

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD

(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

Firm Reference No 213648

Registered No SP065CUS

**DIRECTORS REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 SEPTEMBER 2024

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD
(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Directors

P Rowsby
D Penman
D Veitch
S Isa
M Cherry
K Merakchi
T Olorunfemi

Society Registration Number

SP065CUS

**Financial Conduct Authority
Registration Number**

213648

Registered Office

Room G16
Credit Union Office
James Watt Centre
Heriot Watt University
Riccarton
Edinburgh
EH14 4AS

Auditors

Lindley Adams Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
28, Prescott Street
Halifax,
HX1 2LG

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
36 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
EH2 2YB

Royal Bank of Canada
Royal Bank Plaza
200 Bay Street
Toronto
Ontario
M5J2J5

Aldermore Bank
Apex Plaza
Farbury Road
Reading
RG1 1AX

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|------|
| Directors' Report | 1-2 |
| Independent Auditors' Report | 3-4 |
| Revenue Account | 5 |
| Balance Sheet | 6 |
| Statement of changes in Retained Earnings | 7 |
| Cash flow statement | 8 |
| Notes to the financial statements | 9-17 |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD
(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Principal activity and Business Review

The principal activities of the credit union are the promotion and encouragement of regular saving and prudent borrowing by its members, as defined in the Credit Unions Act 1979.

Results and Dividends

The surplus for the year, after taxation, amounted to £2,485 (2023 - £919 deficit). In addition, there were 1,224 (2023 – 1,131) adult members with 382 (2023 - 363) members holding loans with the Credit Union.

The Directors recommend the payment of a 0.25% dividend at the year end. This will be voted on at the AGM.

Directors

The directors who served during the year are as stated below:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A Gray - Resigned | D Penman |
| P Rowsby | S Isa - Appointed |
| D Veitch | M Cherry - Appointed |
| K Merakchi - Appointed | M Sholevar – Appointed and Resigned |
| T Olorunfemi - Appointed | |

Financial risk management objectives and policies

The main financial risks arising from the Credit Union's activities are credit risk, liquidity risk and interest-rate risk. The Board reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks and these are summarised below:

- Credit Risk: All loan applications are assessed with reference to the Credit Union's lending policy. Changes to policy are approved by the Board.
- Interest Rate Risk: The main interest rate risk arises from differences between interest rate exposures on assets and on liabilities that form an integral part of the credit union's operations. The Credit Union considers interest rates when deciding on the dividend rates to propose on share accounts.
- Liquidity Risk: The Credit Union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in a liquid form at all times to ensure that the Credit Union can meet its liabilities as they fall due. The objective of liquidity is to help smooth mismatches between maturing assets and liabilities and to provide a degree of protection against any unexpected developments that may arise.

These areas are outlined in greater detail in section 13 of the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Credit Union legislation requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland" (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under Credit Union legislation the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the credit union and of the surplus or deficit of the Credit Union for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the credit union will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Credit Union's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Credit Union and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and with the Credit Union Act 1979. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Credit Union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information (information needed by the Credit Union's auditors in connection with preparing their report) of which the Credit Union's auditors are unaware, and
- The directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Credit Union's auditors are aware of that information.

This report was approved by the Board on26/02/2025..... and signed on its behalf by:

Name of Director 1: Derek Penman

A. Penman

Signature _____

Name of Director 2: Phil Rowsby

Phil Rowsby

Signature _____

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of First Scottish University Credit Union Ltd (the 'credit union') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise revenue account, balance sheet, statement of changes to retained earnings, cash flow statement and 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 credit union's affairs as at 30 September 2024 and of 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 Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and the Credit Unions Act 1979.

