

Auchernack Trust (SC043038)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts and comply with the trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland which is effective for accounting periods beginning after 1 January 2019.

Objectives and Activities

The Trustees shall pay or apply the income of the Trust Fund and shall have power in their discretion at any time or times to pay or apply the whole or any part or parts of the capital thereof for the benefit of the elderly community (as hereinafter defined) in the Forres area (as hereinafter defined) and that solely for the relief of those in need by reason of advanced age.

The trust does not carry out any other activity apart from the awarding of grants.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees met on 20 May 2024 and 27 November 2024 to discuss applications to the trust. During the year, seven grants were awarded to six recipients, totalling £28,368 (2023/24 £15,920).

The beneficiaries, along with the grants awarded, were:

Forres Area Community Trust (FACT) £14,315
Forres House Carpet Bowls £750 and £6,259
Forres Rotary £3,000
Findhorn Bay Arts £2,100
Christopher Stepien £1,500
St John's Church £444

Financial Review

All funds are unrestricted.

The trust uses the Moray Council's bank account for financial transactions, and the balance is invested in the Council's Loans Fund for which it earns interest on the balance. It was agreed at the Moray Council meeting on 27 August 2024 that interest on balances held in the Council's bank for the next two years would be calculated using the two year fixed Public Works Loans Board rate as at 1 April 2024 of 5.41%. Income received during the year was £32,523 (2023/24 £23,568). This was made up of £12,991 interest received on the trust's loans pool (2023/24 £5,624) and investment income of £19,532 (2023/24 £17,944).

Grants awarded in the year were £28,368 (2023/24 £15,920) and costs for charitable activities were £1,938 (2023/24 £1,701). This resulted in a net operating surplus for the year of £2,217 (2023/24 £5,947).

The default policy for Council administered Trusts relating to the reinvestment of income in, and disbursement from, the Trust was amended on 8 October 2013. The policy was amended to allow disbursement of capital from the Trust in accordance with the trust deed, provided there is unanimity amongst the trustees. The whole annual income of the trust will be available for disbursement in accordance with the trust deed, provided sufficient funds are maintained to meet commitments.

The Trust has no specific reserves policy other than that noted above regarding disbursement of capital and annual income. At 31 March 2025 unrestricted funds totalled £900,968 (2024 £883,852).

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Risk Management

The Trustees implemented a risk management strategy which monitors and assesses the major risks to which they are exposed. This comprised of an annual review of the risks which the trust may face, the establishment of systems and processes to mitigate those risks identified in the risk assessment and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the trust should any of those risks materialise.

Plans for Future Periods

The trustees generally meet biannually, around May and November each year, to consider applications for trust grants. They may also have additional meetings during the year if the number and timing of applications necessitate it.

Structure, Governance and Management

Moray Council inherited its interest in the Auchernack Trust following reorganisation of local government in 1996. It is considered that the trust is a subsidiary of the local authority as the Council has a controlling interest in the trust. Auchernack Trust is included in the Group accounts of the Council, its parent company, and these consolidated accounts can be obtained from the same principal address as the Auchernack Trust on page 3.

The trustees are listed below. They are the Forres elected members of the Moray Council, or such committee or sub-committee or group of elected members of the Moray Council as it may determine from time to time, together with the chair of the Forres Community Council. The local councillors who are trustees are appointed at local government elections and were appointed at the election on 5 May 2022.

The Chair of the Forres Community Council during the financial year 2024/25 has been in post since 18 May 2023.

The trust is governed using the same governance framework that is applicable to the Council. This framework includes the principles:

- taking informed and transparent decisions which are subject to effective scrutiny and managing risk
- engaging with local people and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under that law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at anytime the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the Moray Council's website in so far as it relates to the charity. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Reference and Administrative Details

Auchernack Trust
Registered Charity No: SC043038

Principal Address of the Trust is:

The Moray Council
Council Offices
High Street
Elgin
IV30 1BX

Trustees

Name of Trustees in financial year 2024/25

Councillor Scott Lawrence
Councillor Paul McBain
Councillor Kathleen Robertson
Councillor Draeyk Van Der Horn
Mr Steve Ferris - Chair of Forres C.C.

Names of Trustees on Date of Approval:

Councillor Scott Lawrence
Councillor Paul McBain
Councillor Kathleen Robertson
Councillor Draeyk Van Der Horn
Mr Steve Ferris - Chair of Forres C.C.

Approved and signed by one trustee on behalf of all the trustees:



Councillor Kathleen Robertson
Date 11 December 2025

Auchernack Trust**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Note	2024/25 Unrestricted £	2023/24 Unrestricted £
Income and endowments from:			
Investment Income	3	32,523	23,568
Total		32,523	23,568
Expenditure on:			
Charitable Activities	4	30,306	17,621
Total		30,306	17,621
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	5	14,899	32,305
Net movement in funds		17,116	38,252
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2024		883,852	845,600
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025		900,968	883,852

All results derive from continuing operations.

There is no material difference between the funds carried forward for the financial year stated above and their historical cost equivalents, with the exception of Fixed Asset Investments which are carried at fair value.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included in the statement of financial activities.

