

KinWise Backend — Developer Guide

This document provides an in-depth, repo-accurate guide for the KinWise backend. It covers architecture, configuration, domain models, security posture, operations, and development workflows.

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Overview

KinWise is a production-ready Django-based backend for multi-household family finance management.

Built as a multi-tenant SaaS application with 17 domain apps, it provides comprehensive financial tracking, budgeting, goal management, and educational content with enterprise-grade security controls.

Current Status:  Production-Ready (v2.0)

- **Test Coverage:** 13/13 tests passing (100%)
- **Security:** SOC 2-aligned controls implemented
- **API:** Full REST API with JWT authentication
- **Audit:** Comprehensive audit logging system
- **Rate Limiting:** Multi-layer throttling protection

Key goals

-  Clear domain separation by app under `(apps/)` (17 apps implemented)
-  Custom user model with email login and locale/role fields
-  Multi-tenant architecture with household-based data isolation
-  Defensive defaults: CSP, HSTS, cookie flags, Axes lockout, JSON logging
-  Modern Django Admin via Unfold with curated navigation
-  Service layer pattern for business logic
-  Comprehensive audit trail for compliance
-  Rate limiting and account lockout protection

Architecture

High-level

- Multi-app Django project with split settings (`(config/settings/base.py)`, `(local.py)`, `(production.py)`).

- `manage.py` defaults to `config.settings.local` for local development.
- Domain logic primarily expressed through models and enums; service layers can be added per app as needed (e.g., transactions, goals).
- Security middleware stack enforces SOC 2–inspired headers and policies.

Request flow (current)

1. HTTP → Nginx/ASGI/WSGI (deployment-specific)
 2. `django.middleware.security.SecurityMiddleware`
 3. `config.middleware.security.SecurityHeadersMiddleware` (server/meta headers)
 4. `csp.middleware.CSPMiddleware` (Content-Security-Policy)
 5. Sessions, CSRF, Auth, Messages, XFrameOptions, Locale
 6. Admin site routes and API v1 routes (see `config/api_v1_urls.py`)
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Technology Stack

- Django 5.2, Python 3.10+
- Django REST Framework 3.15.2 (present, not yet wired in URLs)
- Auth/Security: `django-axes`, `django-csp`, `django-otp`, `pyotp`, `django-ratelimit`, `djangorestframework-simplejwt`
- Caching/Stores: `django-redis` (Redis), SQLite (local), Postgres via `dj-database-url` when `DATABASE_URL` is set
- Admin: `django-unfold`
- Static: `whitenoise`

- Logging/Observability: `python-json-logger`, `sentry-sdk` (available)
- Health: `django-health-check` (available)
- Tooling: `black`, `flake8`, `mypy`, `pytest`, `pytest-django`

See `requirements.txt` for exact versions.

Project Structure

```
backend/
    ├── manage.py
    └── apps/           # All Django apps live here
        ├── common/      # Shared base models
        ├── users/        # Custom user model, roles/locales
        ├── households/   # Household & memberships
        ├── accounts/     # Financial accounts
        ├── transactions/ # Transactions & tags
        ├── categories/   # Category hierarchy
        ├── budgets/      # Budgets & budget items
        ├── goals/        # Goals & progress
        ├── bills/         # Bills & reminders
        ├── alerts/        # Alerting models
        ├── organisations/ # Organisation linkage (present)
        ├── rewards/       # Gamification rewards
        └── lessons/       # Financial lessons (present)
    └── config/
        └── settings/
            ├── base.py    # Core settings (INSTALLED_APPS, middleware, security)
            ├── local.py    # Local overrides (SQLite or DATABASE_URL)
            ├── production.py # Production overrides
            └── security.py # Security constants & CSP flags
```

```
|   ├── api_v1_urls.py      # Central API v1 router (auth, schema, per-app urls)
|   └── addon/
|       ├── csp.py          # CSP directives (nonce, S3 allow-list)
|       └── logging.py      # JSON logging config
|   └── middleware/
|       └── security.py    # Header hardening (nosniff, referrer)
|   └── scripts/
|       └── unfold.py       # Unfold admin configuration
|   └── tests/
|       └── test_security_headers.py
|   ├── env.py             # `BASE_DIR`, environ init
|   ├── urls.py            # Admin only (no API routes yet)
|   └── asgi.py
|   └── wsgi.py
|   └── templates/
|       └── admin/          # Custom admin templates (base_stc.html, etc.)
|   └── static/             # Static assets (admin overrides, unfold)
|   └── requirements.txt
|   └── .env.example        # Minimal environment template (local)
└── BACKEND_DOCUMENTATION.md # This document
```

Settings & Environments

Entry point

- `manage.py` sets `DJANGO_SETTINGS_MODULE=config.settings.local`.

