the implementation of the **2030 Agenda** and of the 2023 SDG Summit Political Declaration through urgent and scaled-up action, policies and investments with the goal to end poverty and hunger and **leave no one behind**. The Pact also acknowledges the need for Member States to begin to consider how to advance sustainable development beyond 2030.

Global leaders agreed on a step-change in **financing for the SDGs and closing the SDG financing gap**, including through an SDG Stimulus, reaching official development assistance targets, private sector investment, mobilization of domestic resources, inclusive and effective international tax cooperation, and consideration of a global minimum level of taxation on high-net-worth individuals.

On **climate change**, the Pact confirmed the need to keep global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, to transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems to achieve net-zero emissions in 2050 and promote disaster risk-informed approaches to sustainable development.

It also calls for accelerated efforts on **the environment**, including the promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns, the conclusion of a legally-binding agreement on plastic pollution, reversing biodiversity loss and protecting ecosystems.

### INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Global leaders vowed to intensify diplomacy to settle conflicts and disputes peacefully, supported by the UN and the UN Secretary-General's good offices.

The Pact promotes the need for national **whole-of-society sustaining peace** efforts through the development and implementation of voluntary national prevention strategies. Strengthened resilience through implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and the importance of ensuring that military spending does not compromise sustainable development investments. Stronger alignment of international financial institutions' funding with countries' efforts to address root causes of instability.

The Pact commits to **protecting civilians** in armed conflict by complying with the laws of war. It also includes a pledge to refrain from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, and to strengthen accountability for serious crimes and gross violations, such as gender-based violence and starvation as a weapon of war. It agrees to scale-up **humanitarian assistance** and increase the use of **innovative and anticipatory financing mechanisms**, including to eliminate famine.

Leaders also agreed to accelerate the implementation of commitments on **Women and Peace and Security** and **Youth, Peace and Security**.

The Pact asks for a review of United Nations peace operations to recommend how they can adapt to new and emerging challenges and promotes **counter-terrorism** efforts that address all drivers and enablers of terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, including in the digital sphere. It also affirms the need to prevent and combat **transnational organized crime**, including cybercrime.

One of the Pact's most significant achievements is the first recommitment to **nuclear disarmament** in nearly 15 years, through a clear commitment to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as well as concrete steps on all aspects of disarmament.

The Pact also advanced steps to avoid the weaponization of **emerging domains and technologies** through:

- a commitment to prevent an arms race in **outer space**;
- discussions on an instrument to govern the use and development **lethal autonomous weapon systems**;
- continued assessment of risks around the **military applications of AI**.

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (STI) AND DIGITAL COOPERATION

The Pact introduces measures to **reduce global disparities in science, technology and innovation**, including through scaling-up means of implementation. It addresses barriers to the access, participation and leadership of women and girls in these areas and agrees on the importance of human rights and ethical principles in the development and use of new technologies.

Leaders also committed to the increased use of **science in policy-making** to address complex challenges, and to more funding for SDG-related research and innovation. They decided to strengthen capacities at the UN to leverage STI in the work of the organization, including to support developing countries in achieving the SDGs.

## YOUTH

The Pact aims to expand and strengthen **youth participation in global decision-making**, including in UN intergovernmental bodies and processes. It agrees to the participation of youth from developing countries, facilitated through the UN Youth Fund and development of core principles for meaningful youth engagement.

It will strengthen **youth participation at the national level**, including through the establishment of consultation mechanisms and creating environments that enable young people to fulfill their rights and potential through education, jobs, physical and mental health, resources for youth-led organizations, and flexible funding, including through a global youth investment platform.

## TRANSFORMING GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

The Pact resolved to make the **multilateral system** more effective, fit for the future, just and representative, inclusive and networked, and financially stable.

It includes the most ambitious and concrete progress on **Security Council reform** since 1963, including a commitment to increase the representation of developing countries, recognizing the special case of Africa, and to develop a consolidated reform model in the future.

Recommitting to the achievement of **gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls**, leaders agreed to take steps towards the revitalization of the Commission on the Status of Women. They also underscored their aspiration for a female Secretary-General.

On human rights the Pact is clear on the need to ensure the enjoyment by all of all human rights, including through **UN human rights mechanisms** that are effective and have adequate means to respond to a range of human rights challenges. It also makes a clear appeal to protect human rights defenders.

To address current, new and emerging challenges to sustainable development, the Pact calls for increased adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for the **UN Resident Coordinator System**.

The Pact also agreed steps to **deepen partnerships** between the UN and other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, regional organizations, national parliaments and local and regional authorities. It calls for a UN that uses **innovation, data, digital tools, foresight and (behavioural) science** effectively.

The Pact presents the most detailed agreement ever at the United Nations on the need to reform the **international financial architecture**, so that it works for everyone and reflects the economic needs and realities of today, achieved through inter alia:

- stronger participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making, including through enhanced representation at international financial institutions;
- the mobilization of more financing from multilateral development banks to help developing countries turbocharge their development needs;
- a review of the sovereign debt architecture to ensure that developing countries can borrow sustainably to invest in their future, conducted jointly by the IMF, the UN, the G20 and other key players;
- a strengthened global financial safety net to support countries in the event of financial and economic shocks, using special drawing rights;

- delivering more finance to help countries address climate change and invest in adaptation and renewable energy.

Leaders decided on concrete next steps to develop measures of progress on sustainable development beyond GDP, capturing human and planetary wellbeing and sustainability.

On **governing outer space**, the Pact includes an agreement to strengthen the existing international frameworks including to ensure that all countries can benefit from its safe and sustainable exploration and use, and working with non-State actors where relevant.

The Pact also calls for an improved international **response to complex global shocks** and proposes the consideration of approaches to strengthen the UN system's response, within existing authorities and in consultation with Member States.

## GLOBAL DIGITAL COMPACT

Annexed to the Pact, the Global Digital Compact is the **first comprehensive global framework** for digital cooperation. It explicitly includes human rights and concrete commitments to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda and puts emphasis on the role of non-state stakeholders. It makes the first global commitment to digital public goods and digital public infrastructure; to open-source data, models and standards; and to data governance. In the Compact, leaders also agreed on ambitious steps to make the digital space safer for all through greater accountability of tech companies and social media platforms and actions to tackle disinformation and online harms.

The Compact includes an agreement on a **roadmap for global AI governance**, through the establishment of an AI Scientific Panel, global policy dialogue on AI and exploration of the establishment of a Global Fund for AI capacity building.

## DECLARATION ON FUTURE GENERATIONS

Leaders agreed the first ever **Declaration on Future Generations**, recognizing our obligations and putting in place steps to systematically take future impact into account, consciously avoiding foreseeable harms to and safeguarding the interests of future generations.

The Declaration puts forward concrete proposals and processes to help Member States better consider future generations and inspire long-term anticipatory governance at the international level.

## SUMMIT FOLLOW-UP

The Pact and its annexes foresee concrete follow-up mechanisms: a high-level review for the Global Digital Compact in 2027, a high-level plenary meeting in 2028 for the Declaration on Future Generations, and a Heads of State and Government meeting at the beginning of the 83rd session of the General Assembly in 2028 for a comprehensive review of the Pact for the Future.

The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the Second World Summit for Social Development and the upcoming UN Climate Change Conferences, among other global events taking place in the next few years, are opportunities to build on the agreements and advance the actions contained in the Pact for the Future.

Last but not least, national-level engagement, implementation and accountability will be essential to put the agreements into action.