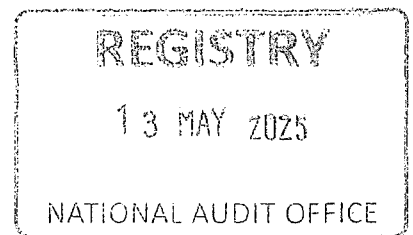


HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL
Report and Financial Statements for
the year ended 31 December 2024



Prepared by: Ms Josianne Debono (CPA)
Obo Dconsulta Ltd,
(February 2025)

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HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

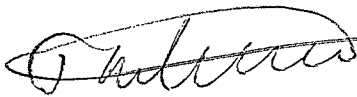
STATEMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS' AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S RESPONSIBILITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2024


The Local Government (Financial) Regulations 1993 require the Executive Secretary to prepare a detailed Annual Administrative Report which includes a statement of the Local Council's statement of comprehensive income for the year and of the Local Council's retained funds at the end of the year. By virtue of the same regulations it is the duty of the Local Council and the Deputy Executive Secretary to ensure that the financial statements forming part of the report present fairly, in accordance with accounting policies applicable to Local Councils, the income and expenditure of the Local Council for the year and its retained funds as at the year end, and that they comply with the Act, the Local Government (Financial) Regulations, 1993, and the Local Government (Financial) Procedures, 1996 issued in terms of the said Act.

The Executive Secretary is responsible to ensure that an appropriate system of internal control is in operation, to ascertain that the accounting, recording and other financial operations are properly conducted in accordance with the Local Councils Act, 1993, the Local Council (Financial) Regulations, 1993, and the policies, systems and time scales referred to in the Local Council (Financial) Procedures, 1996. The Deputy Executive Secretary is also responsible to provide reasonable assurance that the assets of the Local Council are properly safeguarded, that fraud and other irregularities will be detected and that the operations of the Local Council are properly conducted in accordance with the Local Councils Act, 1993.

This statement was approved by the Council on 23/04/2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Johan Mula
Mayor


Maria Dolores Baldacchino
Executive Secretary

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Year Ended 2024	Year Ended 2023
		€	€
Income			
Funds received from Central Government	3	358,324	333,832
Income raised under Council Bye-laws	4	17,258	12,032
Income from Local Enforcement System	5	2,246	2,694
General and other income	6	45,738	37,521
		<u>423,566</u>	<u>386,079</u>
Expenditures			
Personnel emoluments	7	(111,754)	(107,827)
Operations and maintenance	8	(164,454)	(150,672)
Administrative and other expenditures	9	(138,040)	(103,691)
		<u>(414,248)</u>	<u>(362,190)</u>
Operating Surplus for the year		9,318	23,889
Finance income	10	62	36
Finance charge	11	-	-
Net Surplus for the year		9,380	23,925
Total Comprehensive Income		9,380	23,925

The notes on pages 6 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

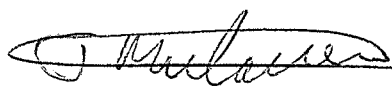
HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION


As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	Year Ended 2024 €	Year Ended 2023 €
Assets			
<i>Non-current assets</i>			
Property, plant and equipment	12	347,146	335,836
<i>Current assets</i>			
Trade and other receivables	13	82,432	36,100
Cash and cash equivalents	14	228,761	299,626
		<u>311,193</u>	<u>335,726</u>
Total assets		<u>658,339</u>	<u>671,562</u>
Reserves and liabilities			
<i>Reserves</i>			
Retained earnings		588,058	578,678
<i>Current liabilities</i>			
Short-term borrowings	15	230	2,032
Trade and other payables	16	70,051	90,852
		<u>70,281</u>	<u>92,884</u>
Total reserves and liabilities		<u>658,339</u>	<u>671,562</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 21/04/2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Johan Mula
Mayor



Maria Dolores Baldacchino
Executive Secretary

The notes on pages 6 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Retained Earnings €	Total Earnings €
At 1 January 2023	554,753	554,753
Total comprehensive income for the year	23,925	23,925
At 31 December 2023	<u>578,678</u>	<u>578,678</u>
At 1 January 2024	578,678	578,678
Total comprehensive income for the year	9,380	9,380
At 31 December 2024	<u>588,058</u>	<u>588,058</u>
Equity Interest	<u>588,058</u>	<u>588,058</u>

