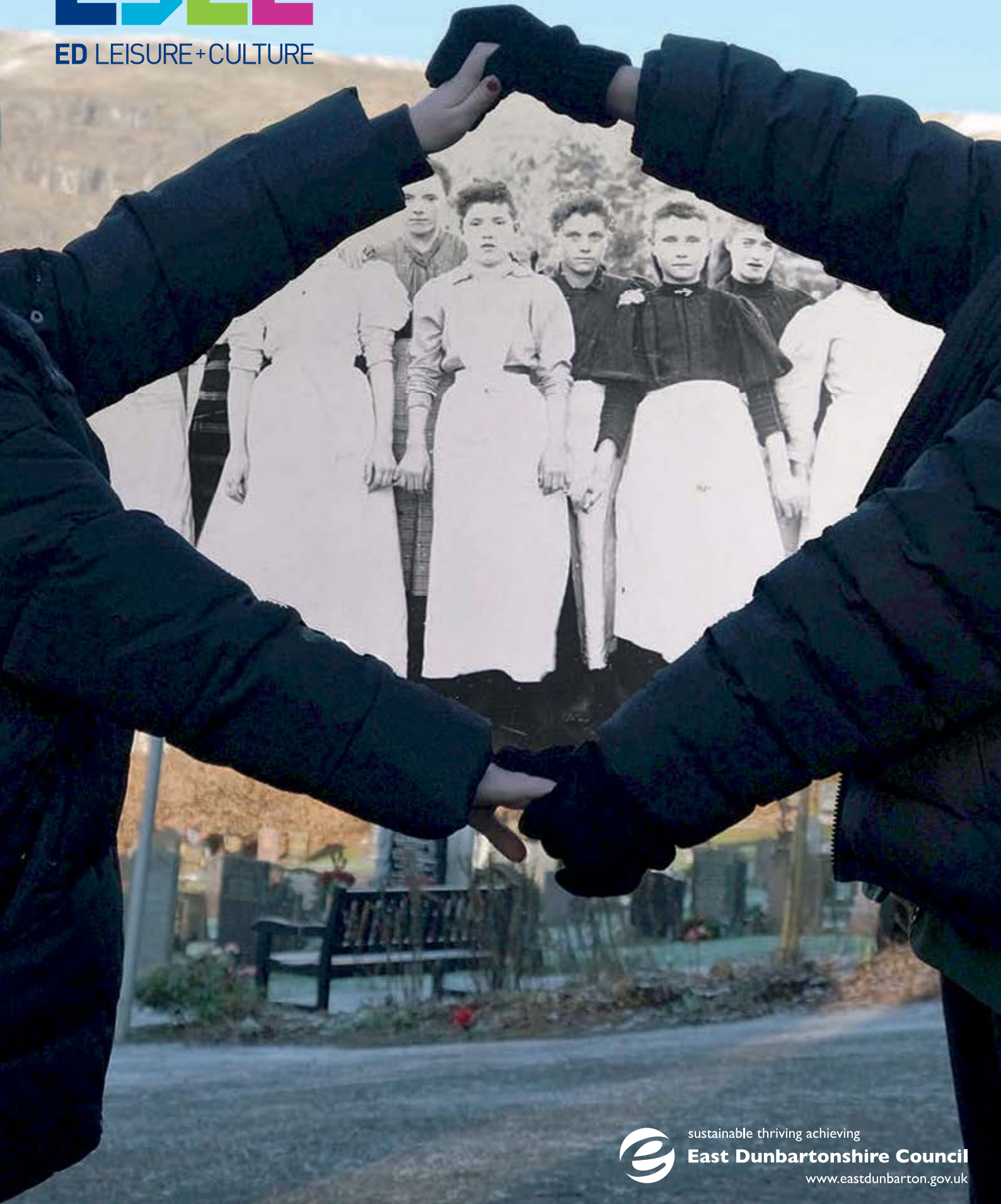




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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Trustees of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust it is a pleasure to introduce our 14th Annual Report and accounts for East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust (EDLCT). This report covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.



It has been another challenging year, but I am proud to say that – working together as a team – we have continued to deliver first-class facilities and services, providing sporting, cultural and recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities in East Dunbartonshire.

This report contains a wealth of detail.

Highlights include:

- A rise in overall usage figures across the board – up 12.34% on the previous year
- A rise in Gym membership – up 20.03%
- A rise in Group Fitness participation – up 21%
- A rise in referrals to the Live Active Programme – up 38.93%
- A rise in Vitality Programme attendees – up 56%
- Strong growth across all areas of Cultural Services, with museum usage exceeding last year by 38.08%.

We welcomed a new independent director at the August 2025 board meeting, Nicola Dawson. Nicola has over 25 years of experience in legal and regulatory compliance, and audit and risk management across the criminal justice, energy and rail sectors. She is currently Head of Risk Management with Network Rail.

I hope you can find the time to read the Annual Report and accounts, which provide information and detail about the Trust’s work and performance over the financial year of 2024/25.

I would like to take this opportunity to thanks all our employees, volunteers, partner organisations, East Dunbartonshire Council and my fellow Board members for their contributions to EDLCT over the past year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jim Gibbons'.

Jim Gibbons (Partner Director)
Chair of the Board
East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust

WHO ARE WE?

EDLCT The Company

Charitable Status

The company attained charitable status on 8 December 2010 and the Scottish Charity Number is SC041942.

Governing Document

East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust (EDLCT) is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Articles of Association and does not have any share capital. The charitable company was incorporated on 25 November 2010 and commenced trading on 1 April 2011. Each member has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding one pound towards any deficit arising in the event of the charitable company being wound up. The charitable company is a not-for-profit distributing organisation and any surplus, other than that required to keep the reserves at the agreed level, if generated is available to reinvest in the charitable company to maintain and improve the service.

Name of charity:	East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust
Charity number:	SC041942
Company number:	SC389516
Registered Office:	Kirkintilloch Town Hall Union Street Kirkintilloch G66 1DH
General manager:	Karin Jackson
Company secretary:	Maeve Kilcoyne
Independent auditors:	Wbg (Audit) Limited 168 Bath Street Glasgow G2 4TP
Bankers:	Virgin Money 177 Bothwell Street Glasgow G2 7ER
Solicitors:	East Dunbartonshire Council Southbank Marina 12 Strathkelvin Place Kirkintilloch G66 1TJ



Trustees

The trustees of the charitable company (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) who held office during the period and to date are as follows:

Partner Directors
Alix Mathieson
Ian Gallagher
Jim Gibbons (Chair)
Stewart MacDonald
Vaughan Moody

Independent Directors
Alexander Marshall - (resigned 15 November 2024)
Greig Russell
James Watson
Lu McNair
Alan Wright – (Vice Chair)
Nicola Dawson (appointed 6 August 2025)

Trade Union Representative
Craig Bell

As set out in the Articles of Association, the maximum number of directors is 11 and comprises the following:

- » Five directors appointed by East Dunbartonshire Council
- » Five directors appointed from the local community and/or independent representatives from the health, cultural and business fields
- » One director appointed from the Trade Unions

The directors have the power to nominate and appoint directors in accordance with the arrangements set out in the Articles of Association.

Recruitment and Appointment of Board Members

Independent directors are appointed through a selection process and come from a range of backgrounds including leisure, theatre and community safety.

The trustees who served during the period and up until the date of this report are noted above.

Trustee Induction and Training

Governance and legal issues as appropriate are discussed at Board meetings.

Trustees when necessary, update their employment and other interests in other organisations in the company's register of interests to ensure no conflict of interest arises. This Register of Interests is published on the company's website. Trustee induction takes place when new directors are appointed. Around the AGM each year, proposed training is tabled for discussion and agreement.

Corporate Governance

The Board is committed to demonstrating good Corporate Governance and compliance with the Nolan recommendations in this respect. To this end it has established a Finance and Audit Sub-Committee that works to a pre-determined Finance and Audit Plan based around these principles. The Finance and Audit Sub-Committee monitors and considers the company's compliance and records, and then updates the full Board of Trustees.

Trustees' Attendance at Board Meetings

	12 June 2024	28 August 2024	9 October 2024	29 January 2025	2 April 2025
Alexander Marshall	A	P	P	R	R
Alan Wright	P	P	P	P	P
Lu McNair	P	P	P	P	A
Stewart MacDonald	P	A	P	P	P
Greg Russell	A	P	A	P	P
Jim Gibbons	P	A	P	P	P
James Watson	A	P	P	P	P
Vaughan Moody	A	P	P	P	P
Ian Gallagher	P	P	A	P	P
Alix Mathieson	A	A	P	P	P
Craig Bell	P	P	P	A	P

Apologies	A
Resigned or n/a	R
Present	P
Not Yet Admitted	NYA

Indemnity Insurance

In accordance with the Companies Act, the charitable company confirms that it has in place a Directors' and Officers' Insurance Policy.

Organisational Structure

The Board meets on an eight-weekly cycle to consider company business and refers decision-making on recruitment, health and safety, and finance to nominated sub-committees.

A General Manager is appointed by the Board, to manage the day-to-day operations of the company. To ensure that operations are carried out effectively, the General Manager has delegated authority within an approved scheme for matters including personnel, finance, procurement and operations.

EDLCT works in close partnership with East Dunbartonshire Council to ensure the highest possible standard of service is offered to residents and visitors to the area. These close links ensure that the vision of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust is closely aligned and integral to the strategic aims of the Council, which is the core funder of the company.

The Board meets six times a year with trustees and the General Manager present. The business of the company is managed by the Board and operational management is delegated to the senior management team. The senior management team is represented at all leisure facilities, sports development, active schools, libraries and cultural facilities. The General Manager reports to the Board and senior managers report to the General Manager.

There are currently Board members represented on Human Resources and Recruitment, Health and Safety, Finance and Audit, and Leisure and Culture Strategy sub-groups. The Human Resources Committee was set up to facilitate key appointments and to be in place as an arbitration forum for any staffing issues that may arise. This committee also reviews senior staffing positions. The Health and Safety Committee was set up to ensure EDLCT’s compliance with health and safety legislation and includes representatives of both staff and trade unions.

The formation of the Finance and Audit Sub-Committee was approved by the EDLCT Board in August 2012 and is the main conduit with regards to finance and audit matters, ensuring finance and executive business is fed back to the Board of Trustees. The sub-group has responsibility for scrutinising the EDLCT annual accounts and makes subsequent recommendations to the Board. The group has also made recommendations on pricing and Service Level Agreement budgets with East Dunbartonshire Council.

Equal Opportunities Policy and Equality Awareness

The company continues to be committed to providing a working environment in which employees can realise their full potential and contribute to its business success. To this end, the company is determined to make all efforts to prevent discrimination or other unfair treatment against any of its employees, potential employees or users of its services, regardless of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, disability, trade union membership or non-membership, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, employment status or offending background that does not create risk to vulnerable people. This is a key employment value to which all employees are expected to give their support.

The company's policies for recruitment, selection, training, development and promotion are designed to ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on these grounds. The company expects its employees to support this commitment and to assist in its realisation in all possible ways. Specifically, the company aims to ensure that no employee or candidate is subject to unlawful discrimination, either directly or indirectly, on the grounds of gender, race (including colour, nationality or ethnic origin) sexual orientation, marital status, part-time status, religion or belief, disability or age. This commitment applies to

all aspects of employment, including recruitment and selection, advertisements, job descriptions, interviews and selection procedures. This policy also covers: training; promotion and career development opportunities; terms and conditions of employment, and access to employment-related benefits and facilities; grievance handling and the application of disciplinary procedures; and selection for redundancy.

An Equality and Diversity group will be established going forward and training opportunities sourced for the EDLCT Board and employees. In conjunction with the Council, a statement will be drafted which signals our intent to make meaningful change.

All employees that were transferred to EDLCT on 1 April 2011 were part of a TUPE agreement with East Dunbartonshire Council.

Employee Information

The company maintained over the period up-to-date records and statistics on all Human Resource matters and this information was available if requested to agencies for monitoring purposes.

EDLCT currently follows the same evaluation process as East Dunbartonshire Council (the Scottish Councils Job Evaluation Scheme). All EDLCT posts have been evaluated through this process.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

In line with EDLCT’s commitment to EDI, an action plan has been developed with the intention of this becoming a continuous programme of review and development.

An initial in-person staff engagement session was held at Kirkintilloch Town Hall in September 2024. Twenty members of staff attended the session, during which they carried out a SWOT analysis; considering where EDLCT was regarding EDI, where we should be and how we might get there. By the end of the session, the group had identified a number of key actions, which were then developed into an action plan with three priority areas; Research & Communication, Training & Development and Delivery.

To deliver the action plan, and ensure engagement and consistency across the Trust, a steering group was set up consisting of staff from across all areas and tiers of the Trust. The group is now divided into three sub groups, one for each of the priority areas, and these delivery groups are now engaged in delivering on the action plan.

WHAT DO WE DO?

East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust (EDLCT), on behalf of East Dunbartonshire Council, is responsible for the operation, management and delivery of leisure and cultural services throughout East Dunbartonshire. The services are delivered under the terms of a service agreement with the Council.

Through the delivery of these services, EDLCT seeks to have a significant impact on the lives of the residents of East Dunbartonshire and the communities in which they live, and so improve their quality of life.

As a charity, our main aim is to provide facilities for recreational, sporting and cultural pursuits which are of maximum benefit to the community and accessible to all. The key objectives and ambitions of EDLCT are detailed below:

Objects and Activities

The charitable company's objects and principal activities are:

- » *To advance the arts, heritage, culture and science*
- » *To advance public participation in sport*
- » *To provide recreational facilities and organise recreational activities, with such facilities/activities being made available to members of the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life*
- » *To advance education*
- » *To advance health*
- » *To advance citizenship and/or community development (which may include the promotion of civic responsibility, volunteering, the voluntary sector and/or the effectiveness or efficiency of charities)*
- » *To relieve those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage*
- » *To promote, establish, operate and/or support other similar schemes and projects which further charitable purposes.*

Strategic Objectives

The Trust has been split into five key service areas:

- » *Libraries*
- » *Heritage & Arts*
- » *Sports Development*
- » *Active Schools*
- » *Leisure Centres and Pitches.*

Our Ambition

Through strong partnership working, East Dunbartonshire will be a place with first-class culture, leisure and sporting opportunities where people enjoy fulfilled and active lives. East Dunbartonshire will be recognised as a leader in the provision of culture, leisure and sport.

