THE SCOTTISH ROAD WORKS COMMISSIONER

Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26

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SG/2026/130

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Performance Report

Overview

This section provides information on the office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner's principal activities, purpose and the risks to achieving objectives for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Statement By Scottish Road Works Commissioner– Kevin Hamilton

The Scottish Road Works Commissioner (the Commissioner) is an independent statutory office holder established under Section 16 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act) and is accountable to the Scottish Ministers and ultimately the Scottish Parliament. The Office of Scottish Road Works Commissioner (SRWC) was initially filled in 2007. I was appointed SRWC on 9 November 2020.

The Corporate Plan covering the reporting period was published in 2023 for the period 2023-26. During the reporting period, I reviewed the plan and published a new Corporate Plan March 2026 covering the period 2026 to 2029. The plan continues to support the vision set out in the previous plan "To minimise the impacts of road works and support the transition towards Net Zero through improved standards and working practices". The plan includes four corporate outcomes:

1. Monitor the carrying out of road works in Scotland
2. Compliance with road works legislation
3. Promotion of good practice
4. Effective operation of the Commissioner's office

The Business Plan 2025/26 details the objectives for the year, linked to the corporate outcomes and includes three Key Performance Indicators (KPI) which reflect the corporate outcomes set out in the Corporate Plan. These KPIs are:

1. Issue a full performance review for each road works authority and statutory undertaker by end of June 2025.
2. Produce and disseminate three newsletters in line with RAUCS meeting cycle.
3. Percentage of general enquiries responded to within 5 working days (Target 95%).

Monitoring is undertaken through the Business Plan monitoring process. Most objectives set in the Business Plan 2025/26 were met. However, a number of objectives relating to support for meetings and timescales for publication of annual reviews were not fully met due to staff vacancy in the year.

I issued one financial penalty totalling £30,000 to a utility company during the reporting period (2024/25: £0). In line with statutory requirements, this income is not retained by my office and is payable to the Scottish Consolidated Fund.

Road Works Activity in Scotland

The number of road works registered in 2025/26 once again increased on the previous year.

There was a total of 178,489 road works registered in Scotland in the year to 31 March 2026, an increase of 12,194 (7%) compared to the year to 31 March 2025 (166,295).

Utility company road works totalled 129,915 (2024/25 122,954) which represents 72.8% (2024/25 73.9%) of all road works registered.

Roads authority road works totalled 48,574 (2024/25 43,341) which represents 27.2% (2024/25 26.1%) of all road works registered.

Unplanned works (ie those deemed to be either an emergency or urgent) accounted for 16.7% of all works (18% in 2024/25) and at 29,875 works, this was a reduction of 1.2% on 2024/25 (30,235). It is worth noting that the number of unplanned works remained less in 2025/26 (29,875) than it was in 2018/19 (31,051 works) and the proportion of all works that are unplanned has reduced from around 24% in 2018/19 to under 17% in 2025/26.

The performance of all organisations undertaking road works continued to be monitored on a quarterly basis during 2025/26 using data extracted from the Scottish Road Works Register. In addition the quarterly performance dashboards continued to be issued to all organisations undertaking road works in Scotland.

Purpose & Main Activities

History, Statutory Powers And Responsibilities

The Commissioner works with the road works community to oversee improvements to the planning, co-ordination and quality of road works in Scotland.

In particular the Commissioner:

- Monitors the carrying out of road works in Scotland, undertaken by both Roads Authorities and Utility Companies.

- Promotes compliance with the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (the 1991 Act) which sets out the general duties of road works authorities to co-ordinate works and for statutory undertakers to co-operate with road works authorities when undertaking works.

- Promotes the pursuit of good practice by those persons who have functions conferred on them or permissions granted to them by or under the 1991 Act.

The Commissioner has powers to request information from roads authorities and utility companies relevant to their respective functions and activities. The Commissioner also has

powers to impose financial penalties when systematic failure of duties under the 1991 Act occurs by either roads authorities or utility companies.

The Commissioner undertakes a dispute resolution function when a dispute between a roads authority and a utility company is escalated.

The Commissioner now employs seven staff who all report directly to the commissioner. In December 2024, one member of staff retired and the post was vacant for much of 2025, being filled in November 2025.

Use of Inspection Powers

The Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced new inspection powers for the Commissioner and authorised persons. These powers came into force on 1 April 2024 and two compliance officers were recruited in advance of the introduction of these powers. The Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 was amended to require the Commissioner to report annually on the use of the inspection powers.

In 2025/26 compliance activity again prioritised monitoring of roads authority signing, lighting and guarding practices. The compliance officers were tasked with visiting road authority sites and recording observations on compliance with the Code of Practice on Safety at Street Works and Road Works.

Between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, a total of 1,834 observations of road works sites were made in 27 (84%) local authority areas, and recorded in the Scottish Road Works Register. From these observations, the main issues identified continued to be a lack of provision for pedestrians and a lack of proper guarding of works activities.

The number of observations recorded in 2025/26 was lower than in 2024/25 due to a combination of factors including the more resource intensive nature of monitoring compliance notices and a planned reprioritisation of resources to examine co-ordination practices amongst roads authorities. However, the number of observations recorded was significantly higher than the target of 1,000.

Based on patterns observed, four compliance notices were issued as follows:

North Ayrshire Council was issued with a compliance notice on 3 April 2025 requiring it to comply with Safety at Street Works and Road Works: A Code of Practice. A series of follow-up meetings were held with managers and monitoring carried out during August and September 2025 showed significant improvement. As a result, the compliance notice was formally closed on 23 September 2025.

Aberdeen City Council was issued with a compliance notice on 30 September 2025 requiring it to comply with Safety at Street Works and Road Works: A Code of Practice. A follow-up meeting was held with managers and monitoring carried out during March 2026. Unfortunately, this did not show required levels of improvement. A further meeting was held, where the importance of meeting requirements of the compliance notice was

reiterated. A short time was allowed for further process improvements to be made, prior to further monitoring being undertaken during May 2026. This showed significant improvement. As a result, the compliance notice was formally closed on 18 June 2026.

Clackmannanshire Council was issued with a compliance notice on 9 October 2025 requiring it to comply with Safety at Street Works and Road Works: A Code of Practice. A follow-up meeting was held with managers and monitoring carried out during March 2026. Unfortunately, this did not show required levels of improvement. A further meeting was held, where the importance of meeting requirements of the compliance notice was reiterated. A short time was allowed for further process improvements to be made, prior to further monitoring being undertaken. Monitoring recommenced in June 2026 and is still ongoing, although this is expected to be concluded by end Summer 2026.

