SSRS NATIVE CONFIGURATION IN A SQL ALWAYS-ON CLUSTER



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Introduction

SQL Server Reporting Services (SSRS) is installed in to each SQL instance. The other method of deployment uses SharePoint and is a shared resource on the SQL Server. Each instance that needs SSRS native, will need to have it installed individually either at the instance setup or as an additional feature later on.

NOTE: When installing Reporting Services, it is important to choose Install but do not configure server.

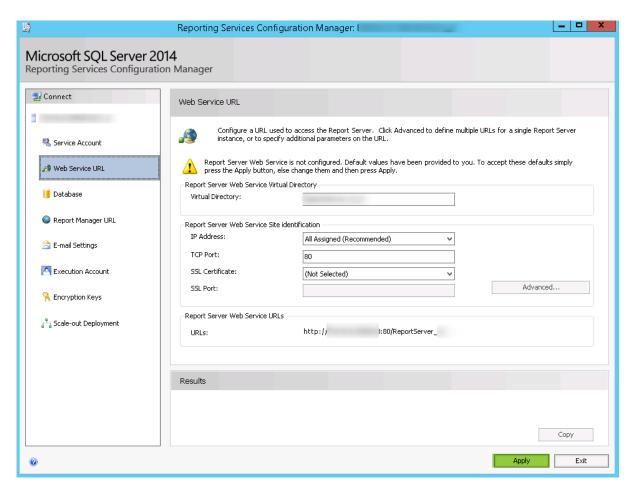
This document assumes that the SSRS feature is already installed and you need to configure it. On the primary SQL server in the Availability Group (See SQL Management Studio – or RDP to the Listener name) open "Reporting Services Configuration Manager" from the start menu.



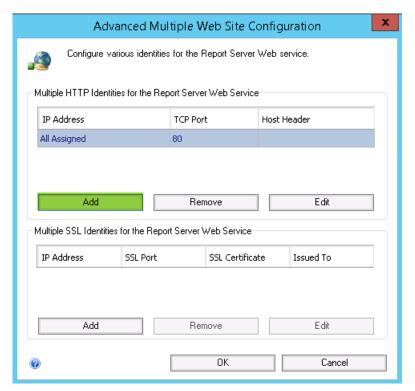
Note this is being done on SQL 2014, but the process is the same in SQL 2016! ©

Configure the Web Service URL

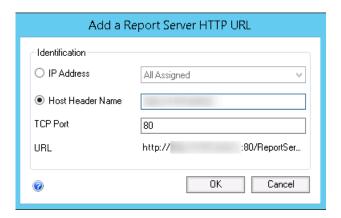
In Reporting Services Configuration Manager, Web service URLs and Report Manager URLs are used to access the Report Server Web service and Report Manager. By default, Reporting Services provides default URLs as shown below but you can change them as per your requirement using the Advanced button. Click the Advanced Button.



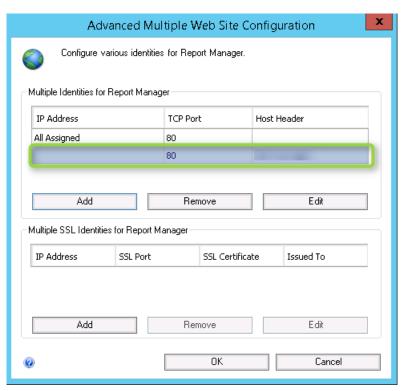
Click the Add button:



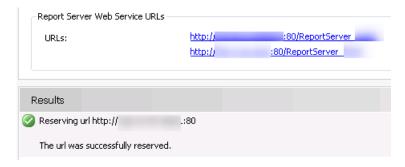
Enter the Listener name under host header:



Back to the advance screen, note the extra line and click OK:

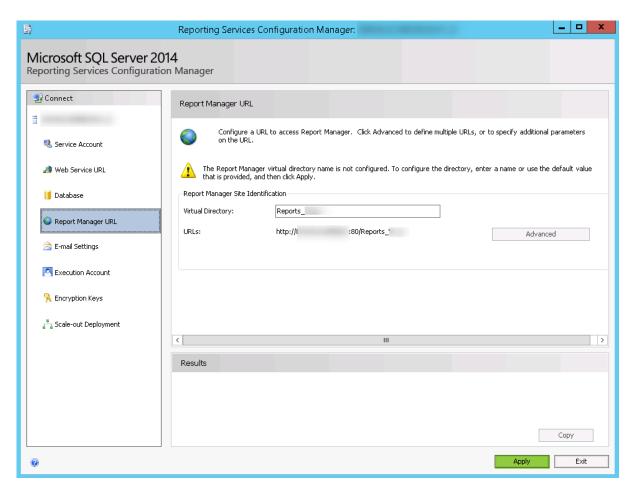


Results. Note the URL for the local server and the listener are created:

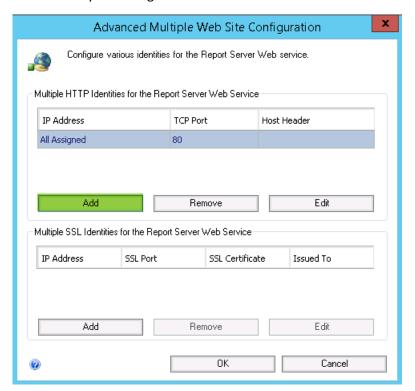


Configure the Report manager URL

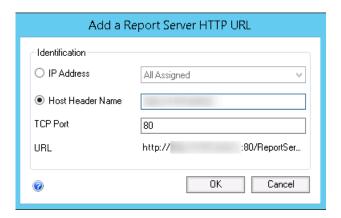
In Reporting Services, Report Manager URLs are used to access the Report Server Web service and Report Manager. By default, Reporting Services provides default URLs but you can change them as per your requirement by clicking the Advanced button. Click the Advanced Button.



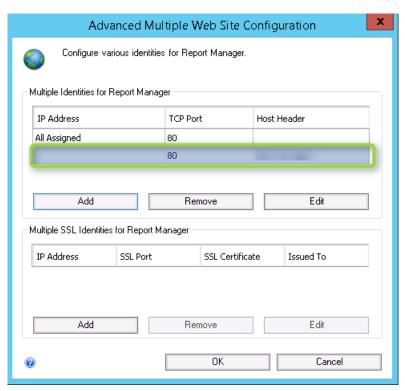
This is exactly as adding the Host Header for the Web Service URL! Click the Add button:



Enter the Listener name under host header:



Back to the advance screen, note the extra line and click OK:



Results. Note the URL for the local server and the listener are created:



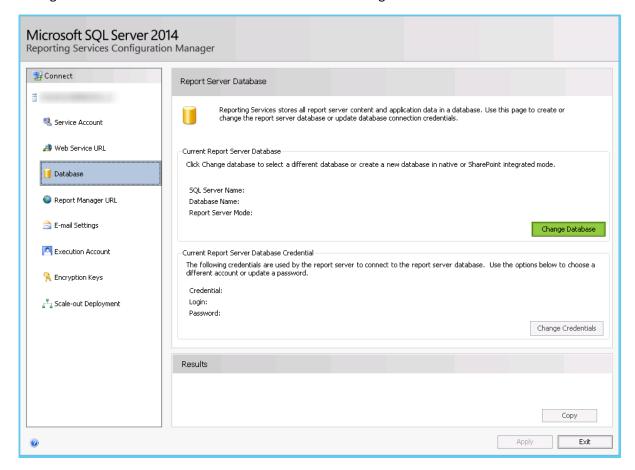
Configure the Service Account

By default a reporting sets up a service account to manage the service, but I have a dedicated SQL account for this instance and want to use that instead. Click Apply.