The notes on pages 6 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statement

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Total comprehensive income for the year		9,380	23,925
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	12	18,617	14,313
Decrease in provision for bad debts		(559)	(990)
Finance income	10	(62)	(36)
		<u>27,376</u>	<u>37,212</u>
<i>Movements in working capital:</i>			
(Increase) in receivables		(45,773)	(18,272)
(Decrease) in payables		(20,801)	(3,058)
Net cash flows (used in)/generated from operating activities		<u>(39,198)</u>	<u>15,882</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	12	(160,832)	(18,846)
Interest received	10	62	36
Net cash flows used in investing activities		<u>(160,770)</u>	<u>(18,810)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Grants received		130,905	83,229
Net cash flows generated from financing activities		<u>130,905</u>	<u>83,229</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(69,063)	80,301
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		297,594	217,293
Cash and equivalents at end of year	14	<u><u>228,531</u></u>	<u><u>297,594</u></u>

The notes on pages 6 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. General Information

The Hal-Safi Local Council (the “local council”) is a local authority of Malta set up in accordance with the Local Councils Act (1993). The office of the Local Council is situated at Dar il-Kunsill, Triq l-Iskola, Hal-Safi. These financial statements were approved for issue by the Council Members on the 10th August 2022. The Local Council's presentations as well as functional currency are denominated in Euro (€). Its ultimate controlling party is the Department for Local Government within the Office of the Prime Minister.

2. Material accounting policies

Overall Considerations

The Local Council should disclose its material accounting policies. Accounting policies are material and must be disclosed if they can be reasonably expected to influence the decisions of users of the financial statements.

The Local Council's management has concluded that the disclosure of the Local Council's material accounting policies below are appropriate.

a) Accounting convention

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified to include fair values where it is stated in the accounting policies below. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 (Chap. 363), the Financial Regulations issued in terms of this Act and the Local Government (Financial) Procedures, 1996 enacted in Malta and with the requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), as adopted by the EU.

These financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with the accounting policies and reporting procedures prescribed for Local Councils in the Financial Regulations issued by the Minister of Finance in conjunction with the Minister responsible for Local Government in terms of Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (Chap. 363).

(b) Standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards

The new and revised standards that became effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024 made several minor amendments to a number of IFRSs. None of the changes to IFRSs and interpretations has had, or is expected to have, a material impact on the council's financial statements.

New and amended standards adopted by the Council

Information on new standards, amendments and interpretations that are relevant to the Council's financial statements is provided below. Certain other new standards and interpretations not listed below have been issued but are not relevant and therefore are not expected to have any impact on the Council's financial statements.

The Council started to adopt the new accounting pronouncements which have become effective this year, and are as follows:

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

b) Standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards - continued

- IFRS S1 General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability related Financial Information;
- IFRS S2 Climate related Disclosures;
- Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-Current (Amendments to IAS 1);
- Non-Current Liabilities with Covenants (Amendments to IAS 1);
- Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback (Amendments to IFRS 16);
- Supplier Finance Arrangements (Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7).

These amendments do not have a significant impact on these financial statements and therefore no disclosures have been made.

New Standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards that are not yet effective

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, several new, but not effective Standards and amendments to existing standards, and Interpretations have been published by the IASB. None of these standards or amendments to existing standards have been adopted early by the Local Council. These are the following:

- Lack of Exchangeability (Amendments to IAS 21 The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates);
- Amendments to the SASB standards to enhance their international applicability;
- Classification and measurements of financial instruments (Amendments to IFRS7 and IFRS 9);
- Hedge Accounting by a first-time adopter (Amendments IFRS 1);
- Lessee derecognition of lease liabilities and Transaction price (Amendments IFRS 9);
- Introduction and credit risk disclosures (Amendments IFRS 7);
- IFRS18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements;
- IFRS19 Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosure.

These amendments are not expected to have a significant impact on the financial statements in the period of initial application and therefore no disclosures have been made.