We will further improve the health and wellbeing of our community by increasing participation in culture, leisure and sport. We will strengthen local partnerships and improve local infrastructure and facilities. We will safeguard and increase opportunities for all residents, workers, visitors and volunteers to take part. We will promote the benefits of participation in culture, leisure and sport, and the opportunities available.

Our Objectives

The strategy has four over-arching objectives that underpin all areas of the strategy:

- 1. Increasing Participation for All**
To increase participation in culture, leisure and sport for all residents, workers and visitors of East Dunbartonshire in an inclusive and sustainable manner.
- 2. Improving Physical/Mental Health and Wellbeing**
To improve health and wellbeing through culture, leisure and sport opportunities – enabling everyone in East Dunbartonshire to lead full and active lives.
- 3. Developing People**
To support and develop the network of volunteers and staff involved in delivering culture, leisure and sport in East Dunbartonshire, and to support all individuals in developing their talents, skills and confidence.
- 4. Maintaining Quality of Our Existing Culture, Leisure and Sports (CLS) Offer and Maximising Opportunities**
To maintain the quality of our current culture, leisure and sport offer, improve existing services and maximise opportunities for providing new activities and services by incorporating high environmental and design standards - therefore ensuring that East Dunbartonshire has first-class culture, leisure, and sport venues and services.

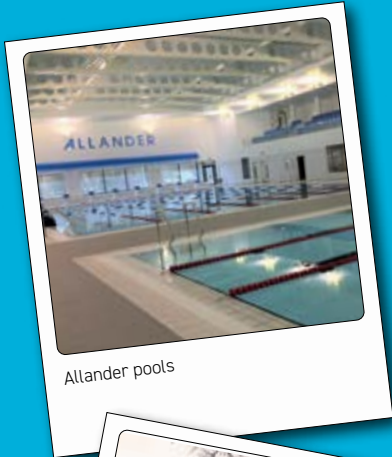
EDLCT Employees

EDLCT has 401 employees, these are detailed by service area below:

	Active Schools Community Fitness & Sports Development	Cultural Services & Libraries	Leisure
Female	51	70	118
Male	32	17	113
Total	83	87	231



Auld Kirk Museum



Allander pools



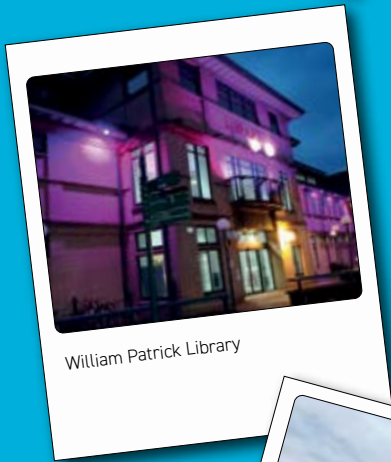
Lillie Art Gallery



Peel Park



Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre



William Patrick Library

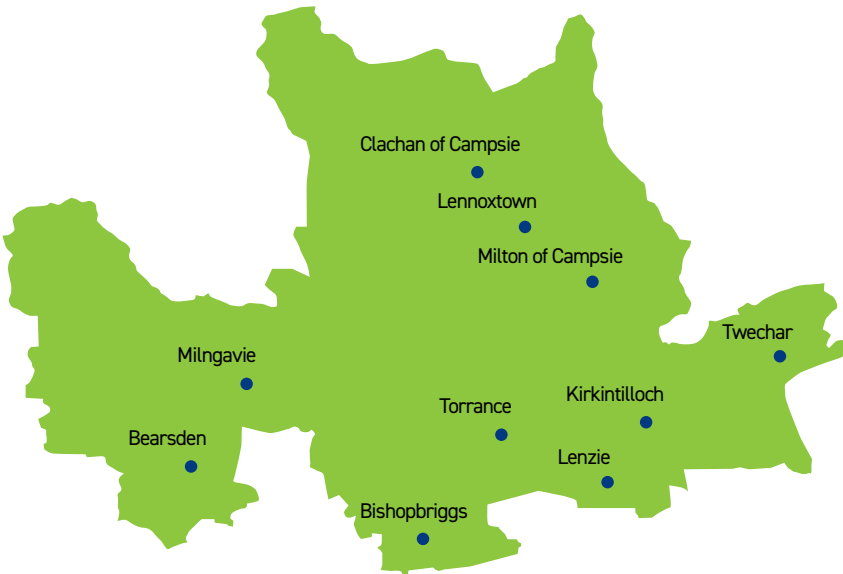


Bishopbriggs Library and
Community Hub



Kilmardinny House

Main Facilities



24 Pavilions

Heritage & Arts

Auld Kirk Museum
Lillie Art Gallery
Kilmardinny Arts Centre
Kirkintilloch Town Hall

Libraries

Bishopbriggs Library
Bearsden Library
Craighead Library
Lennoxtown Library
Lenzie Library
Milngavie Library
Westerton Library
William Patrick Library

Sport and Leisure

Allander Leisure Centre
Huntershill Sports Hub
Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre
Leisuredrome

Outdoor and Active

Antonine Wall and Roman Baths
Campsie Fells
The Forth & Clyde Canal
John Muir Way
Mugdock Country Park
Peel Park
Thomas Muir Heritage Trail
West Highland Way

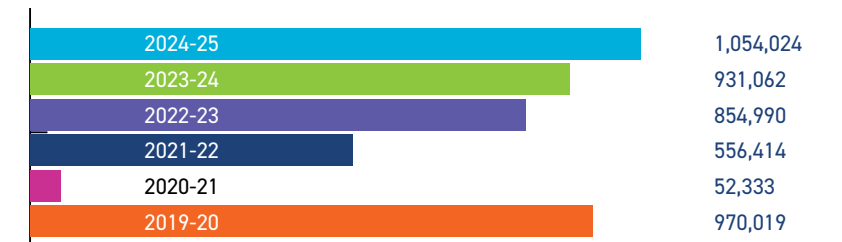


HOW WELL DID WE DO?

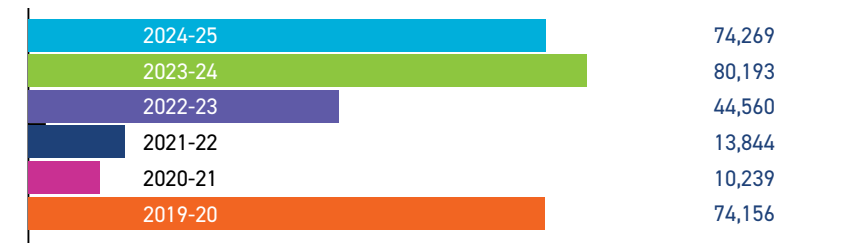
Overall Attendances

Key Figures

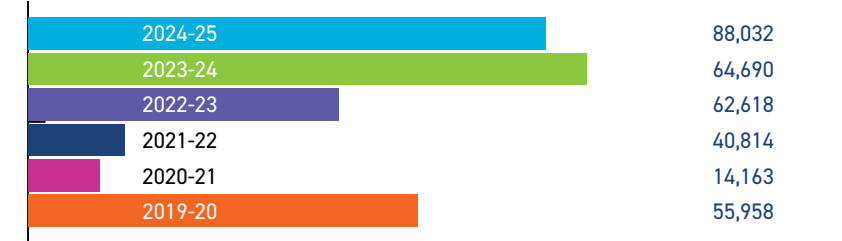
Leisure Centres Usage



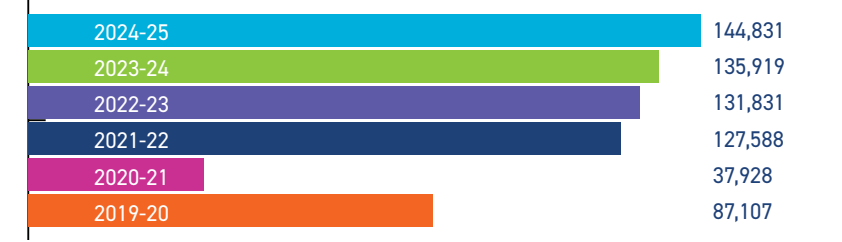
Sports Development including Community Fitness and Live Active Usage



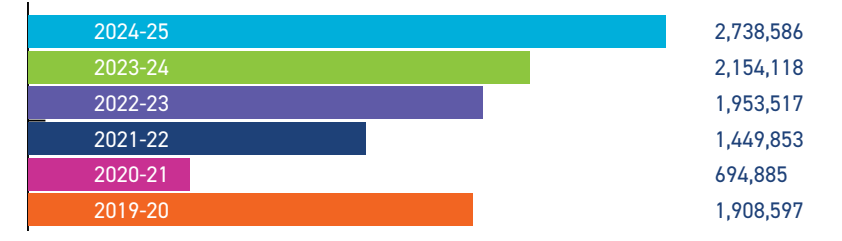
Museums including Kilmardinny House Usage



Outdoor Usage Usage



EDLCT Total Usage Usage



Concessionary Scheme

EDLCT, in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Council, offers a concessionary access scheme which gives residents in receipt of certain benefits a discounted rate for access to activities. This was previously referred to as The Passport scheme.

The Concessionary Scheme is also available to those aged over 65. The concessionary membership represented 26.5% of the overall membership.

The Gym

Retention and marketing initiatives continue to be rolled out to attract new customers and encourage those customers who have cancelled their memberships to return. After the success of the free junior membership offer, there has been a pricing restructure to encourage and retain the juniors.

Gym membership

2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
13,830	11,522	10,195	6,074	4,227

EDLCT Health and Safety Overview 2024/2025

	Total	%	Reportable	Non-Reportable
Staff	6	3.09%	0	6
Members of the public	6	3.09%	2	4
Customers	181	93.30%	2	179
Contractors (external)	1	1.06%	0	1
Total	194	100%	4	190



Community Fitness

Group Fitness Programme

The programme has yet again significantly increased the number of participants during 2024/25 – up by 21%.

Over the course of the year, 14,392 instructor-led fitness classes were delivered across the four venues, with 228,031 attendances.

Virtual classes have also been provided to offer customers flexibility to participate outside of peak times – attracting 3,668 attendances, aided by the introduction of Virtual Les Mills Spin classes at both the Allander and Leisuredrome.

Dance-based fitness and Body & Mind classes continue to grow in popularity and new classes added to the programme include chair-based Yoga at Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre and 're-train pain' Pilates in Allander Leisure Centre, which is proving popular across our member base with numerous Mature Mover classes and the new Body Jam. Additional classes have been added to the programme over the year to meet demand (especially at the Allander).



Year	Number of employees
2024-25	228,031
2023-24	188,286
2022-23	116,513
2021-22	162,525
2020-21	6,079
2019-20	176,292

Live Active Referral Programme

2024/25 1,242 2023/24 1,163 2022/23 756

The Live Active Programme, a behaviour change intervention referral scheme, has undergone a period of change through 2024/25 and we worked closely with our funding partners at NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (GGC) to introduce a new service delivery model to benefit referred patients. EDLC recorded a referral increase of 77% post Covid and due to this, NHSGGC has fully funded a Support Team Leader to work alongside our Live Active Advisers to firstly triage all referrals, and offer support and signposting to appropriate exercise opportunities – allowing our advisers to consult with and support higher-risk patients for 12 weeks before passing on for maintenance support for a further nine months.

Attendances: 2024/25 12,412 2023/24 7,965 2022/23 4,736

Highlights include: Parkinsons-specific classes, delivered each week from Huntershill Sports Hub and Allander Leisure Centre. Patients are referred by their Parkinsons physiotherapist for exercise with dynamic moves.

EDLC's walking programme has grown in 2024/25 with 3,366 walkers during the year and 18 volunteers delivering the 12 weekly Health Walks. Working with our funding partners at Paths for All and NHSGCC, walker attendances have grown 173% in one year as the number of walks increases, along with new volunteers being recruited and trained. We now see many walkers being signposted to Health Walks from our Live Active Programme as a low-level activity and socialising opportunity



CULTURAL

LEISURE AND SPORTS



up by
54.5%

up by
8.4%

**up by
3%**

**up by
7.3%**



The figure consists of three separate bar charts, each representing a different platform and category. Each chart compares 'Reach' (solid bar) and 'Followers' (dotted line with a dot) for the year 2025. The data is as follows:

Platform & Category	Metric	2025 Value
Facebook - Leisure	Reach	119,246
	Followers	8,245
Facebook - Leisure	Reach	1,079,046
	Followers	8,850
Facebook - Culture	Reach	112,980
	Followers	3,104
Facebook - Culture	Reach	574,837
	Followers	3,364
Instagram - Heritage & Arts	Reach	4,300
	Followers	710
Instagram - Heritage & Arts	Reach	36,934
	Followers	928

We are navigating away from utilising the social media platform X (formerly called Twitter). Our main audience there consisted of schools and we are looking into alternative ways of communicating with them.

A Social Media Development Plan has been created to provide a strategic pathway for our social media channels to maximise impact.

- The most popular post for **Culture** on Facebook was a video from Paul Riley promoting his show at Kirkintilloch Town Hall.
 - It reached 54,806 users and received 700 likes. The post was shared 50 times and received 28 comments.
- The most popular post for **Leisure** on Facebook was a story about one of our swimming coaches, June.
 - It reached 14,821 users and received 78 likes. The post had one share and received 13 comments.

- The most popular post on Instagram was on the Heritage & Arts account and was about a postcard collection held by one of our Supply Cultural Assistants, Mairi.
 - It reached 181 users and received 47 likes. It also had four shares.

While Cultural Services use email marketing as a channel of communication, Leisure focuses more on the Leisure App as a way of engaging with customers.

A move from Outlook mail groups to a software application, Campaign Monitor, has improved the customer experience for those receiving our newsletters, reduced staff time monitoring subscribers and has supported the capture of data for individual campaigns.

Email Marketing

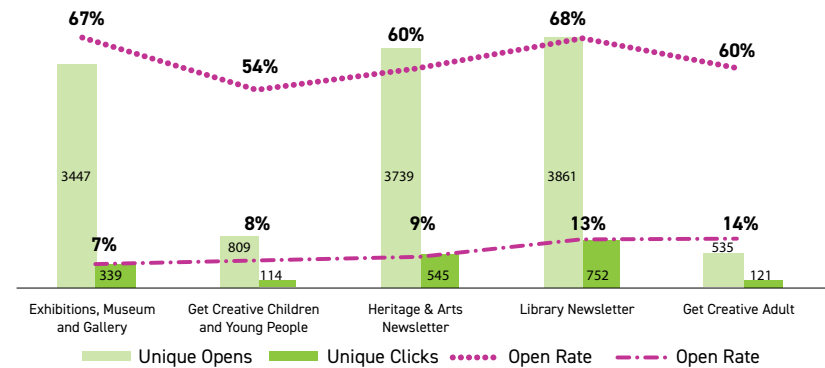
While Cultural Services use email marketing as a channel of communication, Leisure focuses more on the Leisure App as a way of engaging with customers.