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 credit union 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 the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances as set out in note 18 to the financial statements, 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 directors' 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 credit union'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 directors 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 other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Board is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- a satisfactory system of control over transactions has not been maintained;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the books of account; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' responsibilities set out on page 2, the Board is 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 they 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 Board is responsible for assessing the Credit Union'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 Board either intend to liquidate the Credit Union or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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, and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures based on assessed risk and in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the credit union and determined that the following were most relevant: FRS 102, Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and the Credit Unions Act 1979. Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities. Including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations irrespective of the size of amounts involved;
- we enquired of management the systems and controls the credit union has in place, the areas of the financial statements that are mostly susceptible to the risks of irregularities and fraud (which we outline below) and whether there was any known, suspected or alleged fraud;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the credit union through discussions with senior management;
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team who remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including override of controls) and addressed the risk through:

- making enquiries of those charged with governance as to their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged instances of fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate the risks of fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed our audit procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- reviewing the financial statements disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied;
- obtaining third party confirmation of bank balances;
- reviewing the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- reviewing relating party transactions of those charged with governance and determining whether the information provided is complete and appropriately disclosed in the financial statements;
- reviewing correspondence from professional advisors and regulators;
- reviewing and testing the internal controls in place for loans and savings and determining whether controls have been appropriately applied;
- reviewing and testing of revenue recognition processes and determining completeness of income;
- checking expenses are bona fide transactions of the credit union, and;
- reviewing post balance sheet and subsequent events, both financial and non-financial, that have occurred in the period between the financial year end and the signing of the audit report.

There is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including fraud, because of the inherent limitations of an audit, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements of non-compliance with regulations. The areas in the financial statements that are most susceptible to fraud are Loans and Advances to Members and Subscribed Capital. We have investigated in particular where there is:

- Inadequate internal controls, resulting from: management override, lack of oversight, segregation in duties or supervisory controls;
- Inadequate record keeping, resulting from: lack of complete and timely reconciliations of bank or cash or a lack of timely and appropriate documentation of transactions;
- Evidence of past or suspected fraud in the credit union;
- A high turnover of senior management or key staff;
- High volumes of cash being handled and processed;

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

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the credit union, in accordance with section 87 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the credit union those matters we are required to state to it in a Report of the auditor's and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the credit union, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Lindley Adams Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
28 Prescott Street,
Halifax, HX1 2LG

Date.....26/02/2025.....

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD
(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)
Revenue Account for the year ended 30 September 2024

| | Note | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|---|------|----------------|----------------|
| Loan Interest receivable and similar income | 4 | 116,180 | 84,872 |
| Interest payable | 5 | <u>(4,487)</u> | <u>(4,591)</u> |
| Net interest income | | 111,693 | 80,281 |
| Fees and commissions receivable | | 0 | 0 |
| Fees and commissions payable | | <u>(2,866)</u> | <u>(2,153)</u> |
| Net fees and commissions payable | | (2,866) | (2,153) |
| Other income | | 14,676 | 14,606 |
| Administrative expenses | 6a | (87,637) | (68,427) |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 9 | (232) | (1,566) |
| Other operating expenses | 6b | (14,757) | (11,877) |
| Impairment losses on loans to members | 10e | (9,806) | (7,674) |
| | | <u>11,071</u> | <u>3,190</u> |
| Surplus Before Taxation | | 11,071 | 3,190 |
| Taxation | | (8,586) | (4,109) |
| | | <u>2,485</u> | <u>(919)</u> |
| Surplus (Deficit) for the Financial Year | | 2,485 | (919) |
| Other comprehensive income | | 0 | 0 |
| | | <u>2,485</u> | <u>(919)</u> |
| Total comprehensive income (expenditure) | | 2,485 | (919) |

Note: There is no comprehensive income other than those included on the Revenue Account.