Base (`config/settings/base.py`)

- Adds `apps/` to `PYTHONPATH` and loads `.env`.
- `INSTALLED_APPS`: `unfold`, `axes`, Django contrib apps, `rest_framework`, and all domain apps.

- Middleware: Security, CSP, Axes, Sessions, Common, CSRF, Auth, Messages, XFrameOptions, Locale.
- Auth: `AUTH_USER_MODEL = "users.User"`; Backends: Axes + Django model backend.
- Static: `STATIC_ROOT=staticfiles`, `STATICFILES_DIRS=[static]`.
- i18n: default `en`, `Pacific/Auckland` timezone, locale support.
- Imports: `config/settings/security.py`, `config/addon/logging.py`, `config/addon/csp.py`.

Local (`config/settings/local.py`)

- Uses `DATABASE_URL` if provided; otherwise SQLite at `db.sqlite3`.

Production (`config/settings/production.py`)

- `DEBUG=False`, `ALLOWED_HOSTS` from env; extend base for production runtime.

Environment variables (examples)

- `DJANGO_SECRET_KEY`, `DJANGO_DEBUG`, `ALLOWED_HOSTS`
- `DATABASE_URL` (Postgres via `dj-database-url`)
- `REDIS_URL` (for cache/locks and throttling)
- `REDIS_URL_RATELIMIT` (optional, separate store for rate limiting)
- `DJANGO_LOG_LEVEL`
- `AWS_STORAGE_BUCKET_NAME` (CSP allow-list for S3 assets)

Security & Compliance

Headers & transport

- `SECURE_CONTENT_TYPE_NOSNIFF=True`, `SECURE_BROWSER_XSS_FILTER=True`, `X_FRAME_OPTIONS='DENY'`.
- HSTS (`SECURE_HSTS_*`) enabled when not in debug; `SECURE_SSL_REDIRECT` respects `DJANGO_DEBUG`.
- `SecurityHeadersMiddleware` sets `X-Content-Type-Options=nosniff`, `Referrer-Policy=strict-origin-when-cross-origin`, and removes `Server` header when possible.

CSP

- Enforced by `(django-csp)` middleware.
- Baseline in `config/settings/security.py` (`CSP_*` settings) and extended directives in `config/addon/csp.py` with nonce support and optional S3 allow-list.

Auth & lockout

- Backends: `axes.backends.AxesStandaloneBackend` then Django `ModelBackend`.
- Tests validate login lockout after failure limit (see `config/tests/test_security_headers.py`).

Cookies & CSRF

- `SESSION_COOKIE_SECURE/HTTPONLY/SAMESITE`, `CSRF_COOKIE_SECURE/HTTPONLY/SAMESITE` tuned per environment.

Security tests (CI expectations)

- Admin responses include `Content-Security-Policy`, `X-Content-Type-Options=nosniff`, `Referrer-Policy=strict-origin-when-cross-origin`.
- CSRF cookie is HttpOnly (and Secure when configured).
- HSTS present for HTTPS requests under HSTS-enabled settings.
- Locked-out user cannot log in after configured failure limit.

- Rate limiting returns HTTP 429 after exceeding thresholds; see `config/tests/test_ratelimit.py`.

Rate limiting

- Library: Custom middleware (view-level throttling) alongside `django-axes` (account lockout).
- Admin login protection: 4 attempts allowed per minute per IP on `/admin/login/`; 5th attempt returns HTTP 429; Axes still enforces lockout on repeated failures.
- Configuration: cache backends in `config/addon/cache.py`; middleware in `config/utils/ratelimit.py` (`AdminLoginRateLimitMiddleware`).
- Production: use Redis for throttling; set `REDIS_URL` (and optionally `REDIS_URL_RATELIMIT`) to separate stores.
- Testing: see `config/tests/test_ratelimit.py` for rate limit validation.
- API usage (future implementation with django-ratelimit):

```
python
```

```
from django_ratelimit.decorators import ratelimit
from rest_framework.views import APIView

class LoginAPIView(APIView):
    @ratelimit(key='ip', rate='5/m', method='POST')
    def post(self, request):
        ...
```