Subscribers

A move from Outlook mail groups to a software application, Campaign Monitor, has improved the customer experience for those receiving our newsletters, reduced staff time monitoring subscribers and has supported the capture of data for individual campaigns.

Campaign Performance

The average performance of each list can be seen in the graph below.

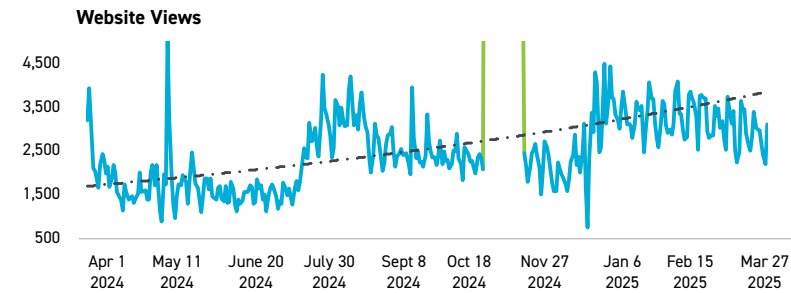


Website

In March 2024, the EDLCT website was redesigned and hosted by a different platform. Historic data is not available to allow for performance comparisons between the old site and the new site.

Overview

From 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, there were 1,105,586 website views from 504,655 users. Monthly views also increased over the year, as can be seen on the chart below.



Key Points

- Due to a glitch, over October and November 2024, EDLCT data was combined with the Council, which resulted in a spike in views, as highlighted in pink on the chart.
- Towards the end of December, staff IP addresses were removed from our analytics, meaning webpage views by staff using work devices are no longer included. However, this does not appear to have dramatically impacted on overall views.
- The spike in views for May can be attributed to the fact that customers were directed to information around revised terms and conditions for leisure at this time.



The top 10 searches and most popular pages on our site were as follows:

Search term	Users	Page Title	Users
Badminton	147	EDLC Leisure and Culture	64,567
Swimming	115	Sport & Leisure EDLC	34,220
Gym	109	Leisure memberships EDLC	33,536
Swimming lessons	107	Allander Leisure Centre EDLC	28,967
Badminton	96	Leisure Price List EDLC	25,724
Gymnastics	73	Timetables EDLC	22,241
Sauna	73	Leisuredrome Leisure Centre EDLC	22,172
Pool	65	Allander Leisure Centre Timetable EDLC	18,858
Pickleball	62	Swimming EDLC	18,695
Yoga	61	Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre EDLC	16,666

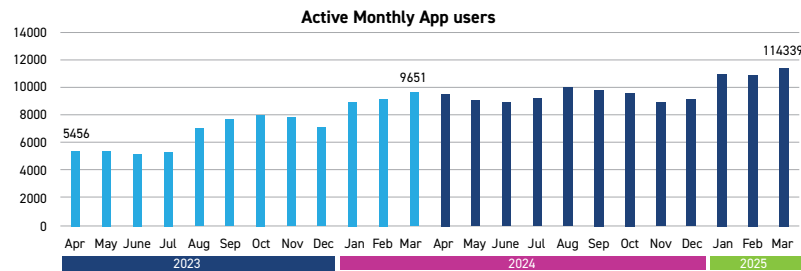
Leisure App

The EDLC App continues to be an effective tool for communicating with leisure centre customers. Messages unique to these users, e.g. about changes to fitness classes, have been pushed via the App instead of being promoted via social media, where the message may not be relevant to most of the audience.

During 2023/24, our Mobile App usage peaked at 9,651. It continues to be utilised by existing, and the majority of new, customers – allowing easy access to book classes and activities, as well as the membership QR code for facility access. The App has gone from strength to strength, with 11,439 active users in March 2025 and the average monthly App users in 2025 up by 2,547.

At the beginning of March 2025, communication 'pushes' were adapted for the App – allowing analytics to be monitored on how many users opened a message and subsequently clicked on any buttons and links. This has proven beneficial to gauging engagement.

For example, a message notifying customers of the upcoming closure of the pools and health suite for a triathlon event at Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre was relayed on 13 March 2025. By using the marketing automation functionality, we could see that 5,497 users were sent the notification, with 2,250 of those opening the message and 20 people clicking through to the link in the message to view the timetables for other centres.



REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Cultural Services

2024/25 has been a landmark year for Cultural Services, with library usage exceeding one million for the first time ever. Although library visits in person saw a fairly modest increase of just under 1%, digital access continued to grow this year, increasing by 16% on last year. Overall usage for the Library Service increased by 11% compared with last year.

Museum visits in person saw a dip this year, dropping 7% from last year's figure but, again, digital access increased by an impressive 19% compared with the previous year – giving an overall increase in museum usage of 11%.

Both Libraries and Museums are now performing well above pre-COVID levels; with libraries 45% above the 2019/20 figures and Museums showing a 28% increase on 2019/20.

This year marked the signing of a five-year agreement with Ancestry.com. This agreement guarantees continued, free access to Ancestry.com on all public access devices across all eight of our libraries. In return Ancestry will have access to 97 volumes of records which will be digitised for use on the worldwide Ancestry website, with digital copies also being provided to EDLCT's Archives team.

Museum Attendances

	Visits in person	Digital access	Total usage
2024/25	17,983	53,726	71,709
2023/24	19,427	44,982	64,415

Library Attendances

	Visits in person	Digital access	Total usage
2024/25	304,487	743,002	1,047,489
2023/24	304,254	638,000	942,254

Total usage 2019/20 (pre-pandemic) versus 2024/25			
	2019/20	2024/25	% recovery from 2019/20
Total museum usage	55,958	71,709	128%
Total library usage	721,357	1,047,489	145%

HERITAGE & ARTS

Arts & Events

The Get Creative arts programme, for children and adults, had another successful year with 1,278 participants across 97 workshops. Participants were able to enjoy a wide variety of art disciplines, including printing, textiles, pottery and painting.

Theatre & Comedy Events

During October, Kilmardinny House Arts Centre welcomed 100 theatre patrons to see Frankenstein, A Radio Play On Stage performed by No Nonsense Theatre Company. This was a return visit to the venue for the popular theatre company and is part of our commitment to increasing opportunities for performing arts events, which are clearly enjoyed by local audiences.

"This is the second radio play I've attended at this venue and both evenings were really enjoyable and both performances were great." *Audience member*

Kirkintilloch Town Hall hosted comedian Paul Riley, best known for his role in the hit comedy series Still Game. The sell-out event was followed by another popular comedy night with Gavin Mitchell, also an actor from Still Game. As a result of the popularity of these comedy events it is hoped that they will become a regular part of the varied performance programme.

Local History Month - March 2025

East Dunbartonshire Local History Month 2025, held in March, showcased an impressive line-up of 27 diverse events, attracting 970 participants, with eight events reaching full capacity. This annual event, delivered in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Heritage & History Forum, is a vibrant and meaningful celebration of the history and heritage of the local area. Our collaborative approach, engaging with local organisations, significantly enhanced the quality and delivery of the programme this year. Utilisation of an online booking platform, Eventbrite, was a valued addition this year; streamlining processes and allowing for data analysis to assist with evaluation and future planning.

Doors Open Day

This year saw 17 venues participating across the authority, attracting 607 visitors to the increasingly popular Doors Open Day, which took place over the first weekend in September.

Working in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Heritage & History Forum and a team of volunteers, the event showcased the rich history and culture of the area, providing an opportunity for residents and visitors to explore East Dunbartonshire, with something for everyone to enjoy.

A main event of the weekend was the Festival of Clubs organised by the Archives and Local Studies team. Held at Kirkintilloch Town Hall, the event provided the opportunity for 20 local not-for-profit clubs and groups to come together to showcase their events and activities to the 170 visitors to the event.

"This has been a rewarding day for us and has allowed us to meet members of the public that may not have been aware that our group even existed. It was also a fantastic opportunity to network and share ideas, and potential collaboration opportunities with other local not-for-profit clubs and groups in East Dunbartonshire."

Local volunteer



Explore Your Archives - November 2024

During November, the Cultural Services teams participated in Explore Your Archives, a national awareness-raising campaign. A series of displays were created, from the Archives collections, for William Patrick, Craighead and Milngavie libraries, with Milngavie Library proving so popular it was extended by two months!

Kirkintilloch Town Hall and Kilmardinny Arts Centre

Management of Kilmardinny House Arts Centre transferred over to the Heritage & Arts team in May 2024. The addition of this iconic, and busy, building to our portfolio, has necessitated an increase in our facilities staff, with two new part-time Facilities Assistants joining the team, along with the newly-created role of Building Manager. Working alongside our catering partner, Elixir, the new team at Kilmardinny is supporting the very busy programme of weddings, parties and funerals, whilst helping to develop and deliver a varied programme of community, as well as our own cultural, events and activities.

Kirkintilloch Town Hall continues to provide a valuable service as an NHS vaccination centre as well as supporting a broad range of community groups, partners and events, including: a dance school, rock choir, karate club, Kirky Cinema, LGBTQ+ and neurodivergent youth groups, Ceartas Drama Group, and Lenzie and District Flower Club to name only a few.

Kirkintilloch Heritage Centre, located within the town hall, is also fully open and welcomes the general public as well as organised school visits.

Exhibitions

This year has seen the re-introduction of an exhibitions programme within Kirkintilloch Town Hall. A civic reception was hosted for Kirkintilloch Players who had a display of posters, photographs and objects held by EDLCT Archives, Local Studies and Museums.

In partnership with the Thomas Muir Festival, EDLCT brought the popular School Art Competition from the Thomas Muir Café to the exhibition space for the first time. School pupils' artwork was displayed alongside Archives, Local Studies and Museum collections.

The Auld Kirk Museum held an exhibition over the summer celebrating the 380th anniversary of the Auld Kirk Museum building. Built in 1644, it was known over the centuries as Wester Lenzie Church, Kirkintilloch Parish Church, St Mary's Church and the Auld Kirk Museum. The exhibition included a timeline of Kirkintilloch starting in 1211, when the Burgh of Kirkintilloch was created, until the present day.

The Pottering Around exhibition, celebrating 10 years of the Ceramics class held in the Barony Chambers, showcased works by class participants, displayed alongside work by the class tutor Meredith Crone.



The Lillie Art Gallery hosted annual exhibitions from both Bearsden and Milngavie Art Clubs. Always popular events in the Lillie calendar, both exhibitions showcased some of the very best in local artist talent.

The popular annual Christmas Exhibitions held at the Auld Kirk Museum and Lillie Art Gallery provided the opportunity for local artists and makers to showcase their work and provided a unique Christmas gift shopping experience. Artists who had exhibited throughout the year were also invited back to exhibit.

In preparation for the Young People's Exhibition, which opened in June, participants in the popular Young People's Saturday smART classes carried out research and produced work inspired by comics. The resulting exhibition ran in conjunction with a comics exhibition, Get Stripped! – a collection of original comics and graphic art on loan from Dundee University. The star attraction was a sculpture of Oor Wullie, on loan from the Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow.

To celebrate the centenary year of artist Bet Low the Lillie Art curated an exhibition of works from our own collections as well as loans from the Bet Low Trust. Born in Gourock in December 1924, Bet went on to study at Glasgow School of Art and became notable as one of the Glasgow Girls, a group of female artists and designers. A past curator of the Lillie Art Gallery, Hildegard Berwick, delivered a talk on this significant Scottish artist.

A display, curated by the Museum team, highlighting the Bearsden Shark, opened in William Patrick Library. This replica of the original fossil, which is held by the Hunterian Museum and thought to be circa 330 million years old, is normally on display in Bearsden Library, but during closure for building works, this fascinating fossil is now on a mini-tour of East Dunbartonshire libraries, along with fossilised shark teeth.

Museum Collections - loans

The Museum Collections officer managed 368 enquiries about collections and participation in outreach work from schools and groups. This work has included object handling boxes being loaned out to Lennoxton Primary School and other handling objects loaned out to local community groups.

Two artworks were loaned out from the Lillie Art Gallery Fine Art Collection to the Reid Gallery at Glasgow School of Art who hosted an exhibition of Bet Low. These works have now moved onto a second loan venue in Orkney.

Museum Collections – new acquisitions

Donations were received of trophies from Kirkintilloch Horticultural Society, which has been in existence since 1842 but had no physical representation within the Museum collections, and some printed calico handkerchief samples from Milton of Campsie.

A number of items related to Jessie M King, including family photographs and a letter, have been purchased for the permanent collection and will be on display as part of an exhibition at the Lillie Art Gallery in autumn 2025.

EDLC Museum Collections launched a new product range on its Art UK shop just in time for Christmas. The products feature a colourful still life by Artist George Leslie Hunter. A wide range of artists prints are also available.

ARCHIVES & LOCAL STUDIES

Enquiries Service

Archives & Local Studies staff responded to 3,342 enquiries. Enquiries can be received by phone, email, and in person from locals and people all around the world.

Comments from enquirers:

“I am overwhelmed by the amount of resources you have discovered! Amazing work, both in quality and quantity and I thank you very, very much. The picture of my little house was particularly special.”

“Thanks again for the plans. I had another look through yesterday evening, and they look great. The lighting is perfect. They are works of art, even though they were created for a very practical reason. I am very pleased to have them as a tangible connection to my family”

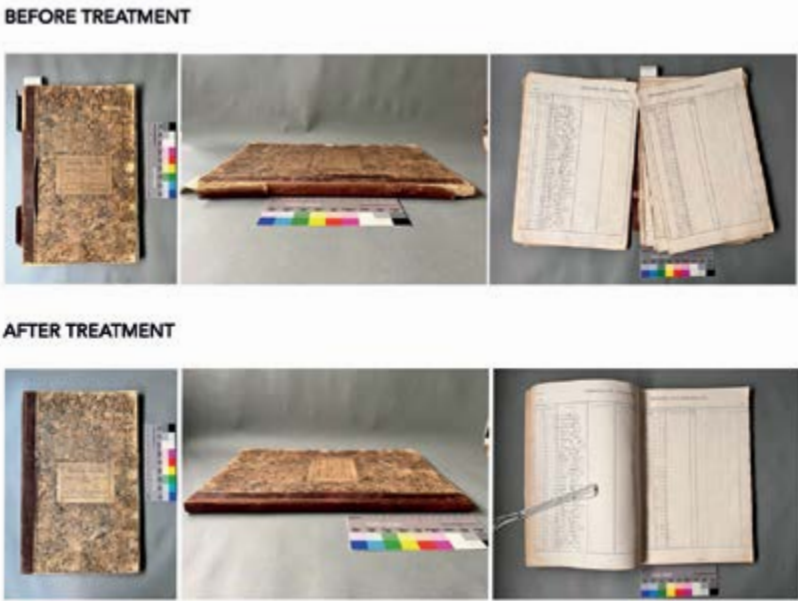
Archives Conservation

Some archives are in such a fragile condition that they need to be treated by an archives conservator before they can be handled without causing further damage. This year we were able to have six registers conserved by external accredited conservators. They have all now been skilfully repaired and stabilised ready for a planned digitisation project in 2025/2026.