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2024

| | Note | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Loans and advances to banks | 14 | <u>1,057,673</u> | <u>1,258,660</u> |
| Loans and advances to members | 10 | 825,404 | 702,586 |
| Tangible fixed assets | 9 | 463 | 0 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | | 31,663 | 22,390 |
| | | <u>1,915,203</u> | <u>1,983,636</u> |
| Total assets | | <u>1,915,203</u> | <u>1,983,636</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| Subscribed capital - repayable on demand | 11 | 1,740,820 | 1,799,585 |
| Other payables | 12 | <u>47,917</u> | <u>60,070</u> |
| | | 1,788,737 | 1,859,655 |
| Retained earnings | | 126,466 | 123,981 |
| | | <u>1,915,203</u> | <u>1,983,636</u> |
| Total liabilities | | <u>1,915,203</u> | <u>1,983,636</u> |

The financial statements were approved, and authorised for issue by the board on 26/02/2025 and signed on its behalf by:



 Director



 Director

 Secretary

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Statement of Changes in Retained Earnings for the year ended 30 September 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| As at 1 October 2023 | 123,981 | 124,900 |
| Total comprehensive income (expenditure) for the year | 2,485 | (919) |
| As at 30 September 2024 | 126,466 | 123,981 |

Movement in reserves

| | Retained earnings | | Total |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | General reserve | Development Reserve | |
| As at 1 October 2023 | 92,937 | 31,044 | 123,981 |
| Surplus for year | 2,485 | 0 | 2,485 |
| Other movements | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| As at 30 September 2024 | 95,422 | 31,044 | 126,466 |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Cash flow statement for the year ended 30 September 2024

| | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Cash Flows from operating activities | | | |
| Surplus Before Taxation | | 11,071 | 3,190 |
| Adjustments for non-cash items | | | |
| Depreciation | 9 | 232 | 1,566 |
| Impairment losses | 10e | 9,806 | 7,674 |
| | | 10,038 | 9,240 |
| Movements in: | | | |
| Prepayments and accrued income | | (9,273) | (20,071) |
| Other payables | | (12,153) | (9,079) |
| | | (21,426) | (29,150) |
| Cash flows from changes in operative assets and liabilities | | | |
| Cash inflow from subscribed capital | 11 | 882,013 | 903,050 |
| Cash outflow from repaid capital | 11 | (940,778) | (1,017,889) |
| New loans to members | 10a | (794,237) | (563,987) |
| Repayment of loans by members | 10a | 661,614 | 619,091 |
| | | (191,389) | (59,735) |
| Taxation paid | | (8,586) | (4,109) |
| Net Cash flows from operating activities | | (200,292) | (80,564) |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | | |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment | 9 | (695) | 0 |
| Net cash flow from managing liquid deposits | | 98,943 | (500,000) |
| | | 98,248 | (500,000) |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | | (102,044) | (580,564) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | | 258,660 | 839,224 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year | 14 | 156,616 | 258,660 |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024

1 Legal and regulatory framework

The Credit Union is a society established under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, whose principal activity is to operate as a credit union, within the meaning of the Credit Unions Act 1979. The Credit Union has registered with the Financial Conduct Authority and is regulated by the Prudential Regulation Authority under the provisions of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

In accordance with the regulatory environment for credit unions, deposits from members can be made by subscription for redeemable shares, deferred shares and interest - bearing shares. At present the Credit Union has only issued redeemable shares.

2 Accounting policies**Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 - the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland.

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

The directors of the Credit Union believe that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis. In accordance with PRA Rulebook Guidelines outlined in Section 8.5 (1), the credit union must maintain a minimum Capital-To-Total assets ratio of 3%.

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| The relevant ratios are:- | 6.60% | 6.25% |

Income

Loan interest receivable and similar income: Interest on both loans to members and loans to banks (i.e. cash and cash equivalents held on deposit with other financial institutions) is recognised using the effective interest method, and is calculated and accrued on a daily basis. Exempt interest on members loans is not recognised.

Fees and commissions receivable: Fees and charges either arise in connection with a specific transaction, or accrue evenly over the year. Income relating to individual transactions is recognised when the transaction is completed.

Other income: Other income is recognised either evenly over the period to which it relates or when the transaction is complete.

Taxation

The tax charge for the year reflects current tax payable. Current tax is the expected corporation tax payable for the year, using tax rates in force for the year. The Credit Union is not liable to corporation tax payable on its activities of making loans to members, and investing surplus funds, as these are not classified as a trade. However, corporation tax is payable on investment income.