Stirling Council was issued with a compliance notice on 13 November 2025 requiring it to comply with the Safety at Street Works and Road Works: A Code of Practice. A series of follow-up meetings were held with managers and monitoring carried out between March and May 2026 showed significant improvement. As a result, the compliance notice was formally closed on 20 May 2026.

Key issues and risks affecting the organisation

Principal risks and how risks are managed and mitigated are noted in the Governance Arrangements report on page 15. During the reporting period, the risks identified had no significant impact on performance and the attainment of the Commissioner's objectives with the mitigation measures appearing to be effective.

Developments planned in 2026/27

The Business Plan 2026/27 sets out the key activities planned for the year. Highlights include the following:

- Continuation of monitoring of live road works sites to improve provision for pedestrians and vulnerable road users.

- Development of the Scottish Road Works Register to include a bus route conflict checking tool
- Development of proposals for a self service data portal for bus operators

In addition, the commissioner is working with the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Algebra, Geometry and Quantum Fields (a collaboration between the Universities of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Heriot Watt) on a challenge to improve tools for road works co-ordination. During the summer of 2026, two doctoral students are working on placement within the commissioners office on the challenge. This work is entirely funded by the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council.

Since the publication of the business plan, Scottish Government has indicated that it will be taking forward Public Service Reform in the coming year. It has also specifically committed to reforming Transport Scotland and other national transport bodies. The detail of how this

will affect the Scottish Road Works Commissioner is not clear at the time of writing but the commissioner has committed to the principles of the Public Service Reform Strategy and will work with the Scottish Government to support these principles.

Monitoring

The main sources of data available to the Scottish Road Works Commissioner's monitoring regime are:

- performance data from a suite of indicator reports in the Scottish Road Works Register (SRWR)
- observations of road works sites made by compliance officers and recorded in the SRWR
- statutory sample inspections of utility company road works by roads authorities, and
- biennial national coring programmes of the bound layers in utility company reinstatements.

The Scottish Road Works Register (SRWR) suite of indicators, which benchmarks roads authority and utility company road works performance across Scotland, and facilitates benchmarking against the rest of the UK, is regularly reviewed to enable organisations and the Commissioner to demonstrate continuous improvement.
The office started to make use of Power BI in 2025/26 and a full suite of dashboards has been created. This will be further tested in 2026/27 with the aim of utilising this technology to significantly improve the efficiency of the production of annual performance reviews and the annual road works monitoring report.

Best Practice And Community Engagement

The office continued to engage with the road works community at a national, area and local level in addition to membership of various working groups, promoting best practice, encouraging innovation and improved performance monitoring.

The office organised and ran a well attended webinar focussed on road works co-ordination in October 2025.

A key focus of engagement through 2025/26 was with bus operators. The commissioner held several meetings with industry representatives, visited individual bus operators and participated in two ministerial round-table events. This led to developments of the SRWR to include bus route information and revisions to the draft co-ordination code of practice.

The SRWR Manager and the commissioner supported and attended all meetings of the SRWR steering group and the Systems Assurance Team. These forums provide community input into the development and operation of the Scottish Road Works Register.

The Technical Standards Manager continued his engagement at a local level to improve compliance and communication between utility companies and roads authorities, helping to informally resolve issues before they significantly impacted road works performance.

However, the vacant Performance Manager post meant that normal levels of one-to-one engagement with organisations throughout the year were not maintained at the same levels as in previous years.

The commissioner continued his active engagement with various groups but in particular the Society of Chief Officers in Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS). He also engaged with the Transport Scotland Roads for All Forum.

The commissioner and staff have continued to actively participate in the Scottish Road Research Board (SRRB) and the Transport Scotland Pavement Forum (TSPF).

The commissioner continued to participate in discussions with the Department for Transport's review of the Code of Practice on Safety at Street Works and Road Works.

Legislative Regime Changes

The Scottish Road Works Register (Prescribed Fees) Regulations 2025 came into force 1 April 2025. Together with the Scottish Road Works Register (Prescribed Fees and Amounts) Regulations 2008 these Scottish statutory instruments cover the collection of fees and amounts from the user community for the operation of the Scottish Road Works Register during the 2025/26 financial year.

Principal Risks And Uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties are set out within the Governance Statement on page 15.

Going Concern Basis

The 2025/26 Annual Accounts have again been prepared on a "going concern" basis and there are no issues to report at this time. Both the SRWC and SRWR budgets are monitored monthly and 5 year forecasts reviewed.

Summary

The office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner is currently well placed to continue regulating the road works sector through engagement with the community across Scotland and overseeing improvements to the planning, co-ordination and quality of road works. In parallel, the office will continue to input to the development of road works policy.

Commissioner Performance Analysis

The Business Plan for 2025/26 included three Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to reflect the corporate outcomes described in the Corporate Plan 2023-2026 (the plan covering the reporting period).

The indicators were chosen to be easily measurable and to directly link to the outcomes as far as possible. They are shown in the table below:

KPI description	Corporate Outcome	Target	2025/26 Performance	2024/25 Performance
Annual Road Works Performance Reviews	1. Monitor the carrying out of road works in Scotland 2. Compliance with road works legislation	Issue a full performance review for each road works authority and statutory undertaker by end of June 2025	Partially achieved - Review letters were issued to road works authorities in June 2025 and to utilities in early July 2025.	Fully Achieved – performance review letters issued May 2024.
Regular community SRWC/SRWR newsletter	3. Promotion of good practice	Produce and disseminate three newsletters in line with RAUCS meeting cycle.	Fully Achieved – three newsletters produced and disseminated on time.	Fully Achieved – three newsletters produced and disseminated on time.
Customer Enquiries	4. Effective operation of the Commissioner's office	Respond to 95% of general enquiries within 5 working days.	Fully Achieved - 98% of 406 enquiries were dealt with within 5 working days	Fully Achieved - 98% of 307 enquiries were dealt with within 5 working days

In addition to these three KPIs, performance against the full set of objectives for the year is set out in the appendix to the Business Plan 2026/27 . Most business objectives were fully achieved in 2025/26. There were some objectives related to supporting meetings which were not fully achieved due to resources being diverted to cover the vacant Performance manager post. In addition, the vacant post meant that normal levels of engagement with organisations throughout the year were not maintained. It is considered that this led to a reduction in the number of organisations being rated as well managed or satisfactory.

Ongoing attendance at all HAUC(UK), RAUC(Scotland) and Area RAUC meetings is key to promoting good practice and improved performance across organisations undertaking road works. The office was routinely represented at all such meetings.