The Local Council's management anticipates that all relevant pronouncements will be adopted for the first period beginning on or after the effective date of the pronouncement. New standards, amendments and interpretations not adopted in the current year have not been disclosed as they are not expected to have a material impact on the Local Council's financial statements.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

c) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, impairment and grants received for specific projects (which grants were treated through the balance sheet approach). Depreciation is calculated monthly using the straight-line method of depreciation at rates estimated to write down the cost of all assets over their expected useful life, other than land and trees as follows:

	Rates in %
Land & Trees	-
Buildings	1
Office Furniture & Fittings	7.5
Construction Works	10
Urban Improvements (Street Furniture)	10
Special Programmes (Projects)	10
Office Equipment	20
Computer Equipment	25
Motor Vehicles	20
Plant and Machinery	20
Road/Street Signs	Replacement basis
Litter Bins	Replacement basis
Playground Equipment	100
Street Lighting	100
Street Mirrors	Replacement basis
Plants	100

Gains and losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined by reference to their carrying amount and are taken into account in determining operating surplus. The residual values and useful lives of the assets are reviewed and adjusted as appropriate, at each year end. The carrying amount of an asset is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the carrying amount of the asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Subsequent costs are included in the carrying amount of the asset or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Local Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income during the financial year in which they are incurred.

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

d) *Leases*

The Local Council as lessee

The Local Council assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease, at inception of the contract. The Local Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability with respect to all lease arrangements in which it is the lessee, except for short-term leases (defined as leases with a lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets. For these leases, the Local Council recognises the lease payments as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased assets are consumed. The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted by using the rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Local Council uses its incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise:

- Fixed lease payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable.
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date.
- The amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees.
- The exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- Payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The lease liability is presented as a separate line in the statement of financial position. The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

The Local Council remeasures the lease liability (and makes a corresponding adjustment to the related right-of-use asset) whenever:

- The lease term has changed or there is a significant event or change in circumstances resulting in a change in the assessment of exercise of a purchase option, in which case the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate.
- The lease payments change due to changes in an index or rate or a change in expected payment under a guaranteed residual value, in which cases the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using an unchanged discount rate (unless the lease payments change is due to a change in a floating interest rate, in which case a revised discount rate is used).
- A lease contract is modified, and the lease modification is not accounted for as a separate lease, in which case the lease liability is remeasured based on the lease term of the modified lease by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate at the effective date of the modification.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

d) Leases - continued

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability, lease payments made at or before the commencement day, less any lease incentives received and any initial direct costs. They are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the shorter period of lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. The right-of-use assets are presented as a separate line in the statement of financial position. The Local Council applies IAS 36 to determine whether a right-of-use asset is impaired.

e) Impairment of property, plant and equipment

At the end of each reporting year, the Local Council reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Local Council estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Where a reasonable and consistent basis of allocation can be identified, corporate assets are also allocated to individual cash-generating units, or otherwise they are allocated to the smallest group of cash-generating units for which a reasonable and consistent allocation basis can be identified.

Tangible assets with indefinite useful lives and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment at least annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a re-valued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (or a cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (or cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a re-valued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the statement of financial position at face value. For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and bank balances overdrawn.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

g) Receivables

Receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of general receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

A provision for impairment is established when there is objective evidence that the Local Council will not be able to collect all amounts receivable. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are considered indicators that the amount to be received is impaired. Once a financial asset or group of similar financial assets has been written down as a result of an impairment loss, interest income is recognised using the rate of interest used to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss.

h) Related parties

Related parties are those persons or bodies of persons having relationships with the Council as defined in International Accounting Standard No. 24.

i) Payables

Payables and accrued expenditure are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost. The difference between the proceeds and the amount payable is recognised over the period of the payable using the effective interest method.

j) Financial instruments

Recognition and derecognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Local Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred. A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

Classification and initial measurement of financial assets

Except for those receivables that do not contain a significant financing component and are measured at the transaction price in accordance with IFRS 15, all financial assets are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs (where applicable).

Financial assets are classified into the following categories:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

j) Financial instruments - continued

The Local Council does not have any financial assets categorised as FVTPL and FVOCI in the periods presented.

The classification is determined by both:

- the entity's business model for managing the financial asset; and
- the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit or loss are presented within 'finance costs', 'finance income' or 'other financial items'.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets are measured at amortised cost if the assets meet the following conditions (and are not designated as FVTPL):

- they are held within a business model whose objective is to hold the financial assets and collect its contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms of the financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

After initial recognition, these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Local Council's cash and cash equivalents, receivables and most other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.