As a result of the limited activities of the Credit Union from which profits are chargeable to corporation tax, it is unlikely that deferred tax will arise.

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

2 Accounting policies (cont.)**Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets comprises items of property, plant and equipment, which are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset.

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each item of property, plant and equipment, less its estimated residual value, on a straight line basis over its estimated useful life. The categories of property, plant and equipment are depreciated as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Software & Computers | 3 Years |
|----------------------|---------|

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and with the Bank of England and loans and advances to banks (i.e. cash deposited with banks) with maturity of less than or equal to three months.

Deferred grants and funding / revenue contributions

Deferred grants in respect of capital expenditure are credited to the income and expenditure account over the estimated useful life of the relevant fixed assets. Deferred grants and funding in respect of revenue items are credited to the income and expenditure account over the period to which they relate or to match the relevant expenditure. The grants / funding shown in the balance sheet represent the grants / funding receivable to date less the amount so far credited to the income and expenditure account.

Financial assets – loans and advances to members

Loans to members are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments. Loans are made to members for provident or productive purposes on such security (or without security) and terms as the rules of the Credit Union provide. Loans are recognised when cash is advanced to members and measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Loans are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the asset have expired, usually when all amounts outstanding have been repaid by the member.

Impairment of financial assets

The Credit Union assesses, at each balance sheet date, if there is objective evidence that any of its loans to members are impaired. The loans are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics, because no loans are individually significant. In addition, if, during the course of the year, there is objective evidence that any individual loan is impaired, a specific loss will be recognised.

Any impairment losses are recognised in the revenue account, as the difference between the carrying value of the loan and the net present value of the expected cash flows.

Financial liabilities – subscribed capital

Members' shareholdings in the Credit Union are redeemable and therefore are classified as financial liabilities, and described as subscribed capital. They are initially recognised at the amount of cash deposited and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans: The amounts charged as expenditure for the defined contribution plan are the contributions payable by the Credit Union for the relevant period.

Other employee benefits: Other short and long term employee benefits, including holiday pay, are recognised as an expense over the period they are earned.

Reserves

Retained earnings are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends returnable to members.

3 Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires the Directors to exercise judgement in applying the Credit Union's accounting policies. The areas requiring a higher degree of judgement, or complexity, and areas where assumptions or estimates are most significant to the financial statements, are disclosed below:

Impairment losses on loans to members

Impaired losses are stated after specifically reviewing all loans in arrears. The criteria used is whether the loan will be repaid within the term of the loan based upon the current regular pattern of repayments.

| 4 Loan interest receivable and similar income | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Loan interest receivable from members | 70,990 | 63,246 |
| Bank interest receivable from cash and liquid deposits | 45,190 | 21,626 |
| Total loan interest receivable and similar income | 116,180 | 84,872 |

5 Interest expense

Interest expense is the dividend paid to members for the prior year. The dividend is formally proposed by the Directors after the year end and is confirmed at the following AGM. As a result it does not represent a liability at the balance sheet date.

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Interest paid during the year | 4,487 | 4,591 |
| Dividend rate | 0.25% | 0.25% |
| Interest proposed, but not recognised | 4,352 | 4,513 |
| Dividend rate | 0.25% | 0.25% |

| 6 Expenses | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Administrative expenses | 6a | 87,637 | 68,427 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 9 | 232 | 1,566 |
| Other operating expenses | 6b | 14,757 | 11,877 |
| | | 102,626 | 81,870 |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