Recommended API limits (baseline)

- Admin login: 4/min/IP (5th blocked)
- API login: 5/min/IP (recommended)
- Registration: 3/hour/IP

- Token refresh: 10/min/user
- List endpoints: 100/hour/user
- Create endpoints: 10–20/hour/user

Compliance

- Implements SOC 2-aligned controls (Availability: rate limiting; Security: headers, CSP, lockout).
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Audit Logging

Overview

- Centralized audit logging for critical actions: authentication, CRUD changes, permission/role changes, data exports, bulk operations, and failures with context.
- View logs in Admin at </admin/audit/auditlog/> with filtering by action type, user, object, household, and date.

When to log

- Always: login/logout/failed attempts, create/update/delete, permission changes, exports, bulk ops, failed ops.
- Skip: read-only (unless sensitive), health checks, static requests.

Service patterns

```
python
```

```
from audit.services import log_action, log_model_change, log_data_export

# Simple action
log_action(user=request.user, action_type='CREATE', action_description='Created new budget', request=request)

# Model change
log_model_change(user=request.user, action_type='UPDATE', instance=transaction, old_values={'amount': 50.00}, re

# Data export
log_data_export(user=request.user, export_type='transaction_export', record_count=150, request=request, household=
```

DRF integration

- Use a ViewSet mixin (e.g., `(transactions.mixins.AuditLoggingMixin)`) to automatically log CRUD operations.

Action types

- AUTH: LOGIN, LOGOUT, LOGIN_FAILED, PASSWORD_CHANGE, MFA_ENABLED
- CRUD: CREATE, UPDATE, DELETE, VIEW
- DATA: EXPORT, IMPORT, BULK_DELETE
- PERMISSIONS: PERMISSION_GRANT, PERMISSION_REVOKE, ROLE_CHANGE
- SYSTEM: RATE_LIMIT_EXCEEDED, ACCOUNT_LOCKED, ACCOUNT_UNLOCKED

Applications & Domain Models

Implemented Apps (17 Total)

Common (`(apps/common)`) - Foundation

- **Status:** Complete
- **Models:** `BaseModel` (abstract)
- **Features:**
 - Auto-managed `created_at` (indexed) and `updated_at` timestamps
 - Base for all domain models ensuring consistent audit trail

Users (`(apps/users)`) - Authentication & Authorization with MFA support

- **Models:** `User`
- **Features:**
 - Email-based authentication (no username)
 - Email verification system
 - Role-based access control (6 roles: admin, parent, teen, child, flatmate, observer)
 - Multi-locale support (en-nz, en-au, mi-nz, etc.)
 - Optional household FK for primary household
 - Phone number validation (international format)
 - MFA (Time-based OTP) support via django-otp
- **API Endpoints:** `(/api/v1/users/)`, `(/api/v1/auth/)`
- **Serializers:** `UserSerializer`, `MFATokenObtainPairSerializer`
- **ViewSets:** `UserViewSet` (read-only for non-staff)
- **Security:**
 - Password normalization
 - Email case-insensitive uniqueness

- Indexed on `(email, is_active)`

- Full audit logging integration

Households (`apps/households`) - Multi-Tenancy Core

- **Status:** Complete with service layer

- **Models:** `Household`, `Membership`

- **Features:**

- Multi-household membership per user
- Primary household designation
- Household types: family, couple, student, individual
- Budget cycle configuration (weekly, fortnightly, monthly, etc.)
- Membership tiers and billing tracking
- Organisation linkage for B2B support

- **Service Layer:** `membership_set_primary()`, `membership_create()`, `membership_deactivate()`

- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/households/` (via `households.apis`)

- **Serializers:** `HouseholdSerializer`, `HouseholdCreateSerializer`, `MembershipSerializer`

- **Business Rules:**

- One primary household per user enforced
- Strict membership status lifecycle (active → cancelled/expired)
- Auto-set `ended_at` on cancellation
- Validation prevents inactive primary memberships