Archives New Accessions 2024/2025

The Archives Service manages the official archives of East Dunbartonshire Council and helps the authority to meet its statutory obligations. The service collects records of legal, historical and cultural significance which relate to East Dunbartonshire; these include those of local organisations and families to preserve for generations to come, making them accessible and available for research and enjoyment. Highlights of donations over the past year included:

- Lenzie Academy school magazines
- Signed portraits of HM Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip
- Kirkintilloch Players photographs and memorabilia
- Photo album of Francis Wishart, soloist – Kirkintilloch Junior Choir
- Soroptimist International of Kirkintilloch & District – additional club records
- James Wallace, Baker, Kirkintilloch (d 1825) – records of his estate
- Lenzie Tennis Club – minutes
- Harestanes Primary School, Kirkintilloch – log books and admission registers
- Housing rent roll



OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Yoichi and Kirkintilloch

In February, the Auld Kirk Museum, Kirkintilloch Town Hall and Archives & Local Studies at William Patrick Library hosted a visit from Naoko Nakamoto of Nikka Whisky in Yoichi, Japan and EDLC Board Member Jimmy Watson. On display were the original town twinning agreement between Yoichi and Strathkelvin District Council, and items relating to Kirkintilloch-born Rita Cowan, who, with her husband, Masataka Taketsuru, founded the Japanese whisky industry. Both Naoko and Jimmy were part of a project where local families hosted delegates from their twin town. Naoko kindly donated copies of photographs from her last trip to Kirkintilloch, with the Mayor of Yoichi in the 1980s, to Local Studies. The visitors also had the opportunity to see Rita Cowan’s kimono and obi (a large sash) which were presented to Kirkintilloch in 1986 by Tadao Hirose, Deputy President of Nikka Whisky. They also visited a display, at the Auld Kirk Museum, about Rita’s life.



Local Studies - Family History Course

Archives and Local Studies introduced a new family history course, delivered by local genealogist Morag Peers. Places on the Research Your Scottish Family History course booked up quickly, with more planned for the year ahead.

“You conveyed your enthusiasm for exploring the past, which was both infectious and motivating. I believe this course exemplifies the best of adult learning, and I highly recommend it.”

Course participant

Developing Young Workforce for the Future with St Ninian’s High School.

Funded by Museums, Galleries Scotland, this project – entitled Overheard Conversations – provided a group of second-year pupils from St Ninian’s High School, with a unique opportunity to explore significant social history events throughout East Dunbartonshire. Working with the Local Studies Officer, and an education consultant, pupils reimagined conversations of the past, bringing history to life through the creation of a series of audio conversations. This compilation of recordings, alongside the permanent collection, brings the Made in Kirkintilloch Exhibition within Kirkintilloch Town Hall, to life.

School Visits

Work is continuing to expand our offer to schools. A highlight this year came from Primary 3 pupils at Lairdsland Primary School, who visited the Auld Kirk Museum as part of their Roman project. Pupils spent time in the museum learning about Roman emperors and what life was like in Kirkintilloch in Roman times. They took part in a scavenger hunt and followed clues to find the Roman Emperor’s names. The pupils were then fascinated by some of the Roman artefacts held in the museum collections. The pupils even got to build a piece of the Antonine wall using interactives gifted to the museum from Historic Environment Scotland.

Lunchtime talks

As part of a pilot programme of lunchtime talks, the Museum Collections Officer gave a talk on the story behind Allander Ware Pottery, a small industry from Milngavie’s past. Those who came along had the opportunity to see the Allander Ware collection held at the Lillie Art Gallery, which continues to grow through public donations. Other lunchtime and afternoon talks, held at the Lillie Art Gallery, were delivered by volunteer speakers and heritage groups.

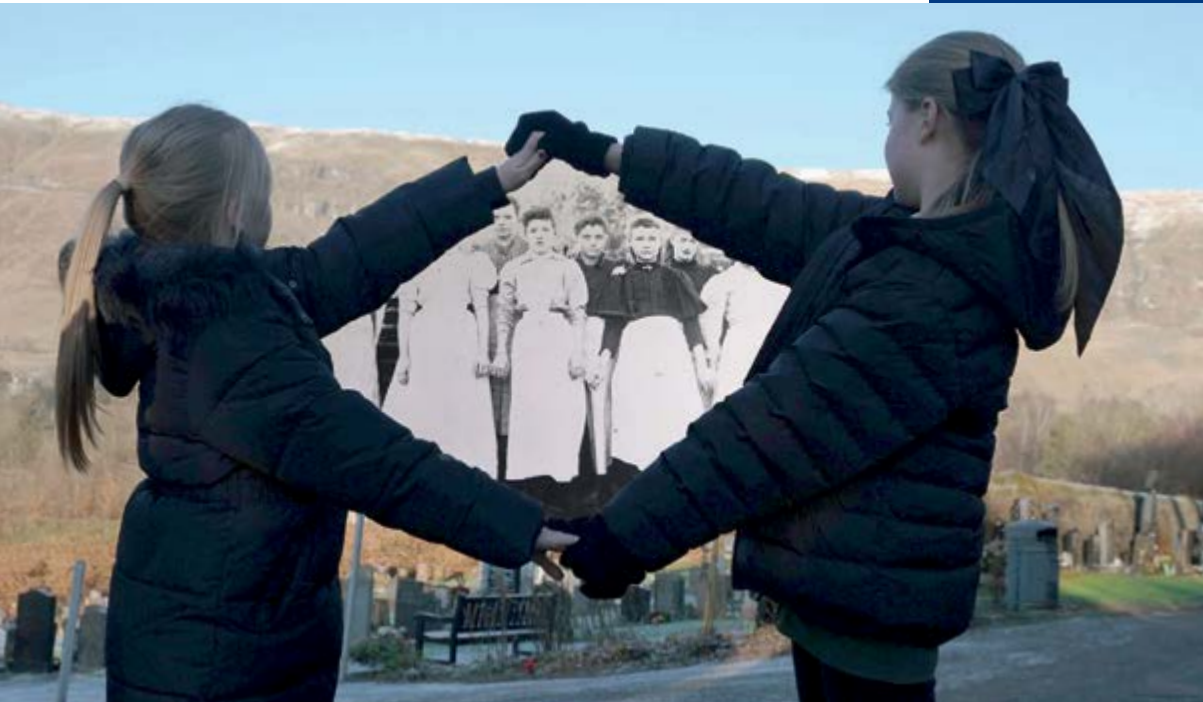
Lennoxtown Shared Prosperity Fund – Arts Project

The Campsie Memorial Hall project delivered a dynamic programme of culture and heritage-based events throughout the year. Aimed at strengthening community connections, enhancing access to creative opportunities and supporting the regeneration of the Lennoxtown area, this project was funded through the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund and came to an end on 31 March 2025.

The project, supported by a co-ordinator also funded through the project, included a drama project which brought the two local primary schools together. This element of the project was of particular significance, bringing together Lennoxtown Primary, a non-denominational school, and St Machan’s Primary, a Roman Catholic school. Members of the local community had highlighted the tensions between the two schools and this drama project, delivered by Creative Sparks Theatre Company, played a key role in helping to break down barriers. This element of the project culminated in a performance for families, bringing the community together. Other highlights included parent and child music workshops, an inter-generational art project which brought school pupils and care home residents together, and even roller discos.

Volunteering

Our dedicated Archives and Local Studies volunteers contributed an amazing 371 hours this year and deserve a huge thank-you for all their hard work. Our volunteers give their own time to work on projects to make the Archives & Local Studies collections more accessible for everyone. They transcribe tricky historical handwriting in documents, produce indexes of poor relief registers and create searchable databases of photographs. Three of our fantastic volunteers celebrated 10 years of volunteering with us this year.



St Ninian’s High School pupils visit the Archives Service



LIBRARIES

The Library Service had a very successful year in 2024/25, with digital and in-person visits exceeding one million for the first time in its history, driven by an increasingly popular digital offer which rose by 16%

Bearsden Library remained closed whilst structural works take place. Book issues (excluding Bearsden) were 9% higher than the previous year, with significant increases at Milngavie Library (+21%) and Craighead Library (+26%).

Awards success

Highlights of the year included winning an award, at the annual national Libraries Conference EDGE2025 for the partnership with the University of Edinburgh and University of Glasgow to provide access to Seasonally Affective Disorder (SAD) lamps. The award, in the Social category, recognised this groundbreaking project in the Wintering Well partnership programme. The project was organised by the Adult Services Officer and delivered in libraries, aimed at helping people to thrive during the darker winter months. The University of Glasgow developed a monitoring and review framework to analyse the impact of the programme. The results of the programme have yet to be published.

The service also celebrated a successful award of £23,590 from the national Public Libraries Improvement Fund, administered by the Scottish Libraries and Information Council. The funding will support a Coding & Gaming Facilitator to develop activities targeted at, and co-designed with, teenagers. The project will deliver activities, as well as upskilling staff and developing a set of young teenage volunteers to sustainably extend provision to young children in future years.

Tackling Loneliness and Isolation

While libraries have always been a social hub, during 2024/25 the team focused on tackling the growing problem of people becoming socially isolated and having their lives negatively impacted by loneliness. The negative impacts from loneliness affect physical health and mental wellbeing, and are increasing significantly following the pandemic lockdown and the continuing cost of living crisis. Libraries have introduced and extended a wide range of activities focused on specific groups, with different activities and times:

- **Chaps Chapters** – aware that library reading and activity groups are predominantly attended by women, the team introduced a male-focused reading group to encourage men to meet and socialise.
- **Mis-Read Mums** – a new reading group aimed at new mums, attending with their babies, getting to meet other mums at the same stage as them. The response has been fantastic, with attendees staying on after the session chatting and getting to know each.
- **Board & A Brew** – this group is focused on adult games, such as chess, dominoes and card games, to encourage people to use their library as a social space; again designed to appeal to all genders. People have made ongoing friends through this group.
- **Craft & A Cuppa sessions** – drop-in sessions using crafting as the focus, supporting people of all levels of ability to enjoy craft making and a cuppa together.
- **Quiz nights** – general knowledge and libraries go hand in hand at these fun nights, where people can attend as a team, become part of a new team or join an existing team.
- **Silent book walks** – gentle walks encouraging people to be more active while enjoying an audiobook, on headphones, followed by a social chat over tea or coffee

- **Library Talks** – about books and so much more! Talks on a variety of interests bring people into libraries and present opportunities for wider socialising, along with making new friends and connections.
- **Digital Drop-in sessions** – in-person sessions designed to help people use their devices to stay in touch with friends and families – sharing photos, setting up video chats and using email – as well as help with online shopping and banking.



Health & Wellbeing

The service introduced Wintering Well, a programme of activities designed to help people better combat low mood brought on by the shorter, darker days. As well as lending out SAD Lamps, the service offered Wintering Well gift bags, social opportunities in branches and a series of lunchtime talks. The service marked Blue Monday in January with a series of Winter Warmer coffee mornings across all libraries; inviting library users to come in for a cozy coffee and a chat about their experiences of winter. The Access & Outreach team also started a Women's Wellness group at Milngavie Library.

In response to a request from a Bishopbriggs Library member, Quiet Time was introduced in the branch, on a pilot basis, three times a week. During Quiet Time the library takes no potentially-noisier bookings, such as school or nursery visits, organises no activities, dims the lights and staff are advised to ask users to respect the quiet period. Originally conceived as a way to support people with autism or similar conditions, Quiet Time works well for anybody who prefers to browse and read in a calmer and quieter environment. The pilot has received a very positive and appreciative response and is being rolled out across all libraries.

Books and stories are the ideal focus for activities which promote social interaction, discovery and learning. The Libraries team continues to innovate in activities which bring people together in their communities:

- William Patrick Library introduced a new service called Relaxing Reads, whereby customers can book to come along to a session and hear extracts from a book from our digital provision, along with a refreshment.
- The Learning & Access team supported training in reminiscence work as part of the Memories Scotland project. The Audiobook Walks project expanded, with walks out of William Patrick Library for the first time.
- The team at William Patrick Library undertook training sessions in supporting the neurodivergent community, in preparation for welcoming a work placement from the neurodivergent community.

As part of the growing Health Information Hub partnership with the Health Improvement Team from East Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership, supported fortnightly Cancer Cafés are now held at William Patrick Library, led by Macmillan Cancer Support. The Library also piloted a session by VoiceAbility, providing benefits advice. The Royal National Institute for the Deaf offered support sessions for people with hearing difficulties, including sessions on maintaining hearing aids and fitting batteries.

The Access and Outreach team supported Menopause Awareness Month in Milngavie Library, with an audiobook walk listening to Menopausal by Davina McCall, followed by a talk by a women's wellness coach and an evening of self-care, with Tracey Paton performing Indian head massage and hand reflexology to help with de-stressing and menopausal symptoms.

The Online Library Service was extended with a major, user-focused upgrade to the online library catalogue, called Aspen. The new-look showcases new books and makes reserving and renewing loans easier. For the first time, the search brings together physical books, ebooks and periodicals, allowing one-click borrowing. Aspen makes suggestions to library members, based on their reading history. Loans of digital material increased by 18% compared with the previous year.

During the year, the service simplified the process for becoming a member online, offering instant access to digital content with no need to visit the library in person. The service added 4,400 new members in 2024/25, which is 14% higher than the previous year.

There is a range of online services from third parties provided free of charge by the Library Service, such as Britannica and Driving Test Theory. The service added two new services – language learning online and Find My Past, a second family history service – and as a result usage increased by 30% compared to 2024/25.

The already popular Library App was refreshed and upgraded, offering holds and renewals online as well as lots of useful library information with a design which echoes the EDLCT web pages, and as a result saw a 39% increase in usage.