| 6a Administrative Expenses | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Employment costs | 7b | 58,036 | 48,333 |
| Training and Conference | | 864 | 0 |
| Advertising and Publicity | | 234 | 484 |
| Directors & Volunteers expenses | | 1,732 | 1,779 |
| Auditors remuneration | 6c | 5,700 | 3,000 |
| Legal and Professional | | 1,065 | 4,366 |
| Telephone | | 2,047 | 1,898 |
| Computer maintenance | | 17,092 | 7,638 |
| General expenses | | 35 | 35 |
| Printing, Postage and Stationery | | 526 | 661 |
| Other insurances | | 306 | 233 |
| Total Administrative Expenses | | <u>87,637</u> | <u>68,427</u> |
| 6b Regulatory and financial management costs | | | |
| Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority Fees and FSCS fees | | 747 | 732 |
| National Body Dues | | 1,989 | 1,681 |
| Fidelity Insurance | | 2,150 | 2,150 |
| Loan Protection and life savings insurance | | 8,973 | 7,199 |
| Debt recovery fees & Credit Checks | | 898 | 115 |
| Total Other operating Expenses | | <u>14,757</u> | <u>11,877</u> |
| 6c Auditors remuneration | | | |
| The Credit Union voluntarily presents an analysis of its auditors' remuneration in accordance with Companies (Disclosure of Auditor Remuneration and Liability Limitation Agreements) Regulations 2008. | | | |
| | | 2024 | 2023 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Fees payable for the audit of the Credit Union's annual accounts | | 3,210 | 2,910 |
| Fees payable to the Credit Union's Auditor for other services: | | | |
| Services relating to taxation | | 90 | 90 |
| Bookkeeping | | 2,400 | 0 |
| Total Auditors remuneration | | <u>5,700</u> | <u>3,000</u> |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD*(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)*

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

7 Employees and employment costs

| 7a Number of employees | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| The average monthly number of employees during the year were: | Number | Number |
| Office staff | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> |
| 7b Employment costs | 2024 | 2023 |
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 52,179 | 43,794 |
| Social security costs | 4,338 | 3,281 |
| Payments to defined contribution pension schemes | <u>1,519</u> | <u>1,258</u> |
| Total employment costs | <u>58,036</u> | <u>48,333</u> |

The Directors of the Credit Union are all unpaid volunteers. The key management team for the Credit Union includes the credit union manager and the CEO

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Short term employee benefits | 42,232 | 28,731 |
| Payments to defined contribution pension schemes | <u>1,166</u> | <u>834</u> |
| Total key management personnel compensation | <u>43,398</u> | <u>29,565</u> |

Short-term employee benefits include wages, salaries, social security contributions and paid annual leave.

8 Taxation**8a Recognised in the Revenue Account**

The taxation charge for the year, based on the small profits rate of Corporation Tax of 19% (2023 19%) comprised:

| | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current tax | | £ | £ |
| UK Corporation tax | 8b | 8,586 | 4,109 |
| Total current tax and total taxation expense recognised in the Revenue Account | | <u>8,586</u> | <u>4,109</u> |

8b Reconciliation of taxation expense

The Credit Union is not liable to corporation tax payable on its activities of making loans to members, and investing surplus funds, as these are not classified as a trade. However, corporation tax is payable on investment income. As a result, tax charge for the year differs from the standard rate of corporation tax. The differences are explained below:

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Surplus Before Taxation | <u>11,071</u> | <u>3,190</u> |
| Surplus before taxation multiplied by small profits rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2023 19%) | 2,103 | 606 |
| Effects of: | | |
| Non-taxable deficit on transactions with members | <u>6,483</u> | <u>3,503</u> |
| Total tax charge for the year | <u>8,586</u> | <u>4,109</u> |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD

(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets comprise the following property, plant and equipment:

| | Software & Computers | Total |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Cost | £ | |
| As at 1 October 2023 | 5,703 | 5,703 |
| Additions | 695 | 695 |
| Disposals | 0 | 0 |
| As at 30 September 2024 | <u>6,398</u> | <u>6,398</u> |
| Depreciation | | |
| As at 1 October 2023 | 5,703 | 5,703 |
| Charge for the year | 232 | 232 |
| Charge on disposal | 0 | 0 |
| As at 30 September 2024 | <u>5,935</u> | <u>5,935</u> |
| Net Book Value | | |
| As at 30 September 2024 | <u>463</u> | <u>463</u> |
| As at 30 September 2023 | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |

10 Loans and advances to members

| 10a Loans and advances to members | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| As at 1 October 2023 | | 728,218 | 783,322 |
| Advanced during the year | | 794,237 | 563,987 |
| Interest receivable | | 70,990 | 63,246 |
| Repaid during the year | | (732,604) | (682,337) |
| Gross loans and advances to members | 10b | <u>860,842</u> | <u>728,218</u> |
| Impairment losses: | | | |
| Individual financial assets | 10b, 10e | 0 | 0 |
| Groups of financial assets | 10d | (35,438) | (25,632) |
| | 10c | <u>(35,438)</u> | <u>(25,632)</u> |
| As at 30 September 2024 | | <u>825,404</u> | <u>702,586</u> |
| 10b Memorandum - Total loan assets regulatory purposes | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Gross loans and advances to members | | 860,842 | 728,218 |
| Impairment of individual financial assets | | 0 | 0 |
| Total loan assets for regulatory purposes | 13b | <u>860,842</u> | <u>728,218</u> |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD

(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

10c Credit risk disclosures

The credit union does not offer mortgages and as a result all loans to members are unsecured, except where there are restrictions on the extent to which borrowers may withdraw their savings whilst loans are outstanding.

The carrying amount of the loans to members represents the credit union's maximum exposure to credit risk. The following table provides information on the credit quality of loan repayments. Where loans are not impaired it is expected that the amounts repayable will be received in full.

| | 2024 | | 2023 | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Amount | Proportion | Amount | Proportion |
| Not impaired: | | | | |
| Neither past due nor impaired | 748,791 | 86.99% | 634,781 | 87.16% |
| Up to 3 months past due | 70,302 | 8.17% | 59,639 | 8.19% |
| Between 3 and 6 months past due | 3,713 | 0.43% | 3,454 | 0.47% |
| Between 6 and 9 months past due | 1,212 | 0.14% | 221 | 0.03% |
| Between 9 months and 1 year past due | 1,384 | 0.16% | 4,491 | 0.62% |
| Over 1 year past due | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Sub-total: loans not impaired | 825,403 | 95.89% | 702,586 | 96.47% |
| Individually impaired: | | | | |
| Not yet past due, but impaired | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Up to 3 months past due | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Between 3 and 6 months past due | 1,999 | 0.23% | 1,076 | 0.15% |
| Between 6 and 9 months past due | 1,819 | 0.21% | 331 | 0.05% |
| Between 9 months and 1 year past due | 5,535 | 0.64% | 2,986 | 0.41% |
| Over 1 year past due | 26,086 | 3.03% | 21,239 | 2.92% |
| Total loans | 860,842 | 4.11% | 728,218 | 3.53% |
| Impairment allowance | (35,438) | | (25,632) | |
| Total carrying value | 825,404 | | 702,586 | |

Factors that are considered in determining whether loans are impaired are discussed in note 3.

| 10d Allowance account for impairment losses | Note | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| As at 1 October 2023 | | 25,632 | 17,958 |
| Allowance for losses made during the year | | 9,806 | 7,674 |
| Increase in allowance during the year | 10e | 9,806 | 7,674 |
| As at 30 September 2024 | | 35,438 | 25,632 |
| 10e Impairment losses recognised for the year | | 2024 | 2023 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Impairment of individual financial assets | | 0 | 0 |
| Increase in impairment allowances during the year | | 9,806 | 7,674 |
| | | 9,806 | 7,674 |
| Reversal of impairment where debts recovered | | 0 | 0 |
| Total impairment losses recognised for the year | | 9,806 | 7,674 |

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD

(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

| 11 Subscribed capital - financial liabilities | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| As at 1 October 2023 | 1,799,585 | 1,914,424 |
| Received during the year | 877,526 | 898,459 |
| Dividends paid during the year | 4,487 | 4,591 |
| Repaid during the year | <u>(940,778)</u> | <u>(1,017,889)</u> |
| As at 30 September 2024 | <u>1,740,820</u> | <u>1,799,585</u> |

Deposits from members are made by way of subscription for shares.

| 12 Other payables | 2024 | 2023 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| UK Corporation tax | 8,586 | 4,109 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 10,117 | 12,141 |
| Grants | 29,214 | 43,820 |
| | <u>47,917</u> | <u>60,070</u> |

13 Additional financial instruments disclosures

13a Financial risk management

The Credit Union manages its subscribed capital and loans to members so that it earns income from the margin between interest receivable and interest payable.