A customer satisfaction survey was undertaken amongst users of the SRWR again in 2025. The results were again very positive and have been reported to the SRWR Steering Group. The intention remains to repeat the survey annually.

It is a requirement of The Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) that the following are reflected in the Performance Report;

1. An explanation of the link between Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), risk and uncertainty.

The Key Performance Indicators are chosen to reflect the corporate outcomes described in the Corporate Plan. They also reflect the degree of risk and uncertainty in the performance of road works undertakers. They are reviewed annually through the business planning process.

2. An explanation of the development and performance of the organisation during the year.

The performance of the SRWC's office during 2025/26 can be found in the appendix to the Business Plan at:

Business Plan 2026/27

3. Non-financial information including social matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

In addition to taking guidance from Scottish Government HR policy and procedures, the office maintains a number of policies and procedures including a Code of Conduct, Equalities Statement and Environmental Policy. These documents are drafted to be appropriate for the small size and scale of the organisation.

Documents are reviewed on a regular basis in line with our policy review matrix. Each policy has a predetermined review schedule appropriate to the policy area it covers. Reviews consider current public sector requirements, statutory and non-statutory, and the content of other SRWC policies and guidance. The risk register is informed by the amelioration outlined for each specific policy area as well as key targets from the business plan. Assessing whether targets are achievable includes an evaluation of the potential risk that a target introduces.

As an independent public official the SRWC sets operational and office policies to meet the specific needs and unique work of the office. Where the office does not hold its own policy, Scottish Government policy is adopted. This takes advantage of the wider expertise of Scottish Government which is subject to stringent audit process.

Financial Position

The financial statements cover the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 and have been prepared in accordance with the accounts direction issued by Scottish Ministers.

Within the various statements, monies associated with the operation of the Scottish Road Works Register (SRWR), which is funded by the user community through the collection of Prescribed Fees and Amounts, are effectively ring fenced. In view of this, whilst not fully segmented, the accounts include segmented information.

SRWC Grant in Aid of £535k was awarded by Scottish Ministers, £525k of this was drawn down in accordance with the agreed profiling over the financial year (2024/25: £515k). The reduced drawdown of the GIA in 2025/26 was agreed with the sponsor team. SRWC expenditure in 2025/26 was £582k (2024/25: £567k).

SRWR Prescribed Fees and Amounts totalling £1,019k (2024/25 £899k) were collected from utility companies and roads authorities towards the provision of the register. In addition £20k (2024/25 £12k) was collected from new undertakers for access to the SRWR throughout the year depending on their date of joining. New monies collected totalled £1,039k (2024/25: £911k). Related expenditure during 2025/26 was £1,077k (2024/25: £975k). The Commissioner earned no income in the year on direct activities (2024/25: £nil).

Sustainability

The office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner is committed to functioning in as sustainable a manner as possible. In terms of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010, the office publishes its Sustainability, Efficiency Effectiveness and Economy Statement on the Commissioner's website. The 2025/26 statement is available to view at:

Sustainability, Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy Statement 2025/26

Performance Report



Kevin Hamilton
Scottish Road Works Commissioner and Accountable Officer
Date: 26 October 2026

Accountability Report

Corporate Governance Report

This section contains the Directors' Report, the Statement of Accountable Officer's Responsibilities and the Governance Statement.

Directors' Report

The Commissioner

I was appointed SRWC on 9 November 2020 for a five year term, my appointment was extended by an additional two years in 2024/25

Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Human Rights

The Commissioner is committed to continued compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and the Equality & Human Rights Commission's Code of Practice and supports the principles of equal opportunities in carrying out operational functions and employment practices. The Commissioner is committed to pursuing positive action in the organisation's policies and practices to ensure that no individual is discriminated against, either directly or indirectly, unlawfully or unjustifiably because of their personal status in relation to race, ethnic or national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual or marital status, or disability.

Pension Liabilities

Pensions and their associated benefits are provided through the Civil Service pension arrangements and administered for the Commissioner by the Scottish Government. Further information is included in Note 3 of the Accounts.

Register of Interests

The Commissioner publishes a Register of Interests. This is updated as required and reviewed annually. The register only details staff who have made disclosures. Where no disclosure has been made, there is no entry in the register for the staff member and this is clearly identified on the register. The current copy of declared interests is published on the Commissioner's website along with the Code of Conduct for the Commissioner's office.

The Register of Interests can be found in the following location:

Register of Interest 2025/26

The Code of Conduct is published on the SRWC website in Publications – Operational Information.

Code of Conduct

Auditors

The SRWC Accounts are audited by auditors appointed by the Auditor General for Scotland in accordance with paragraph 2(b) of Schedule 2 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005. Audit Scotland were appointed for a period of 5 years, commencing with the 2022/23 Accounts, under powers conferred by the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000. External audit remuneration fees of £19,330 are reflected in the accounts. Audit Scotland receive no fees in relation to non-audit work.

Provision of Information to Employees

The Scottish Road Works Commissioner has adopted the principles of openness and participation in the office and places a high level of importance on both informing and consulting staff. The Commissioner does so by providing access to management papers, through oral and written briefings, by regular staff meetings and events. Information is only withheld where this can be shown to be justified or where a duty of confidence is owed to a third party.

Personal Data Incidents

There were no personal data incidents during 2025/26.

Payment of Creditors

The Scottish Road Works Commissioner adopts Scottish Government policies and procedures in relation to the payment of suppliers. In 2025/26:100% (2024/25: 95.3%) of supplier invoices were paid within 10 days of receipt.

Significant Events Since the End of the Financial Year

There have been no significant events since the end of the financial year which require revision to the figures disclosed in the annual accounts under the terms of IAS 10: Events after the Reporting Period. In accordance with the requirements of IAS 10, events are reviewed and considered up to the date on which the accounts are authorised for issue. This is interpreted as the date on which the Independent Auditor's Report is signed.

Statement of Accountable Officer's Responsibilities

The Scottish Government designated the Scottish Road Works Commissioner as the Accountable Officer for the office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner. The relevant responsibilities as Accountable Officer, including the responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances, for the keeping of proper records and for safeguarding the Commissioner's assets, are set out in the Memorandum to Accountable Officers of Other Public Bodies issued by the Scottish Government and published in the Scottish Public Finance Manual.