Children and Families

The Children & Families Team continued to develop networks within the Council's Education Department, running a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) session, focusing on brain development and supporting Early Years practitioners to use song, stories and picture books in their work, and collaborating on a project with Harestanes Primary School – culminating in a family story session. The service provided a collection of books at each of the Council's Summer Snack & Play hubs. Children & Families delivered a presentation to staff at Balmuildy Primary School as part of their bid to become a silver-accredited Reading School, offering an overview of current trends in children's literature with emphasis on how the library can support schools to foster literacy. The team also visited Kirkintilloch High School's National 5 child development class to talk about the Bookbug programme, and the importance of books and song for early development.

The team continued to extend its offer to reach out to less-represented communities. During the first quarter, regular Bookbug participants were asked to share songs in different languages that they knew and ended up sharing songs in Italian, French and Swahili. The team also launched a bilingual Gaelic/English Bookbug session at William Patrick Library, which aligns with the Council's Gaelic Language Plan. The team celebrated Bookbug Week, with eight special events in Locality (Place) Plan areas, on top of the scheduled 13 Bookbug sessions. A total of 277 adults and 291 children attended. The team also piloted a series of Code Club sessions for older children (12+), including beginners, advanced and girls-only groups.



Young people took part in the Summer Reading Challenge (SRC), which this year had the theme Marvellous Makers, with staff focused on encouraging all young people to take part. This year the team produced a child-eye promotional video of being part of the SRC, which was distributed on social media channels. To stimulate interest in the SRC, the team visited 24 schools, working extensively with seven as part of a collaborative project to increase the number of young people visiting libraries and reading levels over the summer break.

The team piloted a new family-focused Audiobook Walk, with families invited to go for a walk while listening to The Beast of Buckingham Palace by David Walliams. The walk started from Milngavie Library with a stop for play at Lennox Park.

After-school and school holiday activities included a treasure hunt, fun clubs, coding sessions, Bookbug and craft sessions, Buggy Motion - 'stop-motion' film-making sessions – and an 'escape room' activity. During the October holidays, the service offered a Festival of Facts – activities aimed at celebrating the quality and range of non-fiction books for children and young people. This year the theme was 'dinosaurs' – with a presentation about time travel, ancient humans and favourite dinosaurs, and the chance to make a dinosaur egg. The Dinosaur Day took place in Westerton, William Patrick, Bishopbriggs and Milngavie libraries.

Access and Outreach

EDLCT Libraries took part in the Playlist for Life project, which uses music to engage with people who are managing dementia, and hosted a national PlayList For Life Day on 20 September 2024. Development of the playlist included a daytime disco with 35 people, including those already participating in the Memories Scotland project, as well as residents of Bocclair, Westerton and Abbotsford House care homes. It also included line-dancing afternoons, with country music playing at Milngavie and Bishopbriggs libraries.

Regular digital drop-in sessions continued, at William Patrick Library, including a talk from Yorkshire Building Society about online frauds and scams.

Book Week Scotland is a national event aimed at promoting reading and libraries. A particular highlight in East Dunbartonshire was a visit to Bishopbriggs Library by one of Scotland’s best-known poets and Bishopbriggs alumni, Jackie Kay – being interviewed by comedian Josie Long. Other events included a workshop on creative writing with poet and author Natalie Jayne Clark at William Patrick Library and a workshop focused on writing for children, with award-winning children's author Maisie Chan at Westerton Library. Illustration workshops for children were run at William Patrick and Milngavie libraries.

As part of the commitment to East Dunbartonshire’s Gaelic Plan, Milngavie Library hosted Alasdair Whyte, talking about his book Glasgow’s Gaelic Place Names. This workshop-style event had the audience singing along to traditional Gaelic songs and learning about the research and local history which formed the basis for the book, armed with a worksheet with Gaelic words and meanings.

Community Events and Activities

The Library Service is at the heart of Community Days in Bishopbriggs, Milngavie and Westerton, and contributes to Kirkintilloch Gala Day. In Bishopbriggs the library was the key venue, with a range of activities for children and adults both indoors and outdoors, and a marketplace for arts and crafts makers. During Milngavie Week, the library hosted a series of workshops (including Spinning & Weaving), authors events and children’s activities. Westerton Library was part of Westerton Gala Day, with its permanent exhibition about the history the suburb proving to be of particularly interest.

William Patrick Library hosted displays throughout June celebrating Kirkintilloch Gala Day, using materials from the Local Studies collections and digital resources. On the day itself there was a very successful programme of free events for children, including a treasure hunt, gala queen/king crown-making and flag/bunting craft.



Libraries played a key role in supporting communities to celebrate Christmas lights switch-ons. Bishopbriggs Library was once again at the heart of local switch-on celebrations, with crafts, activities and displays. William Patrick Library hosted a Festive Fun Day which included a variety of craft activities – making Christmas lanterns, wreath making, calendars, cards, glitter tattoos, a Christmas treasure hunt, 'wish tree' baubles, Christmas colouring and refreshments. Milngavie Library offered a Christmas Crafternoon for adults, as well as for children and families, and shared mince pies and refreshments at a festive-themed Board & A Brew session.

Local History Month was celebrated in libraries with local displays, supported by colleagues from the Heritage & Arts service. Activities included an Audiobook Walk listening to Agatha Christie’s The Blue Train while visiting the site of Milngavie’s Bennie Railplane. The railplane was also the focus of a Memories Scotland reminiscence group meeting.

The three larger libraries took part in the national COVID-19 Day of Reflection. In partnership with Marie Curie, William Patrick, Bishopbriggs and Milngavie libraries hosted Reflection Stations, inviting people to remember their lost loved ones with messages, which were then digitised and shared online.

On Valentine's Day all libraries launched the Love Libraries campaign, organised by the British Library, with displays, information leaflets and heart-shaped comment cards available for people to write and share what they loved about libraries. It was an opportunity for our users to highlight aspects of the service which they particularly valued to other users and visitors.

Community groups work with their local library teams to celebrate their achievements and publicise their work. Major displays this year included:

- The Bearsden Shark at William Patrick Library
- Kirkintilloch Junior Choir was celebrated with a display at William Patrick Library which included video of the choir and objects from the Archives & Local Studies collections.
- Kirkintilloch & District Soroptimist Society celebrated its 50th anniversary with a display in the foyer of William Patrick Library. There was an opening ceremony for the exhibition, which was attended by the Provost and local councillors.
- Also in the foyer area of William Patrick Library, Kirkintilloch & District Society of Antiquaries had a display called Significant Personalities in the History of Kirkintilloch and their Legacy. This exhibition ran for a week in conjunction with Doors Open Day.
- Milngavie Heritage Group launched their autumn exhibition in Milngavie Library with talks, presentations and a display.
- Carol Primrose, of Bishopbriggs Local History Group, gave a local history talk about Cawder Estate and Cawder House as part of Doors Open Day. There was also a display of old copies of the Bishopbriggs Herald for the public to look through.
- William Patrick Library hosted a Canal Memories & Conversations exhibition in the lead-up to the Kirkintilloch Canal Festival, which followed on from a successful exhibition at both William Patrick and Bishopbriggs libraries.

Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre

2024-2025 showed a strong performance, with income and usage continuing to increase.

The year's centre usage was 6% higher than 2023/24 and Gym usage continued to grow by 10%. Centre revenue grew by 9.5%, with Gym Direct Debit membership income increasing by £200,000 (23%). Total Gym-related income exceeded a million pounds for the first time ever (£1,118,253). This is a testament to the efforts and enthusiasm of all the Gym, centre and EDLC admin support staff – a great team effort.

Centre community clubs have continued to thrive, including Swim and Gymnastics clubs as well as the Additional Support Needs groups, University of the Third Age and the various martial arts clubs. The newer Judo club also saw some growth and various youth football clubs continued training on outside pitches. The take-up of casual 'pay and play' Pickleball saw increased levels of activity again this year.

The centre also had a good blend of events taking place in and around the premises. Two duathlon events were held by Glasgow Triathlon Club, Springburn Harriers held two school cross-country championships and the annual Neil McCover Half Marathon ran successfully as ever, as did Kirkintilloch Gala Week. There were also fairground shows and the circus come to Kirkintilloch too! In addition, for the first time ever, the centre hosted a Council by-election count which ran smoothly and involved significant planning and facilities-related work in the background, in co-operation with Council Assets, Communications and Legal & Democratic Services colleagues.

After considerable planning and funding discussions, East Dunbartonshire Council agreed to invest a six-figure sum to address leaks in the pool hall roof and the frontage of the centre. Planning and preparation for these works to begin in the next annual report year were extensive. Another strategic planning area of work led by the Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre-based Operations Manager came to fruition when the East Dunbartonshire Sports Pitches Strategy helped to lever: a Council investment commitment of £1million towards the refurbishment of sports pavilions at Merkland Recreation Centre, Thorn Park and Colquhoun Park; £1.16million investment in upgrading sports pitch surfaces at Merkland Recreation Centre and Huntershill Community Sports Hub during 2025/26 and 2026/27; and £300,000 to complete a feasibility study for upgrading sports facilities at Oakburn Park, Milngavie.

The Leisuredrome

The Leisuredrome had a very successful 2024/2025, with the total number of visitors up by 1.8% on last year.

The Leisuredrome and Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre hosted National Fitness Day on 18 September 2024. Free swimming, soft play, badminton, pickleball and group fitness classes were made available to EDLC members and our wider communities.

The activities were enjoyed by many and the feedback from participants was very positive. Having started back in 2011, National Fitness Day has inspired millions to get involved each year and while bringing people together through physical activity has a hugely positive impact, the campaign has evolved to encourage everyone to view this day as just one step in a much bigger journey. This was evidenced locally as we welcomed 70 new members.

The Scottish Schools Swimming East Dunbartonshire heats were held in late 2024 at the Leisuredrome, with almost 100 swimmers taking part from local schools. The annual event was organised by Swimming Development, and supported by Active Schools and our valued volunteers from local swimming clubs.

Over 200 runners took part in the Jack Crawford 10km, hosted by Springburn Harriers, with the start and finish point at the Leisuredrome.



The Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) schedule for the Leisuredrome flagged the requirement to replace the three Domestic Hot Water (DHW) boilers that supply the large leisure centre and children's nursery. A tender package was formed and a contractor was appointed in late 2024. A replacement programme was devised, with work commencing December 2024 and a completion certificate handed over in early 2025.

Allander Leisure Centre

Over the past year, the Allander has demonstrated significant growth and community engagement. The centre achieved a 36% increase in income, reflecting successful programming, enhanced facilities and strong customer support. Additionally, attendances rose by 31%, indicating a growing demand for health, fitness and leisure activities within the local area.

Average weekly attendances rose from 9,660 to 12,638, with the highest attended week of the year being recorded at 15,875. The highest daily use was during the mid-term break in February with 2,738 attendances.

Monthly membership has grown from 5,027 to 6,311 – an increase of 25% from the previous year.

These results highlight Allander's continued commitment to providing accessible, high-quality services and promoting active lifestyles in the community.

A diverse Group Fitness Class programme has provided opportunities for all demographics and, due to demand, additional NHS Vitality classes have been added to the programme, as well as Parkinson's and Back Pain classes.

The addition of a Triage Officer to assist with the Live Active programme has proved to be extremely beneficial to assist and encourage many into a physical activity programme. These group fitness classes not only provide structure to some participants weekly routine, but also much-needed social interaction.

Pickleball has quickly become one of the most popular activities at the Allander, attracting participants of all ages and abilities. With increased court bookings and growing interest from new players, the sport has played a key role in boosting overall attendance, especially during times that were previously looked upon as off-peak. The centre continues to support this growth by offering dedicated court time, hosting Pickleball Festivals and providing opportunities for both social and competitive play.

One highlight of the year was the Radio Scotland presenters Thousand Mile Challenge, swimming a total of 25 miles between them during the first week in November. BBC Scotland were at the centre to promote the challenge via short live radio broadcasts and a film crew produced a half-hour program which was broadcast on Friday 15 November 2024, as part of BBC Scotland's Children in Need appeal show.

Hydrotherapy Pool use has been restructured to provide a wider range of accessibility, now offering 12 Additional Support Needs and three Quiet Sessions per week – as well as supporting the Adult Resource Centre, and Warm Baby and Rehabilitation Sessions.

The Allander Leisure Centre was recognised for setting a "benchmark for modern, inclusive public architecture" at the prestigious Civic Trust Awards 2025.

The Allander project – which was built by East Dunbartonshire Council, with architectural design by Holmes Miller – won a Selwyn Goldsmith Award for Universal Design and was also 'Highly Commended' overall.

The facility also topped the leaderboard in the Leisure and Arts category at the 2024 Glasgow Institute of Architects (GIA) Awards, while the Adult Resource Centre was recognised for Diversity in the Public Sector at The Herald and GenAnalytics 2024 Diversity Awards.

In addition, the design was shortlisted in the year's Architects Journal Awards.

Active Schools and Community Sport

The Active Schools and Community Sport Team (ASCS) are responsible for the delivery of extra-curricular and community-based sport and physical activity across East Dunbartonshire. The team work collaboratively, aiming to provide a clear pathway from school to community and club participation.

Service Restructure and Staffing

In October 2024, the new ASCS restructure was approved by the EDLCT Board, following staff and trade union consultation. During November and December, the new ASCS Manager, Active Schools Team Leader, and Community Sport Team Leader posts were successfully recruited. Following these appointments, all employees within the Community Sport team whose substantive posts were affected by the new structure, successfully took on their new roles and, by the end of March 2025, the move to a locality model of working had been implemented.

The Community Sport team have also carried some absences and vacancies across the coaching workforce. This has had an impact on capacity in a small number of classes, but the team have worked hard to cover those gaps where possible. Recruitment and development of staff remains a key focus for the team moving into the next year, with a robust coaching structure key to successful delivery across all sites.

Due to maternity leave and internal staffing changes, the Active Schools team carried 1.5 FTE vacancies through December 2024 to March 2025. Recruitment for these posts was delayed due to the continued roll-out of the new ASCS structure. It is hoped that all posts will be filled by the start of the next academic year.

The Active Schools Team is working hard to fill the gaps created by the ASCS vacancies, however, it is expected that the reduction in staffing will have an impact on the full year academic year stats for the affected clusters.

East Dunbartonshire Active Schools Data

Sportscotland measures Active Schools (AS) data for each term (three times a year). The Active Schools Co-ordinators (ASCs) provide information through the collation of extra-curricular registers from all schools in East Dunbartonshire. This information allows the team to identify trends, as well as gaps in provision, and plan accordingly to improve access to activities within each school.