Impairment of financial assets

IFRS 9's impairment requirements use more forward-looking information to recognise expected credit losses – the 'expected credit loss (ECL) model'. Instruments within the scope of the new requirements included loans and other debt-type financial assets measured at amortised cost and FVOCI, trade receivables, contract assets recognised and measured under IFRS 15 and loan commitments and some financial guarantee contracts (for the issuer) that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Recognition of credit losses is no longer dependent on the Local Council first identifying a credit loss event. Instead, the Local Council considers a broader range of information when assessing credit risk and measuring expected credit losses, including past events, current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the expected collectability of the future cash flows of the instrument.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

j) Financial instruments - continued

In applying this forward-looking approach, a distinction is made between:

- financial instruments that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have low credit risk ('Stage 1') and
- financial instruments that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition and whose credit risk is not low ('Stage 2').
'Stage 3' would cover financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date.

'12-month expected credit losses' are recognised for the first category while 'lifetime expected credit losses' are recognised for the second category.

Measurement of the expected credit losses is determined by a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of the financial instrument.

Financial liabilities

The council's financial liabilities include other payables. These are stated at their nominal amount which is a reasonable approximation of fair value.

All interest-related charges are included within 'finance costs'.

k) Government grants

Government grants relating to operating expenditure are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive income in the same period that the related expenditure is incurred.

Government grants relating to the purchase of property, plant and equipment are accounted for using the capital approach; and are thus deducted from the carrying amount of the relative non-current asset. Up to the year ended 31st December 2017, government grants were accounted for using the income approach according to IAS 20 "Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance." On 1st January 2018, the capital approach, according to IAS 20, has been adopted, in line with the directive No. 1/2017 issued by the Department for Local Government. This is a change in accounting policy, and; according to IAS 8 "Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors," it has been accounted for retrospectively

Government grants are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the Local Council will comply with the conditions attaching to them and that the grants will be received.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

k) Government grants - continued

Government grants are recognised in statement of comprehensive income on a systematic basis over the years in which the Local Council recognises as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate.

Government grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the Local Council with no future related costs are recognised in statement of comprehensive income in the year in which they become receivable.

l) Income recognition

Income in general is stated when there is reasonable certainty that the income would be receivable and thus can be accrued for. Other income such as that derived from the organisation of courses, cultural, sporting, and social activities is only recognised on a cash basis.

Income from investment activities is recognised when the rights of receipt have been established.

Interest income from financial assets is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Local Council and the amount of income can be measured reliably. Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount on initial recognition.

m) Expenses

Expenses are recognised in the statement of profit or loss upon utilisation of the service or at the date of their origin

n) Foreign currencies

Functional and presentation currency

These financial statements are presented in Euro (€), which is the Local Council's functional and presentation currency. In preparing the financial statements of the Council, transactions in currencies other than the Local Council's functional currency (foreign currencies) are recognised at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At the end of each reporting year, monetary items denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing at that date. Non-monetary items carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing at the date when the fair value was determined. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical costs in a foreign currency are not retranslated.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

o) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use or sale, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for the intended use or sale.

Investment income on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

All other borrowing costs are recognised in total comprehensive income for the year in which they are incurred.

p) Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimating uncertainty

In the process of applying the Local Council's accounting policies, the Council Members have made no judgements which can significantly affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

At the end of the reporting year, except as disclosed in note 20, there were no key assumptions concerning the future, or any other key sources of estimating uncertainty, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

q) Capital management policies and procedures

The council's capital consists of its net assets, including working capital, presented by its retained funds. The Council's management objective are to ensure that the Council's ability to continue as a going concern is still valid and that the Council maintains a positive working capital ratio. To achieve this, the Council carries out a quarterly review of the working capital ratio (Financial Situation Indicator). This ratio was positive at the reporting date. The council also uses budgets and business plans to set its strategy to optimise its use of available funds and implement its commitments to the locality.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures – continued

r) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Local Council has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Local Council will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting year, considering the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. When a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows (where the effect of the time value of money is material).