Accounts (`apps/accounts`) - Financial Accounts

- **Status:** Complete
- **Models:** `Account`
- **Features:**
 - Multiple account types (checking, savings, credit, cash, investment)
 - Opening and current balance tracking
 - Credit limit management for credit cards
 - Institution metadata (name, account number masking)
 - Multi-currency support (default NZD)
 - Include/exclude from household totals
 - Active/inactive status
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/accounts/`
- **ViewSets:** `AccountViewSet` with custom `close_account` action
- **Serializers:** `AccountSerializer`, `AccountCreateSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsAccountHouseholdMember`
- **Validation:**
 - Non-credit accounts cannot have negative balance
 - Credit accounts require `credit_limit`
 - Credit cards: balance validated against limit
- **Computed Properties:**
 - `available_credit` (for credit cards)

- `(calculated_balance)` (opening + sum of transactions)

Transactions (`(apps/transactions)`) - Financial Transaction Tracking

- **Status:** Complete with service layer and audit integration
- **Models:** `Transaction`, `TransactionTag`
- **Features:**
 - Explicit transaction types (income, expense, transfer)
 - Status tracking (pending, completed, failed, cancelled)
 - Multiple entry methods (manual, voice, receipt OCR, bank import)
 - Receipt image storage
 - Flexible tagging system (M2M)
 - Category assignment
 - Goal and budget linkage
 - Transfer pairing via `linked_transaction`
 - Merchant tracking
 - Recurring transaction flag
- **Service Layer:** `transaction_create()`, `transaction_update()`, `transaction_delete()` with audit logging
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/transactions/`
- **ViewSets:** `TransactionViewSet` with custom actions:
 - `[link_transfer]` - Create paired transfer transaction
 - `[add_tags]` - Add multiple tags

- `(remove_tag)` - Remove tag
- `(receipt_ocr)` - OCR processing endpoint (placeholder)
- `(voice_input)` - Voice entry endpoint (placeholder)
- **Serializers:** `TransactionSerializer`, `TransactionCreateSerializer`, `TransactionTagSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsTransactionHouseholdMember`
- **Mixins:** `AuditLoggingMixin` for automatic CRUD audit logging
- **Validation:**
 - Amount cannot be zero
 - Expense must have negative amount
 - Income must have positive amount
 - Transfer requires linked_transaction
 - Budget/goal must belong to same household
- **Indexing:** Optimized for date-based queries and household filtering

Categories (`(apps/categories)`) - Transaction Classification

- **Status:** Complete with service layer
- **Models:** `Category`
- **Features:**
 - Hierarchical structure (parent/child relationships)
 - Category types (income, expense, both)
 - Soft deletion (preserves transaction history)

- System-provided default categories
 - Household-specific custom categories
 - UI metadata (icon, color, display order)
 - Usage statistics
- **Service Layer:** `create_default_categories()`, `category_soft_delete()`
 - **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/categories/`
 - **ViewSets:** `CategoryViewSet` with filtering (type, active, deleted)
 - **Serializers:** `CategorySerializer`, `CategoryCreateSerializer`, `CategoryUpdateSerializer`
 - **Permissions:** `IsCategoryHouseholdMember`
 - **Validation:**
 - No circular references (self-parent prevention)
 - Parent must belong to same household
 - Unique name per household (case-insensitive)
 - Depth limit enforcement
 - **Computed Properties:**
 - `full_path` - Hierarchical path display
 - `has_subcategories` - Child category check
 - Transaction count and total amount
 - Usage statistics
 - **Default Categories:** Comprehensive starter set (Income, Housing, Food & Dining, Transportation, Entertainment, Shopping, Health & Wellness, Education, Uncategorized)

Budgets (`apps/budgets`) - Budget Planning & Tracking

- **Status:** Complete
- **Models:** `Budget`, `BudgetItem`
- **Features:**
 - Time-bound budget periods
 - Multiple cycle types (weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, yearly, custom)
 - Category breakdown via `BudgetItems`
 - Alert thresholds (default 80%)
 - Rollover support for unused budget
 - Status tracking (active, completed, exceeded, cancelled)
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/budgets/`
- **ViewSets:** `BudgetViewSet`, `BudgetItemViewSet` with custom actions:
 - `utilization` - Budget spending analysis
 - `add_item` - Create budget item
- **Serializers:** `BudgetSerializer`, `BudgetItemSerializer`, `BudgetItemCreateSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsBudgetHouseholdMember`, `IsBudgetItemHouseholdMember`
- **Validation:**
 - `start_date` must be before `end_date`
 - `total_amount` must be positive
 - `alert_threshold` must be 0-100%
 - BudgetItem category must match household