In addition, the ASCs collect distinct participant information, which can be broken down by school and across the Council area to provide detail regarding key characteristics, such as Additional Support Needs, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, and Care Experienced children and young people. The data is also used by schools for planning, targeting projects, evidence for inspections and evidence when applying for the sportscotland School Sport Award. This report will focus on Term 1 and Term 2 data, with Term 3 and full-year data released in July of each year and reported within the East Dunbartonshire Active Schools Annual Report.

Distinct Participants

The table below shows the distinct participation figures across the last three academic years, for Term 1 (August to December 2024) and Term 2 (January to March 2025).

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Term 1	3,130	3,896	4,332
Term 2	3,746	4,445	3,602

There has been an increase across Term 1 each academic year, with an increase of 436 children and young people this year compared to the same time period last year. Of those participating during 2024-25, 48% were female, a 2% increase from 2023-24 where 46% of those taking part were female.

In Term 2 there was a decrease in participant figures compared to 2023-24, which can be directly attributed to the 1.5 FTE ASC vacancies that the team were carrying for Term 2. A reduction in staffing is always likely to lead to a reduction in participation numbers, however, encouragingly 50% of participants were female, an increase of 2% from the previous term.

Number of Sessions

Sessions are calculated by the number of times a block of activity takes place, e.g. a six-week block of netball would equate to six sessions. There has been an increase of 16% in the combined Term 1 and 2 number of sessions from 2023-24 to 2024-25. An increase in sessions indicates an increase in the amount of activity available across schools.

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Term 1	1,638	1,935	2,532
Term 2	1,759	1,831	1,885

Types of Activity

The table below shows the top 10 activities that have taken place across schools within Term 1 and 2 of the academic year. It also shows how many sessions have taken place within each activity, compared to the previous two years.

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Football	1,052	1,143	1,315
Dance & Movement	405	472	610
Netball	429	542	577
Wheeled Sports	-	-	302
Fitness	180	206	276
Basketball	164	204	228
Badminton	136	162	184
Multi-sports	113	176	181
Volleyball	64	105	117
Gymnastics	138	86	88

Eight out of the 10 sports recorded their highest session numbers in 2024-25. Football is consistently the sport with the most sessions delivered across the school network, however the AS team predominantly focuses on increasing access to the other key sports. Increasing activity levels across minority sports helps to encourage a wider range of children and young people to stay physically active.

Volunteers

The AS team supports a network of volunteers who are vital to the delivery of sport and physical activity within our schools and communities, The AS team provides two training programmes, for volunteers and for young leaders (14+) within local secondary schools, with a range of sports specific and generic coaching courses. The cost of all training is covered by AS in return for volunteer delivery within a school community. Courses are open to any volunteer or young leader interested in delivering extra-curricular sessions in schools.

The table below shows the total number of deliverers, broken down by paid and voluntary, for Term 1 and 2, and compares that to previous years.

	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	Vol	Paid	Vol	Paid	Vol	Paid
Term 1	226	19	275	19	296	15
Term 2	247	17	274	20	241	17

As with distinct participation figures, there has been an increase in Term 1 for volunteers, but a drop within Term 2 compared to 2023-24. This is due to the reduced staffing across the team, with volunteer recruitment and support being a key role of the Active Schools Co-ordinator position.

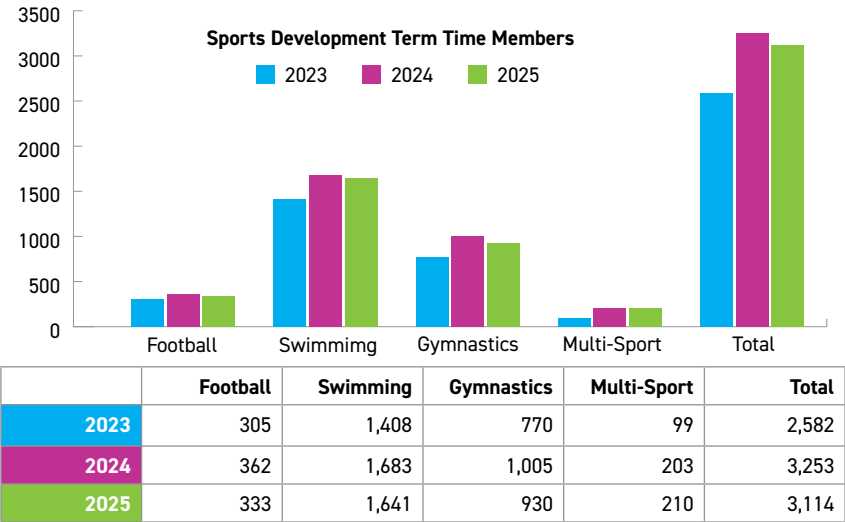
Community Sport Participation

Community Sport (CS) programmes (formally Sports Development) saw 3,117 children attending weekly classes in 2024-25. These classes, delivered across the three leisure centres, provide opportunities for children and young people to take part and develop their skills in a wide variety of sports.

The graph below shows the final membership numbers as of March 2025. There was a small reduction in figures compared to the same time in 2024. This can be attributed to three areas:

- The restructure of the team from Sports Development to Community Sport, leading to change of focus and necessary adaption into new roles for staff.
- Pressure of staff absences within the coaching team, leading to some classes being paused/cancelled. This has impacted the successful Learn to Swim programme.
- The adoption of Course Pro, a new online booking system, was slightly delayed due to technical issues. This impacted on the ability of members to be moved through classes during January and February.

The combined impact on the delivery of the service has been significant, however, as the new structure continues to be embedded – combined with the development of the new Community Sport Annual Plan for 2025-26 – it is anticipated that membership numbers will begin to increase.



The team continued to deliver the popular Easter and Summer holiday programmes, providing a valued service to local children and families during the school breaks. The table below shows the number of participants per sport across both holiday programmes this year.

	Summer 2024	Summer 2025	Easter 2024	Easter 2025
Aquatics	489	508	265	264
Football	277	346	78	120
Gymnastics	161	246	35	61
Multi-sport	147	136	129	121
Total	1,074	1,236	507	566

The holiday programmes show a steady increase in participation from 2023-24 to 2024-25. The CS team has been working hard to respond to demand, using data to identify areas where we can build capacity, such as the full-day multi-sport camps. They are also focusing on increasing availability of Additional Support Needs swimming, gymnastics and football sessions during the school holiday breaks.

Athlete Performance Programme

The Athlete Performance Programme continues to operate at full capacity across the Allander and Kirkintilloch leisure centres. The programme provides local athletes with specialist strength and conditioning coaching to improve their sporting performance and reduce the risk of injury. The athletes attend two mornings per week before school, for 40 weeks throughout the year, with participants continuing to achieve local, national and international recognition within their sports.

ASCS Key Highlights/Achievements

Support for Children and Young People with Additional Support Needs (ASN)

A core focus of the ASCS team is embedded within Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). We are committed to breaking down barriers to participation by ensuring our activities are accessible and welcoming to all, regardless of background, ability or circumstance.

As part of this commitment, we place a strong emphasis on supporting children and young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN). This includes tailored activities, targeted programmes, and partnerships with ASN schools and services to ensure every young person can be active in a way that meets their individual needs.

By embedding EDI principles across all our work, we aim to create inclusive environments where every participant feels valued, represented and able to participate in a range of activities. An important part of embedding this work across the local community is to develop meaningful partnerships with other key stakeholders.

From March 2024, Active Schools – in partnership with Woodland View ASN School – created an Inclusive Sports Forum. The aim of this forum has been:

“To raise the profile and increase opportunities for children, young people and adults with additional support needs to engage in physical activity and sport – through community engagement and partnership working – to result in better health outcomes for those with additional support needs within East Dunbartonshire.”

The forum meets three times a year and includes partners from Education, EDLC Leisure, Social Work, Health, Scottish Disability Sport, Disability Sport Glasgow, sportscotland, inclusive sports clubs and sports governing bodies.

The wider ASCS team also continually strives to improve the availability of local activity for children and young people with ASN and their families. Key projects for 24-25 include:

- A new gymnastics ASN session, which was introduced at the Allander Leisure Centre. Demand for the class is high and it is currently running at full capacity, with 10 children and their parents/ carers attending weekly.
- ASN swimming lessons continue to be fully booked, with an additional 40 children and young people on the waiting list. The success of these lessons is due to the dedicated staff within the aquatics team who are determined to increase the capacity of the programme in 2025-26 to accommodate as many young people as possible.

Community Sport in Nurseries & Schools

The CS team provides a range of activities that complement the extra-curricular Active Schools supported provision. These include:

- Primary Schools Rugby – three coaches each delivered 300 hours in local primary schools, creating links into the three local rugby clubs – Allan Glen’s, Lenzie and West of Scotland
- Curricular Football Programme – a paid programme of curricular sessions
- The Going for Gold nursery programme – which returned in August 2024 in partnership with the HSCP team in East Dunbartonshire. Ten weeks of activity was delivered to three targeted nurseries by multi-sports coaches.

Community Sport Coaching Staff Consultation

Throughout March 2025, the CS team carried out a process of consultation and information sharing with contracted and casual coaching staff. The purpose was to provide up-to-date information on the development of the new ASCS service and the locality delivery model, and to gather feedback from staff to help guide the development of the new Community Sport Annual Plan 2025-26.

The consultation took the form of an online questionnaire and in-person information evening, delivered by the ASCS Service Manager and Community Sport Team Leader.

The questionnaire was completed by 33 coaches and highlights included:

- 70% felt they were a valued member of the EDLCT Coaching Team
- 82% of coaches believe they have a good understanding of the EDLCT coaches procedures currently in place
- 85% of those who responded were interested in additional training, such National Governing Body (NGB) qualifications, first aid and child protection in sport.

When asked what they felt the Coaching and Community Sport Team currently did well, the top three answers were:

- Quality of classes (70%)
- Coaching syllabus (53%)
- Staff uniform (50%).

When asked what they felt needed improved across the Coaching and Community Sport Team the top three answers were:

- Equipment (68%)
- Communication with customers (68%)
- Staff training (61%).



The CS team is using this feedback to guide the development of the Community Sport Plan 2025-26, with a commitment to repeat the consultation process twice yearly in order to track changes, improve communication with staff and improve services over all.

Development of Course Pro

The launch of the new online booking system, Course Pro, was slightly delayed in February 2025 due to several system errors that required resolution. The delay reduced the advertisement of the Community Sport Easter Programme, however, the team managed this well and a robust Easter programme was delivered.

The continued development of the new system will eventually allow customers to book themselves into classes, reducing administration time for staff, improving the waiting times for children and young people to move through levels and increasing class capacity. The system will also allow the collection of pro-rata payments, increasing revenue per class.

Sportscotland Inclusive Project Investment – Inclusive Dance in East Dunbartonshire

The Active Schools Inclusive Dance programme is a four-year project which aims to create inclusive opportunities for young people in East Dunbartonshire to participate in dance. The project has completed its third year.

In year three, in order to build on the success of previous years, the team focused on the following key areas:

- Recruiting and upskilling our volunteers and young leaders in quality inclusive practice
- Fully embedding Active Schools within our Enhanced Learning Resource Units and Nurture Units in our mainstream schools through inclusive dance opportunities
- Setting up strong links with Woodland View ASN school to provide opportunities for ALL pupils to participate in dance
- Creating strong partnerships with local dance clubs to create more sustainable opportunities for young people to continue participating in inclusive dance outside of school.

During the academic year, the project worked with 317 pupils from across Woodland View School, Primary and Secondary Enhanced Learning Resource Units, as well as official and unofficial Nurture Units.

Four community Inclusive Dance sessions are now fully established within East Dunbartonshire. All clubs have strong links with the team and have been working closely with Woodland View School and units within mainstream schools. The coaches feel supported and valued by the Active Schools Team, schools and each other.

As well as providing a wealth of activity for pupils, the project has helped to embed Active Schools within 17 Nurture Units within the primary schools (11 official Nurture Units and six unofficial). This has greatly improved our Active Schools team’s ability to carry out targeted work in schools and build connections with pupils who do not participate in sport or who have numerous barriers to participation.

THE WAY FORWARD 2025/26

Developing ICT in Libraries

Following a successful bid for Shared Prosperity Funding for 2025/26, the library service will invest £30,000 updating the public access devices across all eight library branches. The project will ensure every library in East Dunbartonshire has new computer equipment, with the latest operating software, replacing ageing and unreliable hardware – which is often unavailable due to technical issues or malfunctions. The new devices will be available to all library users but specifically targeted at people who are digitally excluded through economic or social circumstances, particularly important in a cost-of-living crisis where some people may not be able to afford to maintain devices and internet access. It also specifically includes people who need privacy which may not be available in the home environment, such as those experiencing domestic abuse, and children and young people unable to study due to a disruptive home environment.

Kirkintilloch Town Hall

While continuing to operate as a vaccination centre, Kirkintilloch Town Hall is now fully operational as a public venue for meetings, social events and a wide range of community events, including dance classes, a drama group, cinema club, Citizens Advice Bureau, a flower club, religious meetings and a karate club. The EDLCT Heritage & Arts Team continues to expand the professional performance programme at Kirkintilloch Town Hall with comedy nights from well-known TV personalities. The Heritage Centre, located on the first floor of the town hall, is also fully open to the public, along with the community exhibition space which will see changing displays throughout the year, providing the opportunity to showcase a wider selection of the Civic collections.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charitable company generated an operating surplus of £196,717. Total unrestricted funds are now £1,487,593. In 2024 the operating surplus was £70,249 and the unrestricted fund was £1,293,829.

At 31st March 2025, the FRS102 pension valuation of the pension scheme resulted in a net pension asset of £16,842,000, this is not recognised in the Balance Sheet. In 2024 the net pension asset was £11,973,000. The balance on the pension fund will change annually according to economic conditions and the trustees will keep the position under review.

Measuring Performance

Financial performance is monitored regularly with senior management using financial and activity data. Other key performance indicators that are used centre around key usage data including absence data. Key performance information is presented quarterly at Board meetings and is also used for Local Government Benchmarking Framework.

Funding Streams for Projects

Funding continued to be sourced from a range of bodies including East Dunbartonshire Council, National Health Service, Lenzie Rugby Club, Scottish Rugby, Greenspace Scotland and sportscotland.

A wide range of measures are used to assess the performance of the charitable company against its goals. These are reported to the Board on a regular basis. Key performance indicators relate to customer visits and are monitored for library visits, museum visits, sports development participation levels, live active participation levels, swimming pools, other indoor and outdoor leisure facilities and concessionary visits. Total customer visits for the period to 31 March 2025 were 2,783,586.

Investment Policy

The charitable company has a high-interest account with automatic transfer of funds into its investment account. This account and interest from the Lillie bequest and William Patrick Memorial Fund has generated interest of just under £45,000 during the period.

