

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
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EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Annual Performance Reports - 2023/2024 for all Tier 1 ALEOs: Aberdeen Performing Arts; Aberdeen Sports Village; Bon Accord Care; Sport Aberdeen
REPORT NUMBER	CORS/24/285
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TERMS OF REFERENCE	24.13

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents the annual performance reporting of the Council's four Tier one Arms Length External Organisations (ALEOs) covering financial year 2023/2024: Aberdeen Performance Arts (APA); Aberdeen Sports Village (ASV); Bon Accord Care and Sport Aberdeen (SA). An ALEO is a term used to describe an organisation that is formally separate from the council but is subject to its control or influence. That level of control or influence can vary.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council notes the Annual Performance Reports for each of the Tier one ALEOs.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The undernoted paragraphs, 4 to 7, provide a brief overview of each of the four ALEOs. Individual Annual Performance Reports for each organisation are appended to this report.

4. Aberdeen Performing Arts

- 4.1 APA is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status established as an ALEO of the Council in 2004. APA operates the Music Hall, His Majesty's Theatre and The Lemon Tree, as well as managing the Box Office for 20+ venues in the region.
- 4.2 APA is an active member of 'Culture Aberdeen', the city's cultural network and a leading partner in the development of the ten-year cultural strategy and action plan for the city which was endorsed by the Council in 2018. APA also deliver various festivals.

- 4.3 The revised performance template provides an overview of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and what has been achieved against these targets for the financial year 2023/2024. The report provides evidence of APA's delivery against their business plan objectives but also contributions to the City's cultural strategy, the Regional Economic Strategy and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan .
- 4.4 In addition to the core programme of more than 700 performances attended by over 360,000 people, Aberdeen Performing Arts delivered a number of projects which demonstrated significant development or enhancement to the city. In a first collaboration of its kind with the National Theatre of Scotland, APA co-produced a brand new stage adaptation of Bram Stoker's Dracula, which had its world premiere in Aberdeen at His Majesty's Theatre in September 2023 before an extensive tour of Scotland and England. The show was extremely well received including a five star review in the national press. 2023's Light the Blue Festival represented a notable step change in the quantity and quality of engagement and presentation as the city's festival for and by young people.
- 4.5 A significant highlight of the festival was the 'Snappy Operas' project through which pupils from Hanover Street, Gilcomstoun, Riverbank and West Park schools performed specially written operas in the Music Hall – a truly special event and the first time many of the participants and their families had set foot in the venue.
- 4.6 The organisation continued to work in partnership and develop work with marginalised and under-represented communities – including the Rise Up Festival showcasing black and people of colour artists, the Eat the Rich cabaret programme with the LGBT+ community, and new opportunities for older people to participate such as our script reading group.

5. Aberdeen Sports Village

- 5.1 Aberdeen Sports Village Limited is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. Opened in 2009, ASV is a joint venture between Aberdeen City Council and the University of Aberdeen.
- 5.2 Although a joint venture, ASV is considered a Tier 1 ALEO of the Council.
- 5.3 ASV was the first joint venture of its kind in the United Kingdom and remains an example of best practice in the sport and physical activity sector. Aberdeen Sports Village is Scotland's premier sports, fitness and lifestyle venue managing both performance level activities and all-inclusive programmes. It hosts international sports event and offers multiple sports facilities, including an International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) accredited 400m athletics track and UK Athletics indoor athletics facility, an Olympic standard aquatics centre, a state of the art gym, exercise and lifestyle classes.
- 5.4 An annual review report on ASV's business plan is appended to this report. It includes a qualitative summary of outcomes, outputs and activities undertaken by ASV, how these align against the priorities of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and progress made to-date. The annual report also details

how ASV's activities have delivered against Council strategies and action plan priorities and provides details of user numbers, other income received and any challenges faced.

- 5.5 The revised performance template provides an overview of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and what has been achieved against these targets for the financial year 2023/2024. It should be noted that ASV aligns to the Further Education academic year for financial reporting which is between 1st August through to 31st July each year.
- 5.6 Within the appended report, Section 2 – Users, Participants and Investments provides an overview of ASV user numbers within 6 regeneration areas of the city.
- 5.7 The ASV Annual Report for 2023-24 highlights a successful year despite economic challenges. ASV, a joint venture between Aberdeen City Council and the University of Aberdeen, exceeded targets in several key performance areas, including memberships, sports camps, and partner club memberships. ASV hosted 179 events, including national and international competitions, and engaged over a million participants across various programs.
- 5.8 The organisation focused on promoting physical and mental health through initiatives like the Evergreens Programme for seniors and various community partnerships that provide free access to sports and activities for children, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Additionally, ASV made significant strides in sustainability, implementing a carbon reduction plan and promoting energy-efficient practices.
- 5.9 Key initiatives included programs addressing child obesity, adult loneliness, and support for individuals with disabilities. ASV's community outreach involved partnerships with local schools, providing free meals and activities for children, and targeted programs like the Cardiac Referral Programme and the "Finding Your Feet" initiative for amputees.
- 5.10 The organisation has also prioritised inclusivity and diversity, offering opportunities for vocational learning and work experience. Through its efforts, ASV has made a positive economic impact on Aberdeen by hosting numerous events that attract visitors and promote the city as a sporting destination. The report showcases ASV's commitment to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, emphasising the importance of physical activity, community engagement, and sustainable practices.

6. Bon Accord Care

- 6.1 Bon Accord Support Services (BASS) and Bon Accord Care (BAC) are ALEOs owned by Aberdeen City Council (ACC). For operational purposes Bon Accord Care is used as a collective term to refer to both companies.
- 6.2 The Integration Joint Board directed the Council to put in place arrangements for BAC to provide a range of services which are currently being delivered by them.