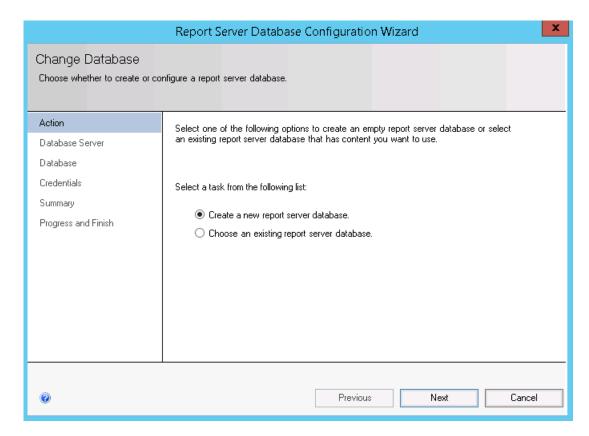


Configure the Database

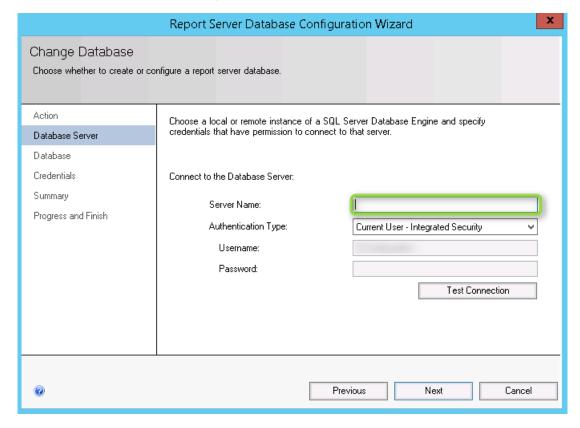
Configure the Database to use the Listener name. Click Change Database:



Create a new Report Server Database:

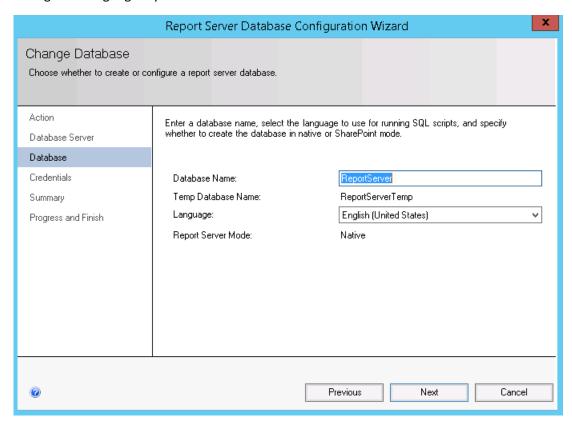


Enter the **Listener name** under Server Name and I left the authentication to me. Make sure to test the connection before proceeding...

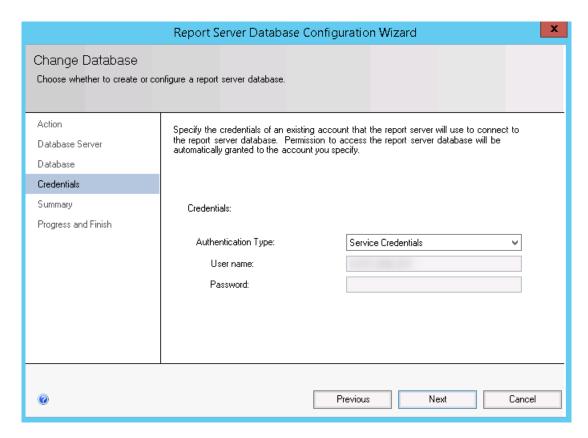




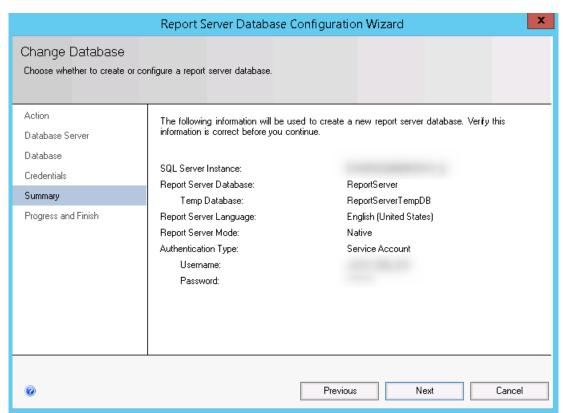
Change the language if you want...



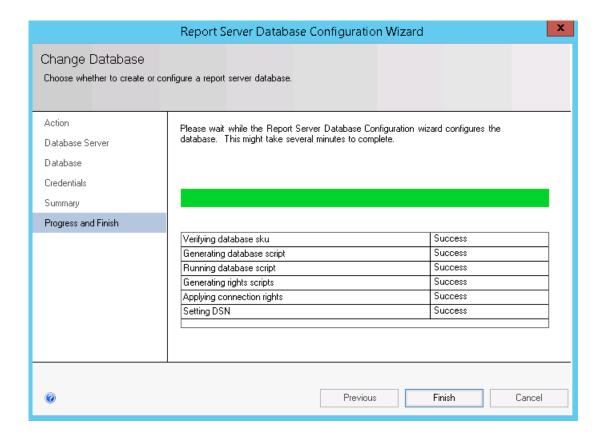
Under Credentials, note the service credentials are using the service account configured earlier.