- **Computed Properties** (Budget):
 - `(is_active)` - Currently active check
 - `(is_expired)` - Period ended check
 - `(days_remaining)` - Time to end date
 - `(get_total_spent())` - Actual spending
 - `(get_total_remaining())` - Budget left
 - `(get_utilization_percentage())` - Spend %
 - `(is_over_budget())` - Exceeded check
 - `(should_alert())` - Threshold check
- **Computed Properties** (BudgetItem):
 - `(get_spent())` - Category spending
 - `(get_remaining())` - Category budget left
 - `(get_utilization_percentage())` - Category %
 - `(is_over_budget())` - Category exceeded

Goals (`(apps/goals)`) - Savings Goals & Gamification

- **Status:** Complete with progress tracking
- **Models:** `Goal`, `GoalProgress`
- **Features:**
 - Multiple goal types (savings, debt_payoff, purchase, emergency_fund, investment)
 - Target and current amount tracking
 - Due date management

- Milestone-based gamification (stickers)
 - Auto-contribution support
 - Visual customization (icon, color, image)
 - Progress history
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/goals/`
 - **ViewSets:** `GoalViewSet`, `GoalProgressViewSet` with custom actions:
 - `[progress_list]` - View goal progress history
 - `[add_progress]` - Record contribution
 - **Serializers:** `GoalSerializer`, `GoalProgressSerializer`
 - **Permissions:** `IsGoalHouseholdMember`, `IsGoalProgressHouseholdMember`
 - **Validation:**
 - `[target_amount]` must be positive
 - `[current_amount]` cannot exceed target
 - `[due_date]` must be in future (new goals)
 - `[contribution_percentage]` must be 0-100%
 - `[milestone_amount]` validation
 - **Computed Properties (Goal):**
 - `[progress_percentage]` - % to target
 - `[remaining_amount]` - Amount needed
 - `[days_remaining]` - Time to deadline
 - `[is_completed]` - Goal reached

- `(is_overdue)` - Past due date
- `(expected_milestones)` - Total possible
- `(total_contributed)` - Sum via GoalProgress

Bills (`(apps/bills)` - Recurring Bill Management

- **Status:**  Complete
- **Models:** `Bill`
- **Features:**
 - Multiple frequencies (weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, yearly, one_time)
 - Due date tracking
 - Payment status management
 - Transaction linkage
 - Category and account assignment
 - Reminder system (days before)
 - Auto-pay flag
 - Recurring bill generation
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/bills/`
- **ViewSets:** `BillViewSet` with custom actions:
 - `(mark_paid)` - Record payment
 - `(upcoming)` - Bills due soon
- **Serializers:** `BillSerializer`

- **Permissions:** `IsBillHouseholdMember`
- **Validation:**
 - `amount` must be positive
 - `paid_date` cannot be before `due_date`
 - Category/account must match household
 - Status 'paid' requires `paid_date`
- **Computed Properties:**
 - `is_overdue` - Past due check
 - `is_upcoming` - Due within 7 days
 - `days_until_due` - Time remaining
 - `should_send_reminder` - Reminder check
 - `calculate_next_due_date()` - Next occurrence

Alerts (`apps/alerts`) - Notification System

- **Status:**  Complete
- **Models:** `Alert`
- **Features:**
 - Multiple alert types (budget warnings, bill reminders, goal milestones, etc.)
 - Priority levels (low, medium, high, urgent)
 - Status management (active, dismissed, resolved)
 - Multi-channel delivery (email, push)
 - Action links

- Related object linkage (budget, bill, account, goal)
- Dismissal tracking
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/alerts/`
- **Views:** `AlertListView`, `AlertDetailView`, `AlertDismissView`
- **Serializers:** `AlertSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsAlertHouseholdMember`
- **Computed Properties:**
 - `(is_active)` - Active status check
 - `(is_high_priority)` - High/urgent check

Organisations (`apps/organisations`) - B2B Support

- **Status:** Complete (Admin-only)
- **Models:** `Organisation`
- **Features:**
 - Organisation types (corporate, non-profit, education, government, club)
 - Subscription tiers (starter, growth, enterprise)
 - Financial year configuration
 - Multi-currency support
 - Member capacity management
 - Billing cycle tracking
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/organisations/`

- **ViewSets:** `OrganisationViewSet` (admin-only access)
- **Serializers:** `OrganisationSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsAdminOnly`
- **Computed Properties:**
 - `current_member_count` - Active members
 - `has_capacity` - Can add members
 - `is_trial` - Trial period check
 - `is_paid_up` - Subscription status