Risk Management

East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust has a risk register which focuses on key areas that could impact on the company's ability to operate including financial, reputational and operational risks. East Dunbartonshire Council's Internal Audit Team also carries out reviews of EDLCT processes and procedures.

Risks and Uncertainties

EDLCT has a risk register detailing the principal risks and uncertainties facing the company. The risk register also details causes, effects, likelihood and control measures. Listed below are the risks and uncertainties identified in the risk register:

- Failure of technology leading to service disruption
- Failure to obtain adequate financial agreement with East Dunbartonshire Council
- Failure to comply with health and safety policies
- Failure to effectively maintain and operate property assets
- Failure to comply with information and records management
- Ineffective partnership management
- Failure of governance and compliance mechanisms
- Failure to achieve participation levels and income targets in line with service level agreements
- Inability to recruit and retain appropriately skilled staff
- Failure to effectively adapt to change
- Failure to manage COVID-19 impact on services and income.

Principal Funding Sources

EDLCT received a management fee of £5,226,000 from East Dunbartonshire Council in the year ended 31st March 2025. Funds were also received from a number of funding partners including sportscotland, East Dunbartonshire Council, Scottish Rugby, Lenzie Rugby Club, NHS, Museums Gallery Scotland and the Scottish Libraries and Information Council.

These resources are used to deliver the key activities identified in the services agreement with East Dunbartonshire Council and also additional projects that reflect the key objectives of the charitable company.

External Funding

An amount of additional funding was secured from external sources to support the delivery of activities across the Trust service areas. Key funding included:

East Dunbartonshire Council – Lennoxtown Arts	£35,000
Remembering Together	£12,983
NHS	£22,167
sportscotland	£336,253
Museum Gallery Scotland	£2,500
The Scottish Library	£16,513

Reserves Policy

The Board has approved an unrestricted reserve of £500,000 of operational income to be set aside to provide some protection and mitigate against future economic conditions.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company which have not been designated for any other purpose.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside for a specific purpose, which will be utilised during the next and future accounting periods against specific expenditure for asset improvement.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statement, 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Trust's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Disclosure of Information to the Auditor

- To the knowledge and belief of each of the persons who are trustees at the time the report is approved:
- So far as the trustee is aware, there is no relevant information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- He/she has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information, and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of the information.

Auditor

The auditor, Wbg (Audit) Limited, is deemed to be appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

In approving the Trustees' Report, the trustees are also approving the Strategic Report in their capacity as company directors.

Approved by the Board on 8th October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Chair
Jim Gibbons

Date 8 October 2025.....

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Trustees and Members of
East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flow and related 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company’s affairs as at 31 March 2025, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees’ use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Financial Statements, other than the financial statements and trustees report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report and Financial Statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees, which includes the directors report prepared for the purpose of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors Report included within the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Directors’ remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies’ regime and take advantage of the small companies’ exemption in preparing the directors’ report and from the requirements to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees’ responsibilities statement set out on page 44, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain 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 our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

We identify and assess risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we have considered the following:

- The nature of the charitable company and the sector it operates in; and
- Our enquiries of management about their identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities.

Based on our understanding of the charity and the industry we identified that the principal risks of non- compliance with laws and regulations related to, but were not limited to;

- Regulations and legislation pertinent to the charitable company's sector; and
- UK tax and Employment legislation;

We considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material impact on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations which have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements, such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. We evaluated management and trustees’ incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of management override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to;

- Management bias in accounting estimates;
- Posting inappropriate journal entries.

Audit response to the risks identified;

- Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:
- Management bias in accounting estimates;
 - Gaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the charity and the sector in which it operates;
 - Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
 - Enquiring of management, the audit committee, the internal auditors and legal advisors concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
 - Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, reviewing internal audit reports and reviewing correspondence with HMRC;
 - In addressing the risk of fraud as a result of management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and, evaluating rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business;
 - Review of journals included but was not limited to the following areas:
 - » Depreciation
 - » Income
 - » Accruals
 - » Bank
 - » Pension scheme
 - » Investments

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members, and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

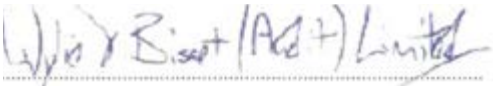
Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at:

<https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx> This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company’s members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company’s members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

 8th October 2025

Scott Gillon, BA (Hons) FCCA CA
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of Wbg (Audit) Limited, Statutory Auditor
168 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4TP
Wbg (Audit) Limited is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Statement
for the year ended 31st March 2025)

	Notes	Operating Fund 2025	Restricted Fund 2025	Total Fund 2025	Total Fund 2024
Incoming from					
Charitable activities	3	13,518,303	89,163	13,607,466	13,003,178
Investment Income	3	52,475	-	52,475	40,421
Total		13,570,778	89,163	13,659,941	13,043,599
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities	4	13,450,014	88,955	13,538,969	12,553,497
Total					
Net gains on Investments	18	-	2,742	2,742	29,147
Transfer between funds	17	-	-	-	-
Net income		120,764	2,950	123,714	519,249
Other recognised gains or (losses)					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension scheme	9	73,000		73,000	449,000
Net movement in funds					
Reconciliation of funds		193,764	2,950	196,714	70,249
Total fund balances brought forward	-	1,293,829	417,731	1,711,560	1,641,311
Total fund balances carried forward					
	17	1,487,593	420,681	1,908,274	1,711,560

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
The notes on pages 53 to 69 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes		2025		2024
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10	-	14,902	-	3,094
Investment	20		341,740		341,411
Current assets					
Stock	11	2,266	-	1,908	-
Debtors	12	481,051	-	680,547	-
Cash at bank and in hand		2,864,112	-	2,466,660	-
			3,347,429		3,149,115
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,795,797)	-	(1,782,060)	-
Net current assets	-	-	1,551,632	-	1,367,056
Net assets excluding pension liability	-	-	1,908,274	-	1,711,560
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	-	-	1,908,274	-	1,711,560
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds (excluding pension reserve)	17	-	1,487,593	-	1,293,828
Pension reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted funds	17	-	420,681	-	417,731
Funds	-	-	1,908,274	-	1,711,560

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 8th October 2025

Chair
Jim Gibbons

Secretary
Maeve Kilcoyne

Company number SC389516

The notes on pages 53 to 69 form part of these financial statements.

CASHFLOW

Cash flows from operating activities	Notes	2025	2024
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	18	356,826	189,286
Cash flows from investment activities			
Dividends and interest from investments		52,474	40,421
Proceeds from the sales of investments		50,064	85,247
Purchase of investments		(61,912)	(184,714)
Net cash used in investing activities		40,626	(59,046)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		397,452	130,240
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		2,466,660	2,336,420
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		2,864,112	2,466,660

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 as issued by the Financial Reporting Council, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) “Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)”, the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102 and has taken advantage of paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 4 of the Companies Act and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the charitable company's activities.

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

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires trustees to exercise judgements in the process of applying accounting policies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates.

Actual outcomes in the future could differ from such estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 2.

Income and expenditure

Owing to the special nature of the business of the charitable company and in the interests of presenting the results clearly to the members, it is considered inappropriate to adhere to the income and expenditure format described under Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006. A statement of financial activities has been prepared in a form which is considered to give the members a true and fair view of the results for the period and which also complies with the requirement of Section 400 of the Act and Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

Going concern

In the Trustee's opinion, the charitable company will be able to continue for the foreseeable future. EDLCT participates in a defined benefit retirement scheme, excluding this scheme, the charity reported unrestricted funds of £1,487,593.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds

Surplus revenue funds held within unrestricted funds are carried forward to meet the cost of future activities mainly of a revenue nature.

Commitments for specific activities and needs in the future are dealt with by making allocations to designated funds.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the appropriate fund, together with a fair allocation of management support costs where this is considered appropriate.

Incoming resources

Membership subscriptions and income from sport and physical activity is recognised in the period in which the charitable company is entitled to receipt, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is deferred only when the charitable company has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it.

Grant income is recognised in the Statement of Financial activities in the period in which the charitable company is entitled to receipt, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Such income is deferred when the charitable company has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it.

Management fees and other incoming resources are recognised in the period to which they relate.

Investment income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Where possible, expenditure has been charged direct to charitable expenditure or governance cost. Where this is not possible the expenditure has been allocated on the basis of time spent by staff on each activity.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charitable company in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charitable company and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management and set-up of the charitable company.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charitable company but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Trusts. Support costs have been allocated centrally to Leisure and Management or where clearly chargeable have been allocated directly to Culture and Libraries.

Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value in the ordinary course of activities.

Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal.

Debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed. Trade debtors are recognised at the undiscounted amount of cash receivable, which is normally invoice price, less any allowances for doubtful debts.

Cash and liquid resources

Cash, for the purpose of the cash flow statement, comprises cash in hand and deposits repayable on demand, less overdrafts payable on demand.

Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired. They are recognised at the undiscounted amount owed to the supplier, which is normally the invoice price.

Financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial instruments are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial instruments are initially measured at transaction prices unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction which includes transaction costs for financial instruments not subsequently measured at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition, they are accounted for as set out below. A financing transaction is measured at the present value of the future payment discounted at the market rate of interest for similar debt instrument.

Financial instruments are classified as either “basic” or “other” in accordance with Chapter 11 of FRS 102.

At the end of each reporting period, basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost using the effective rate method. All financial instruments not classified as basic are measured at fair value at the end of the reporting period with the resulting changes recognised in income or expenditure. Where the fair value cannot be reliably measured, they are recognised at cost less impairment.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from assets expire, or when the charitable company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised only once that liability has been extinguished through discharge, cancellation or expiry.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

It is the policy of the charitable company to capitalise expenditure of a capital nature in excess of £5,000.

Assets donated to the charitable company are included in the Balance Sheet and Statement of Financial Activities at cost.

Depreciation is charged to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of fixed assets by equal instalments over their useful lives as follows:

Furniture and equipment:	5 – 10 years
Gym equipment:	1 – 5 years

Investments

Investments are held with Brewin Dolphin who manage the Lillie Bequest Fund and William Patrick Memorial Fund.

VAT

The charitable company is partially exempt from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as an expense.

Taxation

The company has charitable status and is therefore exempt from taxation under Sections 466 to 493 Corporation Act 2010 (CTA 2010).

Pensions

East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust is a member of the Strathclyde Pension Fund, a Local Government Pension Scheme, which is a defined pension scheme. The fund is administered by Glasgow City Council in accordance with the Local Government Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 1998 as amended. All existing and new employees have the option of joining the Fund. The assets and liabilities of the scheme are held separately from those of the Trust in an independently administered fund.

The pension costs charged in the period are based on actuarial methods and assumptions designed to spread the anticipated pension costs over the service life of employees in the scheme, so as to ensure that the regular pension costs represent a substantially level percentage of the current and expected pensionable payroll. Variation from regular costs is spread over the remaining service lives of current employees in the scheme.

The cost of providing benefits is determined using the Projected Unit Credit Method, with actuarial valuations being carried out at each reporting date. Actuarial gains and losses arising from expenditure adjustments and changes in assumptions are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities. All costs related to the defined benefit scheme are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The retirement benefit obligation recognised in the balance sheet represents the present value of the defined benefit obligation as reduced by the fair value of plan assets. Any asset resulting from the calculation is limited to the present value of available refunds and reductions in future contributions to the plan.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date, or whenever an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. Termination benefits are recognised in the statement of financial activities when it is demonstrably committed to either (i) terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal, or (ii) providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.

2 Critical judgements and estimates

In preparing the financial statements, trustees make estimates and assumptions which affect reported results, financial position and disclosure of contingencies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of the estimates, together with past experience and expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results in the future could differ from such estimates.

Critical judgments are made in the application of income recognition accounting policies, and the timing of the recognition of income in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Depreciation is an estimate of the charge to write off the cost less estimated residual value of fixed assets by equal instalments over the useful life.

Defined benefit pension and other post-employment benefits

The present value of the defined benefit pension and other post-employment benefit obligations depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a number of assumptions. The assumption used in determining the net cost (income) for pension and other post-employment benefits include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions will have an effect on the carrying amount of pension and other post-employment benefits.

After taking appropriate professional advice, management determines the appropriate discount rate at the end of each reporting period. This is the interest rate that should be used to determine the present value of estimated future cash outflows expected to be required to settle the pension obligations. In determining the appropriate discount rate, consideration is given to the interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits are to be paid and that have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related pension liability.

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) – McCloud judgement. Legislation requires the LGPS to undertake periodic valuations to monitor the cost of the LGPS to ensure it remains sustainable and affordable. The cost management process has been paused following the Court of Appeal ruling that the transitional arrangements in both the Judges' Pension Scheme (McCloud) and Firefighter's Pension Scheme (Sargeant) were age discriminatory. These cases could have knock on implications for the LGPS (potentially increasing the liabilities). The Trust's actuary has included an estimate within the pension liability as a past service cost which will be subject to future revision as the outcome of the judgement becomes clearer in line with the upcoming valuation.

3. Income

Investment Income

Investment income comprises bank interest and dividends. In 2025 bank interest received was £52,475 (2024: £40,421).

Income from Charitable Activities

Income is attributable to sporting activity fees and other sales throughout EDLCT. In addition, a management service fee of £5,226,000 (2024: £5,332,700) was received from East Dunbartonshire Council for the period. Membership fees is income collected by Direct Debit membership of EDLCT’s leisure facilities.

2025	Leisure and management	Sports development, community fitness and active schools	Cultural and libraries	2025 Total	2024 Total
Grants, donations partnership	-	429,847	66,996	496,843	599,660
Rental income/lets	14,500	-	75,797	90,297	45,489
Sales, fees and charges	3,027,846	934,876	114,704	4,077,426	4,241,967
Membership income	3,151,900	-	-	3,151,900	2,362,362
Management service fee	5,226,000	-	-	5,226,000	5,332,700
Finance	565,000	-	-	565,000	421,000
Total	11,985,246	1,364,723	257,497	13,607,466	13,003,178

2024	Leisure and management	Sports development, community fitness and active schools	Cultural and libraries	2024 Total	2023 Total
Grants, donations partnership	8,113	474,708	116,839	599,660	505,610
Rental income/lets	14,470	-	31,019	45,489	42,377
Sales, fees and charges	3,421,231	733,859	86,877	4,241,967	2,856,272
Membership income	2,362,362	-	-	2,362,362	1,595,759
Management service fee	5,332,700	-	-	5,332,700	5,332,700
Finance	421,000	-	-	421,000	-
Total	11,559,876	1,208,567	234,735	13,003,178	10,332,717

Income on charitable activities was £13,607,466 (2024: £13,003,178) of which £13,518,303 was unrestricted (2024: £12,755,942) and £89,163 (2024: £247,236) was restricted.