When some or all the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, a receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received, and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

3. Funds received from Central Government

	2024	2023
	€	€
In terms of section 55 of the Local Councils Act, 1993	335,295	305,296
Supplementary income	23,029	28,536
	<u>358,324</u>	<u>333,832</u>

4. Income raised under Council Bye-laws

	2024	2023
	€	€
Income from permits	13,714	8,905
Income from kiosks	163	233
Income from hire of football pitch	3,381	2,894
	<u>17,258</u>	<u>12,032</u>

5. Income from Law Enforcement System

	2024	2023
	€	€
Contraventions	2,246	2,694

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

5. Income from Law Enforcement System - continued

In accordance with the Law Enforcement System (LES) issued by the Ministry by virtue of Section 72 of the Local Councils Act, 1993, the income relating to contraventions was delegated to the local councils through Legal Notice 32 of 2000.

Up to the 31 August 2011, income from contraventions was based on cash received which represented 100% of the contravention.

As from the 1 September 2011 the contraventions previously accruing to the Council started accruing in favour of the 'Regjun Nofsinnhar'. The Council's income from the Law Enforcement System therefore started reflecting two revenue streams as of that date. The revenue streams are as follows:

- a) Receipts of funds accruing to the council up to the 31 August 2011.
- b) 10% on the contraventions accruing to all Regional Committees that were settled at the Council's cash point.

6. General and other income

	2024	2023
	€	€
Income from community and cultural activities	738	46
Income from local regions	34,618	11,616
Income from library services	1,944	1,836
Other income	8,438	24,023
	<u>45,738</u>	<u>37,521</u>

7. Personnel emoluments

	2024	2023
	€	€
<i>Personnel emoluments include:</i>		
Mayor's honoraria	11,330	11,079
Council members' allowances	13,000	13,000
Executive secretary's salary	40,180	38,845
Employees' salary	40,753	38,839
Social security contribution	6,491	6,064
	<u>111,754</u>	<u>107,827</u>

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

8. Operations and maintenance

	2024	2023
	€	€
<i>Operations and maintenance include:</i>		
Repairs and Upkeep:		
Road and street pavements	662	581
Road signs and markings	3,385	3,968
Other repairs & upkeep	11,046	9,569
Restoration of statues	-	25,040
Public property repairs	23,799	14,441
Office furniture and equipment repairs	34	495
Plant & machinery and sundry repairs	4,773	4,761
Street lighting	13,762	6,963
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	57,461	65,818
Contractual Services:		
Waste disposal and refuse collection	48,729	33,247
Bulky refuse collection	4,504	4,694
Hire of skips	-	400
Road and street cleaning	22,195	19,537
Cleaning and maintenance - public conveniences	5,125	3,900
Cleaning and maintenance soft areas	5,266	2,516
Cleaning council premises	9,985	8,637
Other contractual service	11,160	11,386
LES related expenses	29	537
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	106,993	84,854
Total Operations and Maintenance expenses	<hr/>	<hr/>
	164,454	150,672

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

9. Administrative and other expenditures

	2024	2023
	€	€
Utilities	11,945	11,779
Operating materials and supplies	2,583	2,172
Participation fee national and EU organisations	357	2,477
Office services	3,938	5,303
Transport expenses	3,275	3,028
Information services	1,968	1,110
Library expenses	4,827	4,133
Insurance coverage	4,660	2,428
Bank charges	1,007	839
Professional services	5,923	8,634
ICT expenses	2,124	2,608
Community services and social events	70,143	39,846
Sundry minor expenses	80	115
Rent	6,593	4,906
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	18,617	14,313
	<u>138,040</u>	<u>103,691</u>

10. Finance income

	2024	2023
	€	€
Bank interest receivable	<u>62</u>	<u>36</u>

11. Finance costs

	2024	2023
	€	€
Bank interest paid	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