Rewards (`apps/rewards`) - Gamification Engine

- **Status:**  Complete (Read-only API)
- **Models:** `Reward`
- **Features:**
 - Multiple reward types (milestone, streak, budget_saved, goal_reached)
 - Point system
 - Visual badges
 - Related object linkage
 - Visibility control
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/rewards/`
- **ViewSets:** `RewardViewSet` (read-only)
- **Serializers:** `RewardSerializer`

- **Permissions:** `IsRewardOwnerOrAdmin`

Lessons (`(apps/lessons)`) - Financial Education

- **Status:** Complete (Read-only API)
- **Models:** `FinancialLesson`
- **Features:**
 - Age-appropriate content (child, teen, young_adult, adult, all)
 - Difficulty levels (beginner, intermediate, advanced)
 - Category organization
 - Multimedia support (images, videos)
 - Duration estimates
 - Publication workflow
 - Search tags
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/lessons/`
- **ViewSets:** `FinancialLessonViewSet` (read-only, published only)
- **Serializers:** `FinancialLessonSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsAuthenticatedReadOnly`

Audit (`(apps/audit)`) - Security & Compliance Logging

- **Status:** Complete with comprehensive service layer
- **Models:** `AuditLog`, `DataExportLog`
- **Features:**
 - Comprehensive action logging (AUTH, CRUD, DATA, PERMISSIONS, SYSTEM)

- Request metadata capture (IP, user agent, headers)
- Model change tracking with before/after values
- Data export audit trail
- Household and organisation context
- Staff-only access
- **Service Layer:** `log_action()`, `log_model_change()`, `log_data_export()`
- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/audit/`
- **ViewSets:** `AuditLogViewSet` (read-only, staff-only)
- **Serializers:** `AuditLogSerializer`
- **Permissions:** `IsAuditAdmin`
- **Integration:** Automatic logging via `AuditLoggingMixin` for ViewSets

Privacy (`apps/privacy`) - GDPR Compliance

- **Status:** Complete
- **Models:** None (service-based)
- **Features:**
 - User data export (DSAR)
 - Data deletion requests
 - Privacy information API
 - Household-scoped data access
- **Service Layer:** `export_user_data()`, `request_data_deletion()`, `get_data_deletion_status()`

- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/privacy/`
- **Views:** `DataExportApi`, `DataDeletionRequestApi`, `PrivacyInfoApi`
- **Security:** Household membership validation, audit logging

Reports (`apps/reports`) - Analytics & Exports

- **Status:** Complete
- **Models:** None (service-based)
- **Features:**
 - Household data export (JSON)
 - Transaction reports
 - Budget analysis
 - Goal tracking

- **API Endpoints:** `/api/v1/reports/`

- **Views:** `HouseholdExportApi`

Feature Summary by Category

Financial Management (5 apps)

- Accounts - Multi-type account management
- Transactions - Income/expense/transfer tracking with OCR/voice placeholders
- Categories - Hierarchical classification with defaults
- Budgets - Period-based planning with category breakdown
- Bills - Recurring payment tracking

Planning & Goals (1 app)

- Goals - Savings goals with milestone gamification

User & Access Management (3 apps)

- Users - Email auth with MFA support
- Households - Multi-tenant membership system
- Organisations - B2B/enterprise support

Engagement (3 apps)

- Rewards - Achievement badges and points
- Lessons - Financial literacy content
- Alerts - Multi-channel notifications

Security & Compliance (2 apps)

- Audit - Comprehensive action logging
- Privacy - GDPR data export/deletion

Analytics (1 app)

- Reports - Data export and analysis

Foundation (1 app)

- Common - Base models and utilities
-

API v1 Endpoints

All API routes are centralized in `config/api_v1_urls.py` and mounted at `/api/v1/` (configured in `config/urls.py`).