4. Charitable Expenditure

2025	Leisure and management	Sports development, community fitness and active schools	Cultural and libraries	2025 Total	2024 Total
Employee costs	5,064,069	1,684,211	1,768,922	8,517,202	8,175,218
Property costs	2,637,717	72	120,699	2,758,488	2,256,675
Supplies and services	1,050,189	37,875	362,482	1,450,546	1,281,102
Investment expenditure	-	-	2,411	2,411	2,069
Support services	621,783	-	127,688	749,471	794,265
Bank charges	60,851	-	-	60,851	44,168
Total	9,434,609	1,722,158	2,382,202	13,538,969	12,553,497

2024	Leisure and management	Sports Development, Community Fitness and Active Schools	Cultural and libraries	2024 Total	2023 Total
Employee costs	4,630,621	1,738,988	1,805,609	8,175,218	8,610,208
Property costs	2,144,713	883	111,079	2,256,675	1,918,828
Supplies and services	854,389	40,360	386,353	1,281,102	1,120,299
Finance expenditure	-	-	-	-	168,000
Investment expenditure	-	-	2,069	2,069	1,558
Support services	606,100	-	188,165	794,265	804,892
Bank charges	44,168	-	-	44,168	29,367
Total	8,279,991	1,780,231	2,493,275	12,553,497	12,653,152

Expenditure on charitable activities was £13,538,969 (2024: £12,533,497) of which £13,450,015 was unrestricted (2024: £12,315,161) and £88,955 (2024: £238,336) was restricted.

5. Analysis of Governance and Support Costs

	General support	Governance	2025	2024
Grounds maintenance	290,000	-	290,000	290,000
Corporate services	176,302	28,312	204,614	195,753
Facilities management - cultural	68,638	-	68,638	125,064
Refuse	25,920	-	25,920	24,000
Transport	19,960	-	19,960	19,960
Cash uplift	13,096	-	13,096	18,469
Printing	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Telephone	9,000	-	9,000	9,000
Pest control	2,252	-	2,252	2,250
Repairs-culture	58,800	-	58,800	63,101
Repairs-leisure	35,338	-	35,338	31,292
Licences	6,853	-	6,853	376
Total	721,159	28,312	749,471	794,265

General support costs in 2025 were £721,159 and governance costs were £28,312.

6. Governance costs

	2025	2024
Audit fees	19,823	17,200
Trustee indemnity insurance	8,008	7,150
Trustee expenses	481	2,915
Total	28,312	27,265

7. Staff Costs and Numbers

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	6,735,692	6,448,707
Social security costs	534,721	500,289
Other pension costs	1,024,445	1,090,076
Other staff costs	222,344	135,246
Total	8,517,202	8,175,218

Employees receiving salaries, including benefits in kind, of more than £60,000 were in the following band (excluding employer pension costs):

	2025	2024
£100,000 - £109,999	1	1

This employee is a member of the pension scheme.

Key management personnel comprises only the General Manager. The total employee benefits were £131,244. (2024 - £127,045)

The average weekly number of employees during the period was made up as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Head Office - full-time	5	5
Facilities - full-time	106	113
Facilities - part-time	271	230

During the period no trustee received any remuneration. Trustee expenses are disclosed in note 6.

8. Operating (Deficit)/Surplus

The operating (deficit)/surplus is stated after charging:	2025	2024
Auditor's remuneration for audit (including expenses)	17,200	17,200
Depreciation	3,774	1,759

9. Pension Costs

- EDLCT is an admitted body of the Strathclyde Pension Fund. The superannuation fund is a defined benefit scheme into which employees and employers contribute, and interest and dividends from investments are paid and from which pensions, lump sums and superannuation benefits are paid out. Employees contributions are tiered and employer's basic contributions are assessed every three years by an actuary and are fixed to ensure the fund remains solvent and in a position to meet its future liabilities. The actuarial method used is known as Projected Unit Credit Method.
- The pension net asset was valued at £16,842,000 at 31st March 2025. This pension asset was limited to nil and the rationale for limiting this position is as follows
- The calculation of a surplus at 31st March 2025 as part of an annual actuarial valuation does not in itself give rise to a reduction in contributions;
- If the entity's right to a refund of a surplus depends on the occurrence or non occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within its control, the entity does not have an unconditional right and should not recognise an asset;
- Creation of an asset for accounting purposes by undertaking an actuarial valuation does not give rise to a legal right to the asset created.

The movement in the defined obligation over the year is as follows:	31 March 2025 £000	31 March 2024 £000
Opening defined benefit obligation	27,757	26,545
Current service cost	1,050	1,006
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	1,365	1,278
Contribution by members	345	301
Benefits paid	(534)	(682)
Unfunded benefits paid	(25)	(23)
Changes in financial assumptions	(5,195)	(1,985)
Changes in demographic assumptions	(47)	(551)
Other experience	(219)	1,868
Closing defined benefit obligation	24,497	27,757

	31 March 2025 £000	31 March 2024 £000
Opening fair value of plan assets	39,730	35,388
Interest income on plan assets	1,930	1,699
Contribution by members	345	301
Contribution by the employer	387	1,011
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	25	23
Benefits paid	(534)	(682)
Unfunded benefits paid	(25)	(23)
Other experience	-	188
Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	(519)	1,825
Closing fair value of plan assets	41,339	39,730

	31 March 2025 £000	31 March 2024 £000
Current service cost	(1,050)	(1,006)
Past service cost	-	-
Total service cost	(1,050)	(1,006)

Net Interest	31 March 2025 £000	31 March 2024 £000
Interest income on plan assets	1,930	1,699
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	(1,365)	(1,278)
Total service cost	565	421

Total defined benefit cost recognised in net income/expenditure per the SOFA	(1,024)	(2,284)
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The major categories of plan assets as a % of the total plan assets are as follows:

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Equities	60	58
Bonds	23	27
Property	9	10
Cash	8	5

The estimated employer contributions for the year to 31 March 2026 are £408,000.

The principal actuarial assumptions used in the calculations are:

	31 March 2025 %	31 March 2024 %
Pension Increase Rate (CPI)	2.75	2.75
Salary Increase Rate	3.45	3.45
Discount Rate	5.80	4.85

Mortality

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2020 model, with a 0% weighting of 2020 data, standard smoothing (Sk7), initial assessment of 0.5% and a long-term rate of improvement of 1.5% p.a. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current Pensioners	18.6 years	23.7 years
Future Pensioners	20.9 years	25.0 years

Under the Transfer Agreement entered into between EDLCT and East Dunbartonshire Council, the Council has undertaken to guarantee the pension scheme should the liability crystallise and insufficient funds be held by EDLCT to settle their obligation.

The pension scheme was transferred to the charitable company with effect from 1 April 2011, at which date the actuarial valuation showed a liability of £414,000.

10. Tangible fixed assets

Cost	Furniture and Equipment	Total
As at 1 April 2024	333,007	333,007
Additions	15,582	15,582
Write off of Equipment	(85,505)	(85,505)
As at 31 March 2025	263,084	263,084

Depreciation	Furniture and Equipment	Total
As at 1 April 2024	329,913	329,913
Charge	3,774	3,74
Write off of Equipment	(85,505)	(85,505)
As at 31 March 2025	248,182	248,182

Net book value	Furniture and Equipment	Total
As at 31 March 2025	14,902	14,902
As at 31 March 2024	3,094	3,094

11. Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Goods for re-sale	2,266	1,908

12. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts owed from East Dunbartonshire Council	235,226	297,060
Trade debtors	81,523	279,927
Other debtors and prepayments	164,302	103,560
Total	481,051	680,547

13. Creditors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts owed to East Dunbartonshire Council	1,035,145	1,112,150
Trade creditors	206,945	41,653
Other creditors	164,879	262,615
Accruals and deferred income	204,081	160,703
Superannuation	61,620	10 8,876
P.A.Y.E.	56,006	42,622
National Insurance	67,121	53,441
Total	1,795,797	1,782,060

14. Deferred income

	2025 £	2024 £
Balance as at 1st April	32,267	10,891
Amounts released to income during the year	(32,267)	(10,891)
Amounts deferred in year	18,651	32,267
Balance as at 31st March	18,651	32,267

15. Financial assets and liabilities

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial Assets at amortised cost	942,102	680,547
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(1,612,267)	(1,456,081)
Balance as at 31 March	(670,165)	(775,534)

16. Share capital

The charitable company is limited by guarantee of £1 per member and has no share capital.

17. Reserves

Balance at 31 March 2025 represented by

Funds 2025	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Fixed assets	14,902	341,739	356,641	344,504
Net current assets	1,472,691	78,492	1,551,633	1,367,056
Total	1,487,593	420,681	1,908,274	1,711,560

Funds 2024	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Fixed assets	3,094	341,410	344,504	218,281
Net current assets	1,290,735	76,321	1,367,056	1,423,029
Total	1,293,829	417,731	1,711,560	1,641,311

Unrestricted Funds 2025

Unrestricted, designated and pension reserves	Opening balance 1 April 2024	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Actuarial gain(loss)	Closing balance 31 March 2025
Unrestricted fund - contingency	793,828	13,570,778	(13,377,011)	-	-	987,593
Unrestricted fund – general	500,000	-	-	-	-	500,000
Total	1,293,828	13,570,778	(13,377,011)	-	-	1,487,593

Unrestricted, designated and pension reserves	Opening balance 1 April 2023	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Actuarial gain(loss)	Closing balance 31 March 2024
Unrestricted fund - general	910,844	12,796,357	(12,764,162)	(443,039)	-	500,000
Unrestricted fund – contingency	-	-	-	793,828	-	793,828
Designated fund Active Schools	350,789	-	-	(350,789)	-	-
Total	1,293,828	12,796,357	(12,764,162)	-	-	1,293,828

Restricted Funds 2025

Programme/Activity	Opening Balance 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains/	Transfer to unrestricted	Closing balance 2025
Heritage Tales and Trails	14,141	-	5,750	-	-	8,391
Lennoxtown Arts	-	35,000	34,738		-	262
NHS-Physical Activity Programme	12,366	22,167	24,697	-	-	9,836
Robert Lillie and William Patrick Memorial Trust	341,408	-	2,411	2,742	-	341,739
Remembering Together	13,299	12,983	18,859	-	-	7,423
School of Rugby	2,823	-	-	-	-	2,823
Wee Green Van	33,694	-	-			33,694
Museum Gallery Scotland	-	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
PLIF Digital	-	16,513	-	-	-	16,513
Total	417,731	89,163	88,955	2,742	-	420,681

Restricted Funds 2024

Programme/Activity	Opening Balance 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains/ (Losses	Transfer to unrestricted	Closing balance 2024
Heritage Tales and Trails	(4,037)	21,839	3,661	-	-	14,141
Lennoxtown Arts	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
NHS-Physical Activity Programme	32,835	-	20,469	-	-	12,366
Robert Lillie and William Patrick Memorial Trust	213,427	100,904	2,069	29,147	-	341,408
Remembering Together	-	90,000	76,701	-	-	13,299
School of Rugby	2,862	29,500	29,538	-	-	2,823
Wee Green Van	33,694	-	-			33,694
William Patrick Memorial Trust	379,678	247,243	238,335	29,147	-	417,731
Memorial Trust	100,897	-	100,897	-	-	-
Total	379,678	247,243	238,335	29,147	-	417,731

Heritage Tails and Trails is funding, mainly from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, to create a network of East Dunbartonshire heritage trails.

The NHS contributes to various fitness projects, including a walking post. These initiatives encourage concerned and coordinated action to increase levels of physical activity among people in East Dunbartonshire.

Lennoxtown Arts project enables commissioning of an artist in residence to deliver the artist brief prepared in conjunction with the Council's Regeneration and Town Centres and Community Planning Partnership.

The Cultural Services team continued to work in partnership with EDC and Greenspace Scotland to deliver Phase 2 of 'Remembering Together', the national COVID remembrance project, which is funded by the Scottish Government.

Robert Lillie Trust and William Patrick Memorial Trust are monies held with an external financial company invested to secure monies that have to be used for the Lillie Art Gallery and William Patrick Library.

School of Rugby is funding from Scottish Rugby Union, Lenzie Rugby Club and East Dunbartonshire Council, and helps children to improve their fitness and educational attainment.

The Scottish Library Information Council has funded a branded electric van for outreach work (Wee Green Van) and it is being used to deliver resources and activities in local communities.

The PLIF (Public Library Information Fund) Digital project is funded by the Scottish Government Public Library Improvement fund and managed by the Scottish Library & Information Council. The PLIF Digital project will develop digital workshop programmes targeted at 12 to 16-year-olds and involving those participants in the development of digital activities for children of primary school age.

Museum Gallery Scotland funded a project engaging secondary school pupils providing insight into careers in museums, archives and local studies.

18. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows

Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities.

	2025	2024
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the SOFA)	196,717	70,249
(Losses)/Gains on Investments	(2,742)	(29,147)
Investment management costs	(2,411)	(2,069)
Decrease in investment cash balances	1,086	2,701
Dividends and interest from investments	(52,473)	(40,421)
Depreciation	3,774	1,759
(increase)/decrease in stock	(358)	2,236
Decrease in debtors	199,496	85,033
Increase in creditors	13,737	98,945
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating facilities	356,826	(189,285)

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	2025	2024
Cash in hand	2,864,112	2,466,660
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,864,112	2,466,660

19. Related Parties

EDLCT works in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Council with which transactions have been undertaken during the period. The relevant transactions and balances with East Dunbartonshire Council were:

2024/25			
Income £	Expenditure £	Due from £	Due to £
5,862,662	2,914,084	297,060	1,112,150

2023/24			
Income	Expenditure	Due from	Due to
6,703,383	2,610,318	176,862	1,112,150

All buildings operated by EDLCT are leased from East Dunbartonshire Council for a peppercorn rental.

20. Movement in Investments

	2025	2024
Net assets brought forward	341,411	213,429
Investment income	(6,999)	7
Investment management costs	(2,411)	(2,069)
Realised investment gains	9,881	99,433
Unrealised investment gains/(losses)	(143)	30,611
Net assets carried forward	341,739	341,411

The investment is split as follows –

Robert Lillie Trust	(68%)	£232,383
William Patrick Memorial Trust	(32%)	£109,357