12. Property, plant and equipment

Cost	Assets Under Construction		Office Furniture and Fittings		New Street Signs		Urban Improvements		Trees		Office and Computer Equipment		Plant & Machinery and Motor Vehicles		Special Programmes		Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	
At 1 January 2024	28,314	267,132	351,260	57,654	18,611	426,108	1,031	56,800	16,807	311,428	1,535,145						
Additions	-	-	-	465	-	123,041	-	4,092	44,405	-	172,003						
Transfer to expenditure	(11,171)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(11,171)						
At 31 December 2024	17,143	267,132	351,260	58,119	18,611	549,149	1,031	60,892	61,212	311,428	1,695,977						
Grants																	
At 1 January 2024	12,905	-	198,270	1,390	-	254,021	-	6,571	6,677	27,247	507,081						
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	91,420	-	2,000	37,485	-	130,905						
Transfer to Urban Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
At 31 December 2024	12,905	-	198,270	1,390	-	345,441	-	8,571	44,162	27,247	637,986						
Depreciation																	
At 1 January 2024	-	53,243	115,522	47,206	18,611	114,021	-	49,505	9,939	284,181	692,228						
Charge for the year	-	2,680	5,841	895	-	7,595	-	840	766	-	18,617						
At 31 December 2024	-	55,923	121,363	48,101	18,611	121,616	-	50,345	10,705	284,181	710,845						
Net Book Value at 31 December 2024	4,238	211,209	31,627	8,628	-	82,092	1,031	1,976	6,345	-	347,146						

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

12. Property, plant and equipment - continued

Cost	Assets Under Buildings and Construction Improvements		Construction Works		Office Furniture and Fittings		New Street Signs		Urban Improvements		Trees		Office and Computer Equip. machinery		Plant and Special Programmes		Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	
At 1 January 2023	205,249	267,132	351,260	54,802	18,611	233,385	1,031	56,594	16,807	311,428	1,516,299						
Additions	12,932	-	-	2,852	-	2,856	-	206	-	-	18,846						
Transfer to Improvements	(189,867)	-	-	-	-	189,867	-	-	-	-	-						
At 31 December 2023	28,314	267,132	351,260	57,654	18,611	426,108	1,031	56,800	16,807	311,428	1,535,145						
Grants																	
At 1 January 2023	79,814	-	198,270	1,390	-	103,883	-	6,571	6,677	27,247	423,852						
Additions	83,229	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83,229						
Transfer to Improvements	(150,138)	-	-	-	-	150,138	-	-	-	-	-						
At 31 December 2023	12,905	-	198,270	1,390	-	254,021	-	6,571	6,677	27,247	507,081						
Depreciation																	
At 1 January 2023	-	50,563	108,673	46,416	18,611	111,255	-	48,589	9,627	284,181	677,915						
Charge for the year	-	2,680	6,849	790	-	2,766	-	916	312	-	14,313						
At 31 December 2023	-	53,243	115,522	47,206	18,611	114,021	-	49,505	9,939	284,181	692,228						
Net book Value at 31 December 2023	15,409	213,889	37,468	9,058	-	58,066	1,031	724	191	-	335,836						

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

13. Trade and other receivables

	2024	2023
	€	€
Falling due within one year		
Receivables – LES (i)	77,160	77,719
Provision for doubtful debts – LES (i)	(77,160)	(77,719)
Trade receivables	13,313	1,255
Prepayments and accrued income	69,119	34,845
	<u>82,432</u>	<u>36,100</u>

	2024	2023
	€	€
Falling due within one year:		
Within Credit period	12,737	471
Exceeding credit period but not impaired	576	784
Impaired and provided for	77,160	77,719
Provision for doubtful debts	(77,160)	(77,719)
	<u>13,313</u>	<u>1,255</u>

- (i) Local Enforcement System (LES) debtors amount to € 77,160 have been fully provided for. As at 31 December 2024, provision for doubtful debts amounted to € 77,160 (2023: € 77,719). During the year, the movement of € 559 was adjusted for as an LES expense with the corresponding decrease in provision for doubtful debts of the same amount. All other receivables are within credit period allowed and receivable within 1 year.

14. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise the following amounts:

	2024	2023
	€	€
Petty cash	5,273	172
Bank balances: Savings and current accounts	180,869	288,274
Bank balances: LES deposits account	200	200
Bank balances: football ground sinking fund account	42,419	10,980
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of Financial position	<u>228,761</u>	<u>299,626</u>
Less Bank balances overdrawn (note 15)	(230)	(2,032)
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cashflows	<u>228,531</u>	<u>297,594</u>

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

15. Short-term borrowings

	2024	2023
	€	€
Falling due within one year:		
Bank balances overdrawn	230	2,032

16. Trade and other payables

	2024	2023
	€	€
Falling due within one year:		
Trade payables	24,659	9,554
Other creditors	7,686	7,855
Accruals	27,978	21,202
Deferred income	9,728	52,241
	<u>70,051</u>	<u>90,852</u>