Review the Summary, then click Next:

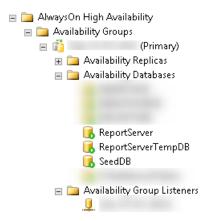


Click Finish:



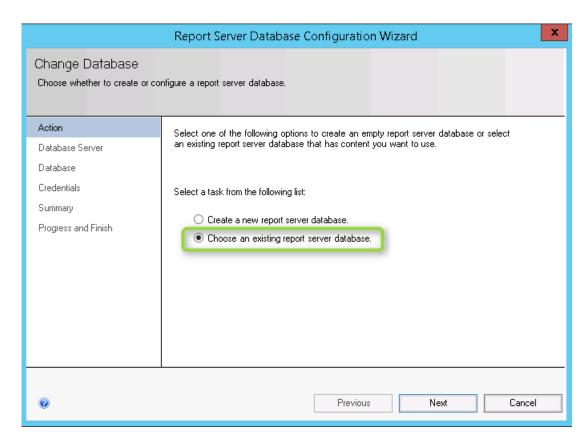
Add the ReportServer & ReportServerTempDB DB's to the AO Cluster

Refer to the SQL Always On Documentation for this information.

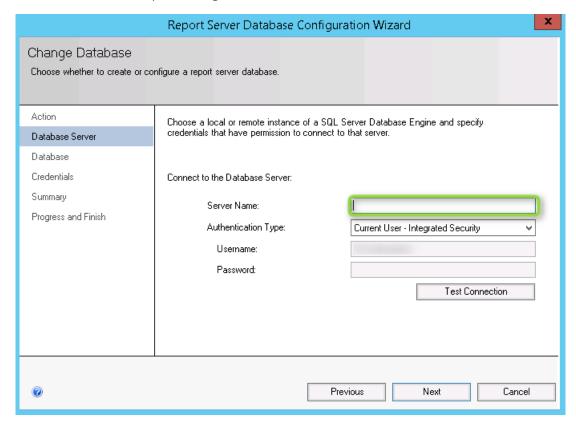


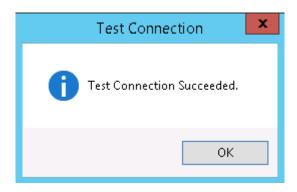
Add the second SSRS Server and configure it

Configure SSRS on the secondary server just as you did above for the first server apart from when you get to the DB configuration, you need to do the following to add the configuration to an existing report server database...

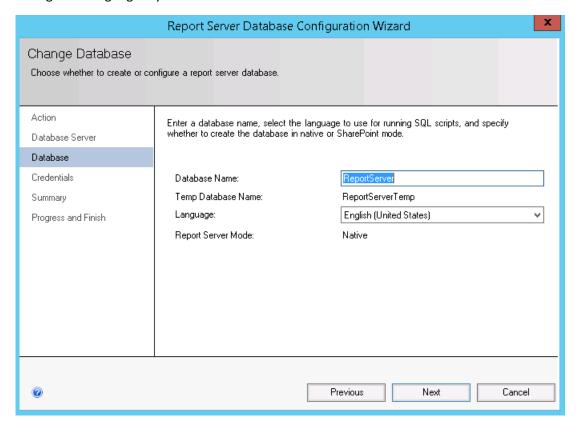


Enter the **Listener name** under Server Name and I left the authentication to me. Make sure to test the connection before proceeding...