Under Paragraph 2(a) Schedule 2 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005, the Scottish Ministers have directed the Commissioner to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year in the form and on the basis set out in the Accounts Direction. The accounts

are prepared on an accruals basis and must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Commissioner and of income and expenditure, recognising gains and losses and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the accounts, the Scottish Road Works Commissioner is required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual and the Scottish Public Finance Manual, with particular reference to:

i. Observing the Accounts Direction issued by Scottish Ministers (see Annex 1), including the relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and applying accounting policies on a consistent basis;

ii. Making judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis;

iii. Stating whether applicable accounting standards as set out in the Government Financial Reporting Manual have been followed and disclosing and explaining any material departures in the financial statements; and

iv. Preparing the accounts on a “going concern” basis.

I confirm that, as far as I am aware, there is no relevant audit information of which Audit Scotland are unaware, and that as Accountable Officer, I have taken all the steps I ought to have taken to make myself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that Audit Scotland are aware of that information.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts as a whole is fair, balanced and understandable and that I take personal responsibility for the annual report and accounts and the judgments required for determining that it is fair, balanced and understandable.

As Accountable Officer, I am responsible for the regularity and propriety of the public finances received from the Scottish Government and the collected “Prescribed Fees and Amounts”. In addition, I am required to keep proper records and to safeguard SRWC assets, all as set out in the Accountable Officer’s Memorandum issued by Scottish Ministers.

Governance Statement

As Accountable Officer, I have responsibility for putting in place and maintaining sound systems of governance and internal control that support the delivery of the office policies, aims and objectives. As noted in the “Statement of Accountable Officer’s Responsibilities” above, I am required to safeguard public funds and assets in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me and for which I am personally responsible.

The Scottish Public Finance Manual (SPFM) is issued by the Scottish Ministers to provide guidance to the Scottish Government and other relevant bodies on the proper handling and reporting of public funds. It sets out the relevant statutory, parliamentary and administrative requirements, emphasises the need for economy, efficiency and effectiveness and promotes good practice and high standards of propriety.

Governance Arrangements

In 2010, the Scottish Government sponsor unit agreed that given the independent status and the budget of the Office, the Commissioner would operate without an audit committee or advisory board. It was also agreed that the topic should be kept under review and that should any practical difficulties arise, that governance arrangements would be reviewed. I can confirm that no practical difficulties have arisen.

The agreement that the office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner would operate without an audit committee or advisory board was taken based on the following arrangements being in place to give assurance that there are adequate controls:

- an annual audit is undertaken by an independent auditor;
- audited annual accounts are published;
- the SRWC continues to utilise Scottish Government processes and procedures as much as possible;
- the SRWC continues to utilise Scottish Government services such as SCOTS, pensions and payroll;
- the SRWC meets regularly with the Scottish Government sponsor unit; and an internal audit is undertaken at appropriate intervals.

It was agreed in 2010 that given the reliance that the SRWC places on Scottish Government processes and systems, that internal audit of the office would form part of the Transport Scotland risk based plan for internal audit. As such internal audit is provided by Scottish Government and considered annually as part of the Transport Scotland audit planning process. This includes an advisory service on risk, control and governance and, where required, provide advice on urgent work where there are specific needs or problems.

Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the Commissioner‘s aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable, not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

The process within the organisation accords with the guidance from the Scottish Ministers provided in the Scottish Public Finance Manual and has been in place for the year ended 31 March 2026 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Accounts.

The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify principal risks to the achievement of the organisation's policies, aims and objectives. It evaluates the nature and extent of those risks and manages them efficiently, effectively and economically.

Significant risks affecting the organisation are associated with the Scottish Road Works Register, External Factors and Financial Loss.

Specific issues considered in compiling the office Risk Register, which could result in both financial and reputational loss to the organisation, include, or are informed by the following:

- The risk that the SRWR provider enters into financial difficulty resulting in the total loss of the register. The SRWC is "the keeper" of the SRWR which is provided by a private company. Mitigation measures have been put in place to reduce the severity and likelihood of this risk to the SRWC. In the event of total loss, the minimum requirements are set out by legislation and the SRWC would initiate these via a paper notices process. An emergency tender process would be initiated to find a new supplier.

- The risk that external issue(s) increase SRWC costs above agreed budget. Spending is closely monitored, however specific mitigation measures have been put in place to reduce the severity and likelihood of this risk to the SRWC. The Framework Document between Transport Scotland and the SRWC makes provision to amend the Grant in Aid payment profile to respond to business needs. Spending and risks are monitored on a monthly basis. An example of an external risk is the impact on the office of the provisions of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019.

- The risk that a member of staff could undertake fraudulent activity, resulting in significant financial loss for the SRWC. Mitigation has been put in place to reduce the severity and likelihood of this risk. Signatories to the accounts have been restricted and current banking arrangements restricts payments to £100k. Further mitigation has been applied with only the Commissioner being able to authorise final payment. The SRWC has a small team and is therefore able to monitor this closely. The SRWC holds monthly meetings to review accounts.

Further details of all risks assessed and mitigation measures are detailed in the SRWC's Risk Register.

I confirm that, in my opinion, the control arrangements are appropriate and effective and that no significant issues have been identified.

I confirm that I remain content with the financial and HR support provided by the Scottish Government and that the 2025/26 Annual Assurance Statement was submitted to the Cabinet Office on 14 August 2026.

Risk Management

All bodies to which the Scottish Public Finance Manual is directly applicable must operate a risk management strategy in accordance with relevant guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers. The general principles for a successful risk management strategy are set out in the SPFM.

The Risk Register is reviewed on a bi-annual basis. The Commissioner and staff regularly consider risk in respect of specific issues, all staff have completed risk management training. As new risks emerge or existing risks change, adjustments are made to the SRWC Risk Register.

The Business Continuity Plan is reviewed to reflect staff and legislation changes, and any other issues which would have an impact on the continued operation of the office. A major review of the Business Continuity Plan was undertaken in 2023/24. This included validating the plan by completing a number of exercise scenarios. A review is completed annually, as well as conducting a business review whenever there is a change within the organisation.

By doing this, it ensured that staff know their roles and responsibilities in the event of an unexpected incident and how to respond following agreed procedures. This will allow for the most important functions and systems critical to the Scottish Road Works Commissioner to be up and running in the shortest possible time frame.

Reviews of the Risk Register and Business Continuity Plan take account of any changes required due to advice from professional advisors or the result of internal and external audit.

The Commissioner is committed to a process of continuous development and improvement, responding to any relevant reviews and identified best practice.

The Commissioner will continue to be guided by the Scottish Public Finance Manual.

Data Security

There have been no lapses in data security for the period ending 31 March 2026.