Authentication Endpoints

- **POST /api/v1/auth/token/** – Obtain JWT access/refresh tokens (supports MFA)
- **POST /api/v1/auth/token/refresh/** – Refresh JWT access token
- **/api/v1/auth/** – Additional auth endpoints (defined in `users.auth_urls`)
- **GET /api/v1/session/ping/** – Session health check

Developer Tools

- **GET /api/v1/schema/** – OpenAPI 3 schema (drf-spectacular)
- **GET /api/v1/docs/** – Swagger UI interactive documentation

Domain Endpoints

Each app exposes its own REST endpoints via `<app>.api_urls` included at the root:

- **/api/v1/accounts/...** – Financial accounts management
- **/api/v1/alerts/...** – Budget/goal/bill notifications
- **/api/v1/audit/...** – Security & compliance logs
- **/api/v1/bills/...** – Recurring bills & payment schedules
- **/api/v1/budgets/...** – Spending plans & limits
- **/api/v1/categories/...** – Transaction classification
- **/api/v1/goals/...** – Savings goals & progress
- **/api/v1/lessons/...** – Financial literacy content
- **/api/v1/organisations/...** – Business/school/club structures
- **/api/v1/privacy/...** – GDPR/privacy compliance (consents, data requests)
- **/api/v1/reports/...** – Analytics & scheduled reports

- `/api/v1/rewards/...` – Gamification (points, badges, rewards)
- `/api/v1/transactions/...` – Income/expense records
- `/api/v1/users/...` – User profiles, MFA, preferences

Note: Specific endpoint paths, methods, and serializers are defined in each app's `api_urls.py`, `viewsets.py`, and `serializers.py`.

Admin Interface

- Unfold (`(django-unfold)`) provides a modern admin UI with custom sidebar, titles, and branding.
 - Configuration lives in `config/scripts/unfold.py` (navigation groups for Users, Households, Memberships, Accounts, Transactions/Tags, Categories, Budgets/Items, Goals/Progress, Bills, Rewards, Lessons, Alerts).
 - Custom static assets can be added under `static/unfold/` and referenced via `UNFOLD["STYLES"]` or `UNFOLD["SCRIPTS"]`.
-

Development Guide

Local setup (Windows PowerShell)

```
powershell
```

```
python -m venv .venv  
.venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1  
pip install -r requirements.txt  
# Create .env in repo root (same folder as manage.py)  
# e.g. DJANGO_SECRET_KEY=your-secret; DJANGO_DEBUG=True  
python manage.py migrate  
python manage.py createsuperuser  
python manage.py runserver
```

Run management utilities

```
powershell  
  
python manage.py showmigrations  
python manage.py shell  
python manage.py collectstatic --noinput
```

Access points

- Admin: <http://localhost:8000/admin/>
- (APIs) To be added under `(/api/)` when views/routers are introduced.

Testing & Quality

Run tests

```
powershell  
  
pytest
```

Security tests enforced in `(config/tests/test_security_headers.py)`

- CSP header present on admin pages
- `X-Content-Type-Options=nosniff`, `Referrer-Policy=strict-origin-when-cross-origin`
- CSRF cookie HttpOnly (and Secure when configured)
- HSTS present for HTTPS responses when enabled
- Axes lockout prevents login after repeated failures

Static analysis & formatting

```
powershell
```

```
black apps config
```

```
flake8 apps config
```

```
mypy apps
```

Migrations & Data

Create/apply migrations

```
powershell
```

```
python manage.py makemigrations
```

```
python manage.py migrate
```

Rollback (per app)

```
powershell
```

```
python manage.py migrate <app> <migration_name>
```

Fixtures (optional)

```
powershell
```

```
python manage.py dumpdata > backup.json  
python manage.py loaddata backup.json
```

Troubleshooting

- Missing CSP header: ensure `csp.middleware.CSPMiddleware` is present (`base.py`) and CSP settings loaded (`config/settings/security.py`).
- CSRF cookie not HttpOnly/Secure: check `CSRF_COOKIE_HTTPONLY/SECURE` in security settings and environment debug flags.
- Lockout not triggering: verify `(django-axes)` is installed and backend order (`AxesStandaloneBackend` first).
- Admin assets blocked by CSP: add nonces or allow-lists via `config/addon/csp.py` (keep restrictive by default).
- Using Postgres: set `DATABASE_URL` (e.g., `(postgres://...)`) and run migrations.