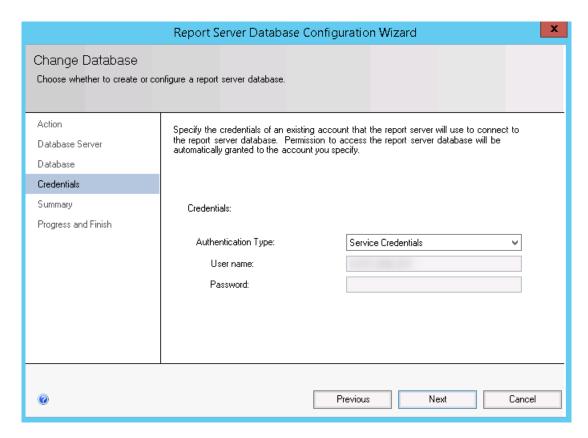




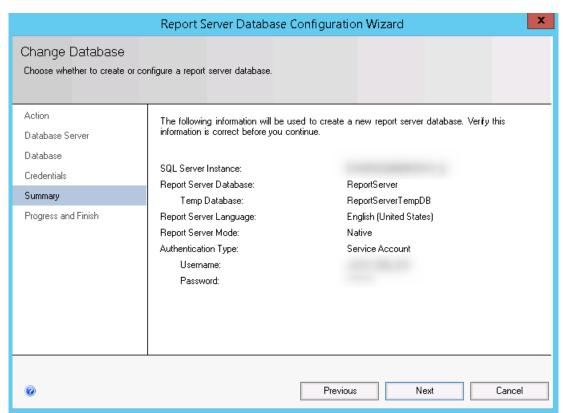
Change the language if you want...



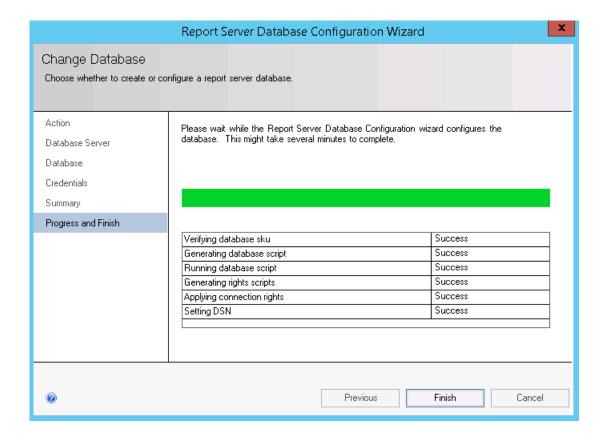
Under Credentials, note the service credentials are using the service account configured earlier.



Review the Summary, then click Next:

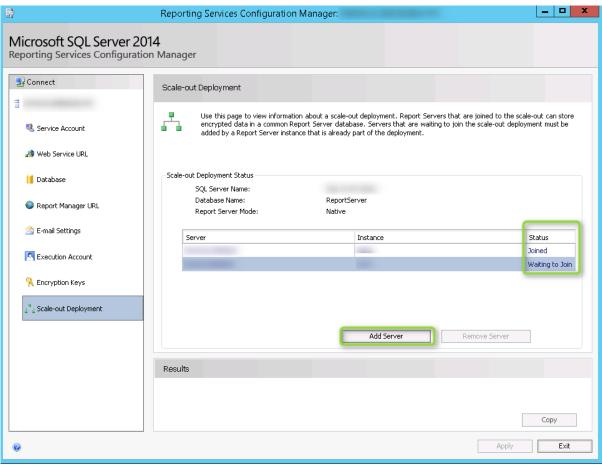


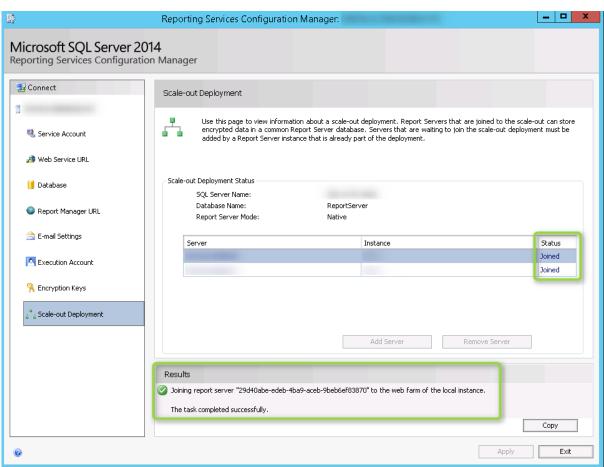
Click Finish:



Scale-out Deployment

Back on the original server (The Primary), go to Scale-out Deployment. Note that the new server is there, but waiting to join. Click Add Server





After a short while, the server Scale-out Deployment details will show in the secondary server SSRS configuration. That's it!

NOTE: One thing this does not account for is scheduled reports. Those are setup as SQL Server Agent jobs on the SQL instance hosting the database at the time they are created! You have been warned! It may be worth investigating copying them to the secondary by scheduled task and enabling them if needed when the server flips over, but that's a story for another day. Goodnight IT land! ©