Review of Effectiveness of Internal Controls

As Accountable Officer I have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of internal controls. My review of the effectiveness of internal controls in place during the 2025/26 financial year was informed by:

- Certificates of Assurance returned by team members on completion of an Internal Control checklist

- The staff within the office who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- Consideration of the matters which arose during preparation of the 2025/26 accounts
- Comments made by the external auditors
- The Scottish Public Finance Manual and Financial Reporting Manual

Appropriate action is in place to address any weaknesses identified and to improve the effectiveness of internal controls.

Significant Issues

I confirm that there are no significant issues to report for the 2025/26 period.

Remuneration and Staff Report

Remuneration Report (Audited)

Commissioner appointments are generally for a period of 5 years. Kevin Hamilton was appointed as Commissioner on 9 November 2020. The Commissioner's appointment was extended by an additional two years in 2024/25. The remuneration policy used within the SRWC is in line with the Scottish Government pay policy.

The salary and pension entitlements of Kevin Hamilton during the 2025/26 financial year and the median pay disclosure are subject to audit and are set out below.

Remuneration

Remuneration	Salary (Bands of £5, 000)	Pension Benefits (£000s)	Total Remuneration 2025/26 (Bands of £5,000)
Kevin Hamilton	£90-£95k (2024/25 £85-£90k)	£35k (2024/25 £34k)	£125-£130k (2024/25 £120-£125k)

Salary disclosures reflect the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (the FReM).

Given the independent nature of the office, the Commissioner is not part of a bonus scheme, nor does the post have any reserved rights, recruitment, or retention allowances.

Pay multiples

The highest paid Director had banded remuneration of £90,000-£95,000 in 2025/26 (2024/25 £85,000-£90,000). There has been an increase of 5.7% based on the mid-point of the salary band.

In the reporting year, the average remuneration in respect of the employees taken as a whole was £50,848 (2024/25 £48,667). This year's report figure is a percentage increase of 4.48%. The range of remuneration in the Scottish Road Works Commissioner in the financial year 2025/26 in bands of £5k was between £35k-£40k to £90k-£95k. (2024/25 £35k-£40k to £85k-£90k). These remuneration figures exclude pension benefits.

The pay ratio information is shown in the table below:

	2025/26	**2024/25**
Highest Paid Director Salary Component	90-95	85-90
Highest Paid Director Total Pay and Benefits	90-95	85-90
25th Percentile (Salary only)	43,766	42,893
25th Percentile (Total Pay and Benefits)	43,766	42,893
25th Percentile Ratio	2.1	2.0
Median (Salary)	57,151	54,552
Median (Total Pay and Benefits)	57,151	54,552
Median Ratio	1.6	1.6
75th Percentile (Salary)	57,151	54,552
75th Percentile (Total Pay and Benefits)	57,151	54,552
75th Percentile Ratio	1.6	1.6

The ratio of the salary of the highest paid director to the median remuneration of the organisation's workforce in 2025/26 has remained broadly the same as the previous year.

In 2025/26, no employees received remuneration in excess of the annualised salary of the highest-paid director (2024/25: £nil). Remuneration includes basic salaries and overtime. It does not include employer national insurance or pension contributions.

Benefits in Kind

The Commissioner received no benefits in kind over the reporting period 2025/26 (2024/25: £nil)

Pension Benefits

Commissioner	Accrued pension at pension age as at 31/03/2026 £'000	Real increase in pension and related lump sum at pension age £'000	CETV at 31/03/2026 £'000	CETV at 31/03/2025 £'000	Real increase in CETV £'000
Kevin Hamilton	10-15	0-2.5	171	136	25

The Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV)

A Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) is the actuarially assessed capitalised value of the pension scheme benefits accrued by a member at a particular point in time. The benefits valued are the member's accrued benefits and any contingent spouse's pension payable from the scheme. A CETV is a payment made by a pension scheme or arrangement to secure pension benefits in another pension scheme or arrangement when the member leaves a scheme and chooses to transfer the benefits they have accrued in their former scheme.

The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the individual has accrued as a consequence of their total membership of the pension scheme, not just their service in a senior capacity to which disclosure applies. The figures include the value of any pension benefit in another scheme or arrangement which the member has transferred to the Civil Service pension arrangements. CETVs are worked out in accordance with The Occupational Pension Schemes (Transfer Values) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 and do not take account of any actual or potential reduction to benefits resulting from Lifetime Allowance Tax which may be due when pension benefits are taken.

The Real Increase in the Value of CETV

This reflects the increase in CETV effectively funded by the employer. It does not include the increase in accrued pension due to inflation, contributions paid by the employee (including the value of any benefits transferred from another pension scheme or arrangement) and uses common market valuation factors for the start and end of the period.

Staff Report

Number of senior staff by band

The Commissioner was remunerated at Band C3 (£89,687 – £90,901) April 2025 to March 2026 (2024/25 C3 £85,400 - £87,404).

Staff Numbers Employed (Audited)

The average number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff employed by the Scottish Road Works Commissioner during the period was as follows:

	2025/26	2024/25
Commissioner	1	1
Permanent Staff	6.41	6.75
Other	-	-
	7.41	7.75

All staff are subject to UK Employment Contracts.

Staff Costs (Audited)

	Commissioner	SRWC Segment Staff	SRWR Segment Staff	Total Remuneration	Total Remuneration
	2025/26	2025/26	2025/26	2025/26	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	91	254	67	412	414
NI Contributions	13	34	9	56	47
Pension costs	26	73	13	113	114
	130	361	89	581	575

The total remuneration for 2025/26 has increased by £6k due to pay increase and employer national insurance contribution costs in line with Scottish Government (SG) Public Sector Pay policy.

Staff Composition

The following table shows the breakdown by gender of the staff employed within the Commissioner's office and who were in post on 31 March 2026.

	2025/26		2024/25	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Staff	4	3	4	2
Commissioner	1	-	1	-
Total	5	3	5	2

Sickness Absence Data

The staff sickness absence rate in the Commissioner's office was 1.1% 2025/26 (2024/25 1.7%).

During the period ended 31 March 2026 the SRWC recorded 8 days of sickness absence this is an average of 1 day per employee. The Scottish Government Workforce Information statistics up to December 2025 show the staff sickness level was 8.5 average working days lost per staff member. The SRWC has decided to set a target for sickness absence through his Business Plan. This will set at a level lower than the civil service average.

Staff Turnover

The staff turnover rate was 0% in 2025/26 (2024/25: 12.9%). There were no leavers in 2025/26.

Expenditure on Consultancy

Legal Support
Over the reporting period the SRWC engaged with Anderson Strathearn LLP and Harper Macleod LLP to provide legal support. Expenditure on external legal support during 2025/26 was £4,978 (2024/25 £7,170).