Auchernack Trust
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Fixed assets:			
Investments	5	<u>648,799</u>	<u>633,900</u>
		648,799	633,900
Current assets:			
Loans Fund Balance		251,764	249,507
Debtors	6	<u>1,405</u>	<u>1,345</u>
		253,169	250,852
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(900)</u>
Net current assets		252,169	249,952
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>900,968</u>	<u>883,852</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted Funds	11	900,968	883,852
Total charity funds		<u>900,968</u>	<u>883,852</u>

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

The unaudited financial statements were issued by the Trustees on 5 November 2025

The independently examined financial statements were authorised for issue on xxx

and were signed on its behalf by:



Councillor Kathleen Robertson

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 General Information

These financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (GBP) as that is the currency in which the charity's transactions are denominated.

The principal activity of Auchernack Trust can be found in the Report of the Trustees.

Auchernack Trust is an unincorporated charity in the United Kingdom and registered in Scotland. It is recognised as a charity for tax purposes and is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) under charity number SC043038. Details of the registered office can be found in the Report of the Trustees.

Note 2 Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation and Assessment of Going Concern

The financial statements for the trust have been prepared in accordance with the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019, commonly referred to as the SORP, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102), which is effective for accounting periods beginning after 1 January 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at fair value, in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. The principal accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

An amendment to the Charities SORP (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council and published in February 2016 states the requirement of larger charities to prepare a statement of cash flow. Auchernack Trust is not classed as a large charity and so a cash flow statement has not been prepared this year.

Incoming Resources

Investment income and other income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to the receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable clarity.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included in the financial statements on an accruals basis and recognised when the activity takes place and not simply when the cash payment is made.

Governance Costs include the costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements; legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters and costs of administering grants.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

Creditors

Short term trade creditors are measured at the transaction price. When a grant condition allows for the recovery of an unexpended grant, a liability is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

Investments

Investments are included at fair value at the balance sheet date in accordance with the principles of the SORP.

Investment gains and losses include any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the period.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the trust.

Financial Instruments

The charity only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities such as trade and other accounts receivable and payable. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash expected to be paid or received.

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Other Matters

The Trust is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments, and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the charity's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

The Trust is a Public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102 in that their primary objective is to make grants to the individuals or community groups rather than with a view to providing a financial return to trustees. The Charitable Activity of the trust is making grants in accordance with the trust deed and in agreement of the Trustees.

There are no judgements, apart from those involving estimations, that the trustees have made in the process of applying the entity's accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the accounts.

There are no key assumptions concerning the future, or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Note 3 Investment Income

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Interest earned on loans pool income	12,991	5,624
Dividend Income	19,532	17,944
	<u>32,523</u>	<u>23,568</u>

Note 4 Awarding of Grants

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Grants Paid	28,368	15,920
Refund of VAT from prior year Grants Paid	-	-
Governance Costs:		
Accountancy and Legal Costs	888	801
Independent Examination of the Accounts	1,050	900
	<u>30,306</u>	<u>17,621</u>

Note 5 Movement on Investments

SoFA	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Add: Net gain/(loss) on revaluations	14,899	32,305
Net gain/(loss) on investments	<u>14,899</u>	<u>32,305</u>
Balance Sheet	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Market Value at 1 April	633,900	601,595
Add: Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	14,899	32,305
Market Value at 31 March	<u>648,799</u>	<u>633,900</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Note 6 Debtors

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Investment Income	1,405	1,345
	<u>1,405</u>	<u>1,345</u>

Note 7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Independent Examination Fee	1,000	900
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>900</u>

Note 8 Trustee Remuneration, Benefits and Expenses

Neither the trustees of the Trust nor any associated person connected with them have received any remuneration for their services. Further, no directly incurred expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year.

Note 9 Staff Costs and Emoluments

The Trust has no employees and has not incurred any staff costs or emoluments.

Note 10 Related Parties

The trustees are required by the Charities SORP to disclose material transactions with related parties - bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Trust Fund, or to be controlled or influenced by the Trust Fund. The amounts paid by the Trust to Moray Council for support services, including Legal and Finance costs, in 2024/25 was £888 (2023/24 £801).

The trust fund uses Moray Council's bank account for all transactions and the balance is invested in the Council's loans fund, for which it earns interest. There are no other outstanding balances due to or from Moray Council at 31 March 2025.

Note 11 Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Balance at 1 April	883,852	845,600
Income	32,523	23,568
Expenditure	(30,306)	(17,621)
Gains and (Losses)	14,899	32,305
Balance at 31 March	<u>900,968</u>	<u>883,852</u>

The unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the trust.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Auchernack Trust – SC043048

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 44 (1) (c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination, for this report or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement


Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Auchernack Trust – SC043048
(continued)**

In connection with my examination, no other matter except that referred to in the previous paragraph come to my attention:

- (a) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;have not been met or
- (b) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Neil Morrison CA
Azets Audit Services
5 Whitefriars Crescent
Perth

PH2 OPA

Dated: 15th December 2025