17. Capital commitments

	2024	2023
	€	€
<i>Details of capital commitments at the accounting date are as follows:</i>		
(i) Contracted for and partly provided for	-	102,820
(ii) Approved but not yet contracted for	49,000	66,950

Capital Commitments refer to projects as follows:

Capital Projects include the football ground project which is estimated to cost around €49,000. Funding for this project is estimated to be up to a maximum of €39,200 under Local Government schemes (LESA). In previous year, capital projects included the purchase of electric van and playing field renovation which have been completed during 2024.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

18. Related party transactions

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial or operational decisions.

The ultimate controlling party of the Hal-Safi Local Council is the Local Councils Department within the Office of the Prime Minister.

All the companies, Authorities and Agencies set-up by the Central Government are also considered to be related parties to Safi Local Council but do not have significant control. All Regional Committees (from 1 September 2011), the Local Councils Association and the other Local Councils are also considered to be related parties.

During the year under review the Local Council carried out transactions with the following parties:

Name of Entity:	Nature of Relationship	
Department of Local Councils	Significant	
Regional Committee - Local Law Enforcement	No Control	
Bank of Valletta	No Control	
Department of Education	No Control	
Enemalta Corporation	No Control	
Local Councils Association	No Control	
Water Services Corporation	No Control	
Wasteserv Malta Limited	No Control	
Works Division - Director General Works	No Control	
	2024	2023
	€	€
Income - annual financial allocation	335,295	305,926

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

18. Related party transactions - continued

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the Local Council, directly or indirectly. The main key management personnel are the Mayor, Councillors and the Executive Secretary.

The significant transactions carried out with key management personnel are:

	2024	2023
Personal emoluments include, inter alia:	€	€
Mayor's Allowance	11,330	11,079
Councillors' Allowance	13,000	13,000
Executive Secretary salary and allowances	40,180	38,845
	<hr/>	<hr/>

19. Financial Risk Management

The Local Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks that include market risks, credit risk, liquidity risk and interest risk. The Local Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimize potential adverse effects on the Council's financial performance.

Where applicable, any significant changes in the Local Council's exposure to financial risks or manner in which the Local Council manages and measures these risks are disclosed below.

Where possible, the Local Council aims to reduce and control risk concentrations. Concentrations of financial risk arise when financial instruments with similar characteristics are influenced in the same way by changes in economic or other factors. The amount of risk exposure associated with the financial instruments sharing similar characteristics is disclosed in more detail in the notes to the financial statements.

With respect to credit risk, the receivables are monitored continuously for recoverability. Receivables are presented net of an allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows. Known bad debts are therefore maintained to the lowest possible, thereby lowering as much as possible the concentration of credit risk.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

19. Financial Risk Management – continued

19.1 Credit risk

The council's exposure to credit risk is limited to the carrying amount of financial assets recognised at the end of the reporting period, as summarised below:

	2024	2023
	€	€
Class of financial assets – carrying amounts		
Trade and other receivables	82,432	36,100
Cash and Cash Equivalents	228,761	299,626
	<u>311,193</u>	<u>335,726</u>

The council continuously monitors defaults of counterparties, identified either individually or by group, and incorporates this information into its credit risk controls. The council's policy is to deal with only creditworthy counterparties.

The council considers that the above financial assets that are not impaired for each of the reporting dates under review are of good credit quality, including those that are past due. The credit risk exposure on financial assets is low since all non-impaired trade receivables are all related to 'The Government of Malta'. See note 6 for further information on impairment or financial assets that are past due.

None of the council's financial assets is secured by collateral or other credit enhancements.

The credit risk for liquid funds is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings. The Council's cash is placed with a quality financial institutions.

19.2 Liquidity risk

The council's exposure to liquidity risk arises from its obligations to meet its financial liabilities which comprise payables. Prudent liquidity risk management includes maintaining sufficient cash and committed credit facilities to ensure the availability of an adequate amount of funds to meet the council's obligations when they become due.