- 6.3 Bon Accord Care is led by a board of non-executive and executive directors. The directors are accountable to the shareholder (Aberdeen City Council) for the operations of the company and are responsible for setting the strategic direction and taking the policy decisions that meet the company objectives.
- 6.4 A summary of the annual performance report which is appended to this report shows performance metrics in relation to efficiency and quality of service delivery. The Bon Accord Care Annual Performance Report 2023/24 also appended provides a comprehensive breakdown of core business, efficiency and quality, innovation and early intervention.
- 6.5 During 2023/24, Bon Accord Care has embraced change, responded to system pressures, and played their part in the early intervention and prevention agenda across Aberdeen City. The launch of their new strategy in 2023 has offered clarity around their provision in the city and their intentions for development in the coming years; being key providers who make a difference to health and social care in the local area.
- 6.6 Bon Accord Care continue to be responsive and proactive in planning for a changing and challenging Health and Social Care landscape. In doing so, a key area of strength lies in their commitment to partnering with other local communities, providers, commissioners, and stakeholders to shape a Bon Accord Care that meet the needs of the population now and in the future; integrating across health and social care, the Aberdeen Community and voluntary sector to support individuals who live there.

7. Sport Aberdeen

- 7.1 The current arrangement for the management and development of the city's indoor and outdoor sports facilities and for the provision of sport, physical activity and wellbeing services targeted at those most in need are delivered by the Council's ALEO, Sport Aberdeen. It commenced trading in 2010 under a Funding and Service Provision Agreement.
- 7.2 An annual review report on Sport Aberdeen's business plan is appended to this report. It includes a qualitative summary of outcomes, outputs and activities undertaken by Sport Aberdeen, how these align against the priorities of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and progress made to-date. The annual report also details how Sport Aberdeen's activities have delivered against ACC strategies and action plan priorities and provides details of user numbers, other income received and any challenges faced.
- 7.3 The revised performance template provides an overview of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and what has been achieved against these targets for the financial year 2023/2024.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report for APA. For 2023/2024 the Council provided core funding of £936k to APA.

- 8.2 APA is a regular funded organisation of Creative Scotland. They continue to be in receipt of £333,333 per annum through the scheme until March 2025. The scheme is being replaced by a new 'Multi-Year Funding' application process which will provide annual support from April 2025 until March 2028. The scheme is currently open to application at this time.
- 8.3 APA has a turnover of over £10m per year, and as one of Scotland's biggest performing arts companies, manages some of the city's most iconic buildings.
- 8.4 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report for ASV. The Council provided £824,000 of annual revenue funding to ASV toward the operation of the Sports Centre and Aquatics Centre during 2023/24.
- 8.5 As per the terms of the Joint Venture Agreement, the University of Aberdeen provides the same level of revenue funding to ASV toward the operation of the Sports Centre and Aquatics Centre.
- 8.6 It should be noted that ASV's financial year is different to the Council. It runs from 1st August to 31st July and is referred to as the "contract" year.
- 8.7 There are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report for Bon Accord Care. Core funding to Bon Accord Care for 2023/2024, paid under direction from the Integration Joint Board, was £31,958,336 with a separate £3,667,488 for Kingswells Nursing Home.
- 8.8 Other services may be directly commissioned from Bon Accord Care, either under direction from the Integration Joint Board or other Council Services and would be met from within the appropriate existing budgets. Such purchases would remain outside the Service Level Agreement (SLA) that governs use of the Core funding.
- 8.9 There are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report for Sport Aberdeen. The Council's budget for Core funding for Sport Aberdeen for 2023/24 was £4,515,000.
- 8.10 Separately, the ALEO Assurance Hub continues to seek assurance from all of the ALEOs on their financial stewardship, governance, and risk arrangements. This includes oversight that medium term financial plans are in place and aligned to business planning. This is reported on twice a year to the Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Committee along with the Hub's risk ratings, which reflect the level of risk presented to the Council by each ALEO.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

11. RISK

11.1 The risks reflect the 23/24 reporting period covered and there is ongoing monitoring of the current position through the ALEO Assurance Hub.

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level		*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk					
Compliance					
Operational	ALEO staff not being supported.	The annual report and ALEO hub monitoring process ensures and demonstrates good practice.		L	Yes
	ALEO's providing poor services to customers.	The annual report demonstrates to the Council the ALEO's commitment to customer service.		L	Yes
Financial	None				
Reputational	None				
Environment / Climate	None				

12. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2022-2023</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The ALEOs align to the transformation programme and each forms part of the next steps for delivery of the outcomes and commitments.

<u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u>	
<u>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The annual reports evidence the contributions by each ALEO towards the LOIP theme of prosperous economy. SLAs are outcomes-focused and contain robust contract management measures to ensure that they link directly to the LOIP outcomes for a prosperous economy.
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	The annual reports evidence contributions by each ALEO towards the LOIP theme of prosperous people.
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The annual reports evidence contributions by each ALEO towards the LOIP theme of a prosperous place. As above with the refresh of the SLAs

13. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

15. APPENDICES

- **Appendix 1** – Aberdeen Performing Arts Annual Performance Report 2023/24
- **Appendix 2** – Aberdeen Sports Village Annual Performance Report 2023/24
- **Appendix 3** – Bon Accord Care Annual Performance Report 2023/24
- **Appendices 4, 4A & 4B** – Sport Aberdeen Annual Performance Report 2023/24

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