Accountancy Support
During 2025/26, expenditure on external accountancy support was £5,360 (2024/25 £2,120).

Staff policies

The Scottish Road Works Commissioner is committed to following current Scottish Government policy with respect to applications for employment, continuing employment, training and career development.

In line with Scottish Government's recruitment procedures, the Commissioner gives full and fair consideration to applications for employment made by disabled persons, having

regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities. In addition, the Commissioner's current remuneration policy reflects Scottish Government policy.

Off-payroll engagements

There were no off-payroll engagements during 2025/26 (2024/25 – none).

Exit Packages (Audited)

There were no exit packages during the reporting period (2024/25 – none).

Parliamentary Accountability Report

Fees and Charges

The SRWC collects Prescribed Fees and Amounts from utility companies and roads authorities in respect of the provision of the Scottish Road Works Register. Total income collected £1,038,819 (2024/25 £911,317). Income received from activities is summarised in Note 2.

Accountability Report



Kevin Hamilton
Scottish Road Works Commissioner and Accountable Officer
Date: 26 October 2026

Independent auditor's report to the members of Scottish Road Works Commissioner, the Auditor General for Scotland and the Scottish Parliament

Reporting on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on financial statements

I have audited the financial statements in the annual report and accounts of The Scottish Road Works Commissioner (SRWC) for the year ended 31 March 2026 under the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005. The financial statements comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows, the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity and notes to the financial statements, including the Statement of Accounting Policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards, as interpreted and adapted by the 2025/26 Government Financial Reporting Manual (the 2025/26 FReM).

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the body's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of its net expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards, as interpreted and adapted by the 2025/26 FReM; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and directions made thereunder by the Scottish Ministers.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)), as required by the Code of Audit Practice approved by the Auditor General for Scotland. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I was appointed by the Auditor General on 5th June 2023. My period of appointment is five years, covering 2022/23 to 2026/27. I am independent of the body in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. Non-audit services prohibited by the Ethical Standard were not provided to the body. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern basis of accounting

I have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

These conclusions are not intended to, nor do they, provide assurance on the body's current or future financial sustainability. However, I report on the body's arrangements for financial sustainability in a separate Annual Audit Report available from the Audit Scotland website.

Risks of material misstatement

I report in my separate Annual Audit Report the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement that I identified and my judgements thereon.

Responsibilities of the Accountable Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Accountable Officer's Responsibilities, the Accountable Officer is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting framework, and for such internal control as the Accountable Officer determines 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 Accountable Officer is responsible for assessing the body'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 there is an intention to discontinue the body's operations.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My 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 my 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 decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. I design procedures in line with my responsibilities outlined above to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Procedures include:

- using my understanding of the central government sector to identify that the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and directions made thereunder by the Scottish Ministers are significant in the context of the body;

- inquiring of the Accountable Officer as to other laws or regulations that may be expected to have a fundamental effect on the operations of the body;

- inquiring of the Accountable Officer concerning the body's policies and procedures regarding compliance with the applicable legal and regulatory framework;

- discussions among my audit team on the susceptibility of the financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur; and

- considering whether the audit team collectively has the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify or recognise non-compliance with laws and regulations.

The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the body's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

Irregularities that result from fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error as fraud may involve collusion, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. The capability of the audit to detect fraud and other irregularities depends on factors such as the skilfulness of the perpetrator, the frequency and extent of manipulation, the degree of collusion involved, the relative size of individual amounts manipulated, and the seniority of those individuals involved.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Reporting on regularity of expenditure and income

Opinion on regularity

In my opinion in all material respects the expenditure and income in the financial statements were incurred or applied in accordance with any applicable enactments and guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers.

Responsibilities for regularity

The Accountable Officer is responsible for ensuring the regularity of expenditure and income. In addition to my responsibilities in respect of irregularities explained in the audit of the financial statements section of my report, I am responsible for expressing an opinion on

the regularity of expenditure and income in accordance with the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000.

Reporting on other requirements

Opinion prescribed by the Auditor General for Scotland on audited parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report

I have audited the parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report described as audited. In my opinion, the audited parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report have been properly prepared in accordance with the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and directions made thereunder by the Scottish Ministers.

Other information

The Accountable Officer is responsible for the other information in the annual report and accounts. The other information comprises the Performance Report and the Accountability Report excluding the audited parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report.

My responsibility is to read all the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon except on the Performance Report and Governance Statement to the extent explicitly stated in the following opinions prescribed by the Auditor General for Scotland.

Opinions prescribed by the Auditor General for Scotland on Performance Report and Governance Statement

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

- the information given in the Performance Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and that report has been prepared in accordance with the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and directions made thereunder by the Scottish Ministers; and

- the information given in the Governance Statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and that report has been prepared in accordance with the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and directions made thereunder by the Scottish Ministers.

Matters on which I am required to report by exception

I am required by the Auditor General for Scotland to report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements and the audited parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Conclusions on wider scope responsibilities

In addition to my responsibilities for the annual report and accounts, my conclusions on the wider scope responsibilities specified in the Code of Audit Practice are set out in my Annual Audit Report.

Use of my report

This report is made solely to the parties to whom it is addressed in accordance with the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000 and for no other purpose. In accordance with paragraph 108 of the Code of Audit Practice, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.



Stuart Nugent
Senior Audit Manager

Audit Scotland
8 Nelson Mandela Place
Glasgow
G2 1BT

26 October 2026

Financial Statements

Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure for the Period Ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2025/26 £000	2024/25 £000
Expenditure			
Staff Costs	3	581	575
Register Operation	4.1	968	841
Professional Fees		30	35
Accommodation		12	12
Other Expenditure	4.2	59	71
Depreciation	5&6	8	8
Total		1,659	1,542
Income			
Income from SRWR Activities	2	(1,039)	(911)
Other Income		-	-
		(1,039)	(911)
Total Comprehensive Net Expenditure for the financial year ended 31 March 2026		620	631

All amounts relate to continuing activities. There have been no gains or losses other than those recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure.

The accompanying Notes on pages 33 to 42 form an integral part of these Accounts.

