

FOR PUBLICATION

IN CONFIDENCE

MG 15/05
HIE 2004/02228

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS ENTERPRISE

MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT GROUP HELD ON TUESDAY, 3 MAY 2005

PRESENT: J R A Cumming (Chief Executive)
A B Brady (Director - Strategy)
D MacDiarmid (Director - Global Connections)
F Duthie (Director - Corporate Services)
S Myles (Director - Human Resources)
A Paterson (Director – Developing Skills)
J Watt (Director - Strengthening Communities)
J Foot (Growing Businesses)
A N Ross (Secretary)
A MacNeill (Executive Office)

1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2005 (MG 14/05)

These Minutes were approved.

2 FINANCIAL STATEMENT – TWELVE MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2005 (HIE 2004/02409)

This paper was noted. The Group warmly welcomed the record level of expenditure for the HIE Network, noting in particular the fact that spend had only been able to exceed target due to a number of increases in-year to base-line budgets. These increases included additional grant-in-aid from the Scottish Executive, higher than expected income from European Schemes and significant miscellaneous income. The careful management of the Block B resource (Salaries and Administration), which overall had come in at £35,000 under budget, was also underlined. Thanks were expressed to all staff across the HIE Network for their efforts in securing a successful financial out-turn.

3 OTHER BUSINESS

(1) E BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (HIE 2004/04581)

The Management Group noted that the total costs of this project, which had originally been approved by the Management Group in September 2004, had been reduced from £301,132 to £265,013 as a result of the target number of companies being reduced from 75 to 45. The original proposal to bridge the European Social Fund element of the total project costs was reaffirmed.

Andrew Ross
4 May 2005