The main financial risks arising from the Credit Union's activities are credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The board reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks, which are summarised below.

Credit risk: Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the Credit Union, resulting in financial loss to the Credit Union. In order to manage the risk the Board approves the Credit Union's lending policy, and all changes to it. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the lending policy in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of payment has changed. The Credit Union also monitors its banking arrangements closely in light of the current banking situation.

Liquidity risk: The Credit Union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it meets its liabilities as they fall due. The objective of the Credit Union's liquidity policy is to smooth the mismatches between maturing assets and liabilities and to provide a degree of protection against any unexpected developments that may arise. Note 2 provides further details about the impact of the maturity mismatch on the going concern status of the Credit Union.

Market risk: Market risk is generally comprised of interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk. The Credit Union conducts all its transactions in sterling and does not deal in derivatives or commodity markets. Therefore the Credit Union is not exposed to any form of *currency risk* or *other price risk*.

Interest rate risk: The Credit Union's main interest rate risk arises from differences between the interest rate exposures on the receivables and payables that form an integral part of a credit union's operations. The Credit Union considers rates of interest receivable when deciding on the dividend rate payable on subscribed capital. The Credit Union does not use interest rate options to hedge its own positions.

FIRST SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CREDIT UNION LTD
(Trading as Scottish Universities Community Bank)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 (continued)

13b Interest rate risk disclosures

The following table shows the average interest rates applicable to relevant financial assets and financial liabilities.

| | 2024 | | 2023 | |
|-------------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|
| | Amount | Average | Amount | Average |
| | £ | Interest Rate % | £ | Interest Rate % |
| Financial assets | | | | |
| Loans to members | 860,842 | 8.93% | 728,218 | 8.37% |

The interest rates applicable to loans to members are fixed and range from 5.4% to 21%.

13c Liquidity risk disclosures

Excluding short-term other payables, as noted on the balance sheet, the Credit Union's financial liabilities, the subscribed capital, are repayable on demand.

13d Fair value of financial instruments

The Credit Union does not hold any financial instruments at fair value.

14 Cash and cash equivalents

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Loans and advances to banks | 1,057,673 | 1,258,660 |
| Less: amounts maturing after three months | (901,057) | (1,000,000) |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | <u>156,616</u> | <u>258,660</u> |

15 Post balance sheet events

There are no material events after the balance sheet date to disclose

16 Contingent liabilities

The Credit Union participates in the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) and therefore has a contingent liability, which cannot be quantified, in respect of contributions to the FSCS, as required by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has provided details of how the calculation of next year's contribution towards the FSCS will be calculated and full provision has been included for this liability. However this is subject to future changes in interest rates and levels of deposits held by UK deposit takers. Therefore there is inherent uncertainty regarding the totality of the levy that the Credit Union will have to pay.

17 Related Party Transactions

During the year, 5 members of the board, staff and volunteers and their 1 of their close family members, had or were issued with loans with the Credit Union (2023 - 2 Members). These loans were approved on the same basis as loans to other members of the Credit Union. None of the directors, staff, volunteers and close family members have any preferential terms on their loans.

18 Non-audit services

In common with many other Credit Unions of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist us with the preparation of the financial statements as well as bookkeeping services.

19 Grants carried forward

During the 2021 year, the credit union received a grant of £95,000 from the Scottish Community Lenders Fund. £14,606 (2023 £14,606) of this has been included in income during the year. The remaining £29,214 (2023 £43,820) is carried forward on the balance sheet to be included as income in future years.