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2026

	Note	2025/26 £000	2024/25 £000
Non-current assets:			
Property, plant and equipment	5	3	4
Right of use asset	6	2	9
Total non-current assets		5	13
Current assets:			
Trade and other receivables	7	31	-
Cash and cash equivalents	8	651	696
Total current assets		682	696
Total assets		687	709
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	(454)	(381)
Total current liabilities		(454)	(381)
Total Assets less: Current Liabilities		233	328
Non Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	-	-
Net Assets / (Liabilities)		233	328
Reserves			
Taxpayers Equity		233	328
		233	328

The accompanying Notes on pages 33 to 42 form an integral part of these Accounts. The accountable officer authorised these financial statements for issue on:26 October 2026



Kevin Hamilton

Scottish Road Works Commissioner and Accountable Officer
Date: 26 October 2026

Statement of Cash Flows for the Period Ended 31 March 2026

	Note	2025/26 £000	2024/25 £000
Cash Flows from operating activities			
Net operating (costs)		(620)	(631)
Adjustments for non-cash items			
Depreciation	5&6	9	8
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables	7	(31)	1
(Decrease)/increase in trade payables	9	74	(19)
(Decease)/increase in long term Liabilities	9	0	(6)
Net cash outflows from operating activities		(568)	(647)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(1)	-
Recognition of right of use asset	6	0	-
Net cash flow from investing activities		(1)	-
Cash flows from financing activities			
Grants from sponsor bodies		525	515
Net cash flows from financing activities		525	515
Net (Decrease) / Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the period		(44)	(132)
Cash & cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	8	696	828

Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the period	8	651	696

Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity for the Period Ended 31 March 2026

	Total Reserves	
	2025/26 (£000's)	2024/25 (£000's)
Balance at 1 April	328	444
Net expenditure for the year	(620)	(631)
Funding from Scottish Ministers	525	515
Balance at 31 March	233	328

Notes to the Accounts for 2025/26

Statement of Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 2025/26 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by Scottish Ministers. The accounting policies contained in the FReM apply International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adapted or interpreted for the public sector context. Where the FReM permits a choice of accounting policy, the accounting policy which is judged to be most appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner for the purposes of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The particular policies adopted by the Scottish Road Works Commissioner are described below. They have been applied consistently in dealing with items that are considered material to the Accounts.

The Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2026 are presented in accordance with paragraph 2(a) of Schedule 2 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005, and prepared in accordance with an Accounts Direction given by Scottish Ministers, refer to Annex 1.

These accounts are prepared on a historical cost basis.

1.2 Tangible Non-Current Assets

Capitalisation

Purchases of assets with a value exceeding £500 inclusive of irrecoverable VAT are treated as capital with the exception of land and buildings where the threshold is set at £10,000 and IT equipment where the group value exceeds £500.

Valuation

Assets are valued at depreciated historical cost as a proxy for current value in existing use.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on property, plant & equipment at rates calculated to write off costs or valuation in equal instalments over the remaining estimated useful life of the asset.

These are as follows:

Furniture & Equipment	5 Years
Fixtures & Fittings	5 Years
IT Equipment	5 Years
Office Vehicle	5 Years
Testing Equipment (Light Weight Deflectometer)	10 Years

Depreciation is calculated on a monthly basis starting the month after purchase or acquisition and ceasing in the month of disposal.

1.3 Right of use assets

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over the associated lease term, or estimated useful life where this is shorter.

1.4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

1.5 Funding Receivable

Grant in Aid funding received from the Scottish Ministers quarterly, through the office sponsor unit, is credited directly to general fund in the period to which it relates.

1.6 Leases

Where a lease has been identified, the Commissioner recognises a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability, except for short term leases and leases for which the underlying asset is of low value. For such leases, the lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight line basis over the lease term. The Commissioner does not apply IFRS 16 to leases of intangible assets and recognises these in accordance with IAS 38 where appropriate.

1.7 Pension Costs

Defined Pension benefits are provided through the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS) which is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefit scheme. MyCSP transitioned to Capita as the scheme manager in December 2025.

The Commissioner is a member of the Civil Service Alpha Pension Scheme (Capita). One member of staff is on the Civil Service Partnership Scheme (Capita). Remaining staff are members of the Civil Service Alpha Pension Scheme (Capita).

With defined contribution funding arrangements, it is not possible to identify or describe the extent to which Capita is liable for other entities obligations or any agreed allocations of deficit /surplus on the wind-up of the plan given the scale of the Commissioner's office's involvement in relation to the wider Scottish Government (SG). The exact proportion of the plan attributable to Capita is negligible in relation to SG and other related bodies within the plan. Further details on pension payments are included in Note 3.

The 2020 actuarial valuation of the Civil Service Pension Scheme was completed in 2023 Civil Service Pension Scheme Actuarial Valuation as at 31 March 2020 - Valuation Results

1.8 Value Added Tax

The Scottish Road Works Commissioner is required to pay VAT on the purchase of goods and services. All VAT is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure.

The Scottish Government considers that the Commissioner cannot be classed as a Government Department for the purposes of section 41(3) of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 and as such cannot gain the appropriate status to allow the recovery of VAT.

The Prescribed Fees and Amounts collected by the Commissioner are a statutory levy and therefore VAT cannot be applied to them.

1.9 Income Recognition

Income collected to fund the operation of the SRWR is based on the projected cost of running the register during the year in question. Whilst a balanced budget is desirable, any surplus/shortfall in the income collected is accrued and taken into account in setting the level of "Prescribed Fees and Amounts" for the following year.

1.10 Standards Issued

There are no new standards, amendments and interpretations effective in the current year.

1.11 Segmental Reporting

The Commissioner currently operates two segments, namely the office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner and the Scottish Road Works Register. The office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner is funded through Grant in Aid from the Scottish Government. The Scottish Road Works Register is funded through income collected from the road works community. The Scottish Road Works Register (Prescribed Fees) Amendment Regulations

2025 and The Scottish Road Works Register (Prescribed Fees and Amounts) Regulations 2008, were applied to the collection of the operation of monies for the collection of the register in 2025/26. IFRS 8 Segmental Reporting requires operating segments to be identified on the basis of internal reports which are regularly reviewed.
Details are shown in Note 15.

2. Income From Activities

`	2025/26 £000	2024/25 £000
Income from Activities:		
Fees for access to the SRWR	1039	911
	1039	911

3. Staff Costs

The office of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner employed 7 permanent members plus the Commissioner in 2025/26. The figure for 2024/25 was 7 plus the Commissioner.

Staff Costs

	Total Remuneration 2025/26 £000	Total Remuneration 2024/25 £000
Wages and salaries	412	414
NI Contributions	56	47
Pension costs	113	114
	581	575

The total remuneration for 2025/26 has increased by £6k. Further detail and analysis of staff costs can be found in the Remuneration and Staff Report

Pension Costs

For 2025/26, total employer contributions of £113k were paid to MyCSP/Capita, the scheme manager for the Civil Service Pension Scheme. Rates were paid at 28.97% for the Alpha scheme and at 18.25% for the Partnership scheme.