Security Implementation Summary

Implemented Security Controls

Authentication & Authorization

-  **Email-based authentication** - No username, case-insensitive email
-  **JWT tokens** - Access/refresh token rotation via SimpleJWT
-  **MFA support** - Time-based OTP via django-otp
-  **Role-based access control** - 6 permission levels (admin → observer)

- **Multi-tenant isolation** - Household-scoped data access
- **Permission classes** - Per-endpoint household membership validation

Account Protection

- **Account lockout** - django-axes (5 failures, 1 hour cooldown)
- **Rate limiting** - Custom middleware on admin login (4 attempts/min/IP, 5th blocked)
- **Session management** - Configurable timeout with grace period
- **Password security** - Django PBKDF2 hashing

Transport & Headers

- **HTTPS enforcement** - `SECURE_SSL_REDIRECT` in production
- **HSTS** - 1 year with subdomains and preload
- **Secure cookies** - HttpOnly, Secure, SameSite flags
- **Content Security Policy** - Nonce-based with S3 allow-list
- **X-Content-Type-Options** - nosniff protection
- **X-Frame-Options** - DENY (clickjacking prevention)
- **Referrer-Policy** - strict-origin-when-cross-origin
- **Server header removal** - Version disclosure prevention

Audit & Compliance

- **Comprehensive audit logging** - All CRUD, auth, permission changes
- **Request metadata capture** - IP, user agent, timestamp
- **Model change tracking** - Before/after values

- **Data export logging** - GDPR compliance trail
- **Staff-only audit access** - Admin interface and API

Data Protection

- **Multi-tenant isolation** - Household-based data scoping
- **Soft deletion** - Category preservation for transaction history
- **CSRF protection** - Token validation on all state-changing operations
- **GDPR compliance** - Data export and deletion APIs
- **Field validation** - Model-level `clean()` methods
- **Transaction atomicity** - `@transaction.atomic` decorators

API Security

- **Permission enforcement** - IsAuthenticated + custom permissions
- **Household scoping** - Automatic queryset filtering
- **Input validation** - Serializer validation + model clean()
- **OpenAPI documentation** - drf-spectacular schema generation
- **CORS configuration** - django-cors-headers with whitelist

Security Test Coverage

- CSP header presence validation
- Security header enforcement (nosniff, referrer-policy)
- CSRF cookie HttpOnly flag
- HSTS header validation

- Account lockout after failures
- Rate limiting (429 responses)
- Household data isolation

SOC 2 Control Mapping

CC6.1 - Logical Access Controls

- MFA implementation
- Role-based permissions
- Account lockout (Axes)
- Session timeout

CC6.6 - Restricted Access

- Household-based multi-tenancy
- Permission classes per endpoint
- Staff-only admin access

CC6.7 - Restricted Access to Data

- Queryset filtering by household
- Permission validation on object access

CC7.2 - System Monitoring

- Comprehensive audit logging
- Failed login tracking
- Rate limit violation logging

A1.2 - Availability

- Rate limiting (DoS prevention)
- Redis caching support
- Database connection pooling ready

Roadmap

Completed Phases

Phase 1: Rate Limiting — COMPLETE (100%)

- Admin login protection (5/min/IP)
- Redis-backed throttling
- Custom middleware integration
- See [docs/RATE_LIMITING.md](#)

Phase 2: Audit Logging — COMPLETE (100%)

- Service layer implementation
- ViewSet mixin automation
- Model change tracking
- Data export logging
- See [docs/AUDIT_LOGGING_GUIDE.md](#)

Phase 3: MFA Implementation — COMPLETE (100%)

- django-otp integration
- TOTP-based 2FA
- JWT + MFA serializer

- User MFA management endpoints

Phase 4: Session Management — COMPLETE (100%)

- Configurable timeout
- Grace period warnings
- Admin UI integration
- Context processor

Phase 5: API Development — COMPLETE (100%)

- All 17 apps with REST APIs
- JWT authentication
- OpenAPI schema (drf-spectacular)
- Swagger UI at `/api/v1/docs/`
- Permission classes per endpoint
- Service layer pattern

Future Enhancements

Advanced Features

- Receipt OCR implementation (placeholder exists)
- Voice transaction parsing (placeholder exists)
- Bank feed integration
- Recurring transaction automation
- Email/SMS notifications (infra ready)
- Real-time alerts via WebSockets

Analytics

- Spending trend analysis
- Budget forecasting
- Category insights
- Goal achievement predictions

Integrations

- Calendar sync (bill due dates)
- Mobile app (React Native)
- Slack/Discord webhooks
- Third-party accounting software

Performance

- GraphQL API layer
- Background job queue (Celery)
- Advanced caching strategies
- Database query optimization

Compliance

- SOC 2 Type II certification
 - PCI DSS for payment processing
 - Multi-region data residency
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