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## News release on behalf of the Accounts Commission

Embargoed until 00:01 hours, 6 Feb 2025

# East Renfrewshire Council's services excel

**With high performing services, excellent engagement with local communities and strong relationships with key partners, East Renfrewshire Council is an exemplar to others.**

In a new report, the Accounts Commission says there is a real focus on targeting the needs of local people, using data to gain a deeper understanding of communities and the needs of the most vulnerable. The council's consistently strong performance was delivered despite the challenges of financial pressures.

Now the council faces a budget gap of around £32 million by 2027. Plans are being put in place to tackle this, following significant public consultation, with detailed income and savings plans needed. The Accounts Commission recognises that the council has the building blocks of strong, longer-term financial planning, including councillors working together across political parties.

The council has invested in its workforce, including a health and wellbeing programme, hybrid working and learning and development.

### **Andrew Burns, Deputy Chair of the Accounts Commission said:**

"East Renfrewshire excels in so many areas, with a focus on digital, data and dialogue with local people. Other councils can learn much from its engagement with partners and local communities.

"The size of the council, the scale of change needed, future demand and budgetary constraint, mean further innovation and service transformation must happen to secure the council's financial sustainability. The council will have to build on its strong record of partnership working to drive forward the innovation now needed."

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### **Notes to Editor:**

1. The Accounts [Commission last reported on East Renfrewshire Council in 2017](#).
2. All reports by the Accounts Commission and Auditor General published since 2000 are available at [www.audit.scot](http://www.audit.scot)

- The Accounts Commission is the public spending watchdog for local government. It holds councils and various joint boards and committees in Scotland to account and help them improve. It operates impartially and independently of councils and of the Scottish Government, and meets and reports in public.
- 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.

**ENDS**