The contribution rates reflect benefits as they are accrued, not when the costs are actually incurred, and reflect past experience of the scheme.

There were no outstanding or prepaid scheme contributions at 31 March 2026 (31 March 2025 £Nil).

On death after retirement, a pension and/or lump sum benefit is payable to the surviving spouse, dependant on the member's circumstances and the scheme joined within PCSPS. On death in service, the scheme pays a lump sum benefit of at least twice pensionable pay, again dependant on the scheme joined. It also provides a service enhancement to the spouse's pension. The enhancement depends on the length of service and cannot exceed 10 years. Medical retirement is possible in the event of serious ill health. In this case, pensions are brought into payment immediately without actuarial reduction and with service enhanced as for widow(er) pensions.

4. Register operation and Other Expenditure

4.1 Register Operation

This represents costs associated with the provision of the SRWR, including contracted costs paid to the provider Symology Ltd. The cost this year is £968k (2024/25 - £841k)

4.2 Other Expenditure

	2025/26	2024/25
	£000	£000
SRWC Segment		
General office expenses	19	14
Training	2	10
Travel & Subsistence	1	3
Website Costs	30	18
Development Costs	-	1
Other Costs	-	-
	52	46
SRWR Segment		
Training	-	17
Meetings & External Services	7	8
	7	25
Total Other Expenditure -	59	71

The above total does not include £19,330 for external auditor remuneration (2024/25 £18,530). This is included under Professional Fees in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure. External audit received no fees in relation to non-audit work.

5. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Test Equipment £000	Information Technology £000	Furniture & Fittings £000	2026 Total £000	2025 Total £000
Cost					
At 1 April 2025	8	6	2	16	18
Additions	-	1	-	1	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(1)
At 31 March 2026	8	7	2	17	17
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2025	7	3	2	12	12
Charge for Year	1	1	-	2	2
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(1)
At 31 March 2026	8	4	2	14	13
Net Book Value at 31 March 2026	-	3	-	3	
Net Book Value at 31 March 2025	0	4	-	4	

Certain items of IT equipment were disposed of during the year. These were fully depreciated and there was no gain or loss on disposal.

6. Right of use assets

	2026 £000	2025 £000
Cost		
At 1 April 2025	19	19
Additions	-	-
At 31 March 2026	19	19
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2025	10	4
Charge for Year	6	6
At 31 March 2026	16	10
Net Book Value at 31 March 2026	3	
Net Book Value at 31 March 2025		9

7. Trade receivables and other current assets

	2025/26 £000	2024/25 £000
Bodies External to Government		
Trade Debtors	30	-
Prepayments	1	-
	31	-

8. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2025/26 £000	2024/25 £000
The following balances at 31 March were held at:		
Government Banking Service		
Opening Balance	387	437
Movement	(31)	(50)
Closing	356	387
RBS account		
Opening Balance	309	391
Movement	(14)	(82)
Closing	295	309
Total Closing Balance	651	696

9. Trade Payables and Other Liabilities

Amounts falling due within one year
Trade Payables and Accruals

	2026			2025		
	SRWC	SRWR	Total	SRWC	SRWR	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Trade Payables	194	207	401	2	214	216
Payable to Transport Scotland		30	30		-	6
Leases				6		
Prepaid income				-	-	-
Accruals	16	-	16	122	21	143
IAS 19: Employee Benefits	6	1	7	13	3	16
	216	238	454	143	238	381

	2026	2025
	£000	£000
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Due to :		
Other Central Government Bodies	191	131
Bodies external to Government	263	250
	454	381

Amounts falling due after one year
Trade Payables and Accruals

	2026	2025
	£000	£000
Leases (SRWC)	-	-
	-	-

10. Payments to the Consolidated Fund

The Commissioner issued a financial penalty totalling £30,000 to a utility company during the reporting period (2024/25: £0). In line with statutory requirements, this income is not retained by the Commission and is payable to the Scottish Consolidated Fund.

11. Capital Commitments

There were no contracted capital commitments as at 31 March 2026 (31 March 2025: £nil).

12. Contingent Liabilities Disclosed Under IAS 37

There were no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2026 (31 March 2025: £nil).

13. Financial Instruments

The SRWC relies on Grant in Aid to fund the operation of the office and has no borrowings. Subject to routine robust budget monitoring, the SRWC is not exposed to liquidity risk. The SRWC has no deposits and all assets are denominated in pounds sterling. Consequently, the office is not exposed to interest rate risk or currency risk.

14. Related-Party Transactions

The SRWC was constituted by Scottish Ministers. “Grant in Aid” funding is provided annually through Transport Scotland who are a Scottish Government Agency. This is accounted for through the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers Equity. The Commissioner is a related party. The only transactions in the year related to his remuneration.

15. Other Financial Commitments

There are no other financial commitments at 31 March 2026.

16. Segment Information

The following items show the main categories of expenditure split between the two segments of the organisation.

	2025/26 £000	2025/26 £000	2025/26 £000
	SRWC	SRWR	Total
Total Income	(525)	(1039)	(1564)
Total Expenditure	582	1077	1659
Total Assets	392	295	687
Total Liabilities	(216)	(238)	(454)

	2024/25 £000	2024/25 £000	2024/25 £000
	SRWC	SRWR	Total
Total Income	(515)	(911)	(1,426)
Total Expenditure	567	975	1,542
Total Assets	400	309	709
Total Liabilities	(143)	(238)	(381)

17. Critical Judgements in Applying accounting policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in these Notes, the Commissioner has had to make judgements about financial transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. Pension benefits are provided through the Civil Service pension arrangements. The Civil Service pension arrangements are unfunded multi-employer defined benefit schemes in which the Commissioner's office is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

18. Critical accounting estimates

The Financial Statements contain estimated figures that are based on assumptions about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking account of historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors but cannot be determined with certainty. Actual results could be different from the assumptions and estimates, but are unlikely to be material. We have not identified any critical accounting estimates.

Annex 1

Accounts Direction

THE SCOTTISH ROAD WORKS COMMISSIONER

DIRECTION BY THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS

1. The Scottish Ministers, in pursuance of paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005, hereby give the following direction.

2. The statement of accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2008, and subsequent years, shall comply with the accounting principles and disclosure requirements of the edition of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) which is in force for the year for which the statement of accounts are prepared.

3. The accounts shall be prepared so as to give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year, and of the state of affairs as at the end of the financial year.

4. This direction shall be reproduced as an appendix to the statement of accounts.

D Patel.

Signed by the authority of the Scottish Ministers

Dated 14th January 2008.