The council manage its liquidity needs through yearly budgets and business plans by carefully monitoring expected cash inflows and outflows on a daily basis. The council's liquidity is deemed to be sufficient in view of an excess of financial assets.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

19. Financial Risk Management – continued

19.2 Liquidity risk - continued

At 31 December 2024, the Council's financial liabilities have contractual maturities which are summarised as follows:

	Current	Non – Current	
	Within 1 year	1 to 5 years	More than 5 years
	€	€	€
Payables	32,345	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	37,706	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

This compares to the maturity of the Council's financial liabilities in the previous reporting period as follows:

	Current	Non – Current	
	Within 1 year	1 to 5 years	More than 5 years
	€	€	€
Payables	17,409	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	73,443	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

19.3 Interest Rate risk

The Council has no significant interest-bearing assets other than cash and cash equivalents (Note 14 and 15), issued at variable rates. Cash and cash equivalents issued at variable rates expose the Council to cash flow interest rate risk. Management monitors the level of floating rate bank balances as a measure of cash flow risk taken on. Based on this analysis, management considers the potential impact on profit or loss of a defined interest rate shift that is reasonably possible at the end of the reporting period to be immaterial.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

19. Financial Risk Management – continued

19.4 Summary of the financial assets and liabilities by category

The carrying amounts of the council's financial assets and liabilities as recognised at the reporting dates under review are categorised as follows:

	2024	2023
	€	€
Current Assets		
Trade and other receivables	82,432	36,100
Cash and Cash Equivalents	228,761	299,626
	<u>311,193</u>	<u>335,726</u>
	2024	2023
	€	€
Current Liabilities		
Financial Liabilities measured at amortised costs:		
Payables	24,659	9,554
Other creditors	7,686	7,855
Accruals	27,978	21,202
	<u>60,323</u>	<u>38,611</u>

19.5 Capital risk management

The Council's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Council's ability to continue as a going concern so that it can continue to provide a service to the residents of the Local Council by maintaining an optimal capital structure to reduce cost of capital.

The Council's equity, as disclosed in the statement of financial position, constitutes its capital. The Council's capital structure is monitored by the Executive Secretary and the Council with appropriate reference to its financial obligations and commitments arising from operational requirements. In view of the nature of the Council's activities, the capital level as at the end of the reporting period is deemed adequate by the Council.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

20. Fair value estimation

At 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023, the carrying amounts of cash at bank, other financial assets, receivables and payables reflected in the financial statements are reasonable estimates of fair value in view of the nature of these instruments or the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instruments and their expected realisation.

21. Events after the reporting date

No adjusting or significant non-adjusting events have occurred between the reporting date and the date of approval of the financial statements 21/04/2025 by the Council Members.

22. Contingent Liabilities

A new collective agreement for Clerical Staff within Local Councils and Regional Councils has been signed on 23 January 2025 covering years 2024 to 2028. The effective date for assimilations for the new scales, allowances and bonuses included in the Collective Agreement shall be as from 1 January 2024. Consequently, outstanding payroll dues pertaining to 2024, will be paid in 2025, once the revised workings are confirmed by the Department of Local Government. These arrears have not been accounted for at year end, in view of the pending approval by the Department of Local Government.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Auditor General

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Hal-Safi Local Council, set out on pages 2 to 29 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Local Council as at 31 December 2024, and of its financial performance and cashflows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union (EU).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are independent of the Local Council in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act (Cap. 281) in Malta, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the financial statements

As described on page 1, the Executive Secretary and the members of the Local Council are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the EU, 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 Executive Secretary and the members of the Local Council are responsible for assessing the Local Council'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 the intention to liquidate the Local Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the financial statements (continued)

The Executive Secretary and the members of the Local Council are responsible for overseeing the Local Council's financial reporting process.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Local Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Local Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Local Council to cease to continue as a going concern.

HEAD OFFICE:

13, Curate Fenech Street, Birzebbuga - BBG2032, Malta, EU
T +356 2165 4567 | M +356 7765 0000
E info@prturner.com.mt | W www.parkerrussellturner.com



HAL-SAFI LOCAL COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The principal authorised to sign on behalf of Parker Russell Turner on the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report is Mr. Arthur Douglas Turner.



Arthur Douglas Turner – Partner
On behalf of Parker Russell Turner

“Parker Russell Turner”,
13, Curate Fenech Street,
Birzebbugia
Malta

21 April 2025