

## News release on behalf of the Accounts Commission - reporting independently on the performance of local government in Scotland.

Embargoed until 00:01 hours, 30 November 2023

### Dundee City Council is well-run, with a clear vision to address challenges

Dundee City Council has shown effective leadership, good financial management and engagement with communities as it seeks to tackle long-standing issues. Reporting on its performance and progress is clear, with a focus on continuous improvement.

In a new report, the Accounts Commission says the council has a strong commitment to working and engaging with communities across the city.

It is clear, however, that long-standing difficulties remain. Dundee has high levels of deprivation, drug deaths and child poverty, and there are challenges to reducing the educational attainment gap. The council is taking action to tackle this, but it will take time to determine the impact of this work.

#### Ronnie Hinds, Interim Chair of the Accounts Commission said:

“Councillors and staff at Dundee City Council continue to be focused on the needs of local people. There is clear leadership, a commitment to improve and action in response to audit recommendations. A strong vision for the future of the city is embedded in the council’s strategies and plans. The council should look to share its approach with other councils.

“Given the significant challenges the city faces, and the ongoing need for financial savings, it’s critical that the council maintains and continues the progress it has made.”

For further information contact Joanna Mansell Tel: 07970331858 [jmansell@audit-scotland.gov.uk](mailto:jmansell@audit-scotland.gov.uk) or [media@audit-scotland.gov.uk](mailto:media@audit-scotland.gov.uk)

#### Notes to Editors:

1. This report is the second to reflect [the Accounts Commission’s new approach to Best Value](#). It is fully integrated into annual audit work, reported in Annual Audit Reports, and includes detailed work each year on a national theme. For 2022-23 the national theme is strategic leadership.
2. The Controller of Audit will report to the Accounts Commission on each council’s performance on their duty of Best Value at least once over the five-year audit appointment. The Commission will then choose how it wishes to respond.
3. The Accounts Commission [last reported on Best Value in Dundee City Council in September 2020](#).

4. The Accounts Commission holds councils and local government bodies in Scotland to account and helps them improve. It operates impartially and independently of councils and of the Scottish Government and meets and reports in public.
5. Audit Scotland is a statutory body set up in April 2000, under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000. It provides services to the Auditor General for Scotland and the Accounts Commission for Scotland.
6. All reports by the Accounts Commission and Auditor Scotland published since 2000 are available on the [Audit Scotland website](#).