SCIRCOL



(Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Accounts

31 March 2001



Registered No. 126604

DIRECTORS

R Cuninghame (resigned 15th November 2000)

M J Greig

A Johnston * (Chairman)

T C Macnair *

R Mann

P Timms *

M Carmichael *

W Campbell

A Hay

G Hobhouse

J Sillars

A Barge

(appointed 20th April 2000)

SECRETARY

T G McLean

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young Moray House 16 Bank Street Inverness IV1 1QY

BANKERS

The Clydesdale Bank plc Poltalloch Street Lochgilphead Argyll PA31 8ST

REGISTERED OFFICE

The Enterprise Centre Kilmory Industrial Estate Lochgilphead Argyll PA31 8SH

^{*} Indicates Member of the Audit Committee

To the members of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2001.

RESULTS

The net expenditure for the year, after taxation, amounted to £54,931 and is dealt with as shown in note 15 to the accounts.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The principal activity of the company is to operate as a Local Enterprise Company under an annual renewable operating contract with Highlands and Islands Enterprise. Under this contract the company delivers economic and social development, environmental renewal and training services within the areas of Argyll, Bute, Arran and the Cumbraes.

POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

Following the enterprise networks review undertaken by the Scottish Executive into the status of Local Enterprise Companies in Scotland, the ownership of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise is being amended in order that Highlands & Islands Enterprise will become the sole member. It is intended this process will be completed by 31 March 2002.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The directors are pleased to report that the company has been in full compliance throughout the year with the Code of Best Practice issued by the Cadbury Committee on the Financial Aspects of Corporate Governance.

A statement of the directors' responsibilities in respect of the accounts is set out on page 6.

The Board

At 31 March 2001, the Board of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company comprised eleven non-executive members, including the Chairman. New Board members are appointed through the HIE network policy of "Appointability through Openness" which involves local advertising and wide consultation to identify candidates for Board membership to replace those retiring by rotation. None of the Board members received any remuneration for holding office during the year.

To the members of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company

The Board (continued..)

The Board meets at least nine times a year. The role of the Board is the strategic overview of the enterprise company, ensuring that it is carrying through its statutory remit. The Board has specific responsibility for approving the overall strategy and operating plans, ensuring that the Executive has thorough arrangements for appraisal, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and seeing that targets are set and met.

The Chief Executive and Management Group

The Chief Executive is aware of the need for effective internal financial control, and acknowledges his responsibility for the system of control to enable the efficient management of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company. This responsibility is undertaken in conjunction with the audit committee. The system can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of monthly management information, financial regulations, administrative procedures including the segregation of duties, and various levels of delegation specified by the Scottish Executive and the Board of Highlands and Islands Enterprise. In particular it includes strategic planning, identification of targets and annual operating plans all approved by the Board.

The Chief Executive has a pivotal role in assisting the board to develop policies and priorities and in ensuring that they are implemented effectively.

Audit and Compliance

Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company has established an audit committee, composed of non-executive members of the Board, one of whom acts as Chairman. The committee provides a forum for reporting by the company's external and HIE internal auditors. The meetings are also attended, by invitation, by the Chief Executive. Meetings are held at least four times a year.

The committee reviews reports by both external audit and HIE internal audit. On the basis of these reports the committee form a view on the effectiveness of the systems of internal control. Both the external auditors and HIE internal audit attend at least one audit committee meeting per year.

The Greenbury Report

While none of the Board members who held office during the year received any remuneration, the recommendations of the Greenbury Code of Best Practice have been applied in so far as they are appropriate to Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company.

To the members of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company

The Turnbull Report

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive is aware of the recommendations of the Turnbull Committee and is taking reasonable steps to comply with the Treasury's requirement for a statement of internal control to be prepared for the year ended 31 March 2002, in accordance with the guidance to be issued by them.

Conflicts of Interest Procedures

Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company operates strict and comprehensive procedures to deal with potential conflicts of interest. These include holding, and updating annually, registers of interests covering not only Board members/directors but also all members of staff. These registers are available to any member of the public who wishes to examine them. Interests which must be registered are rigorously defined as: any contractual or financial relationship, or simply position of authority, with outside companies or organisations.

Whenever a Board Member/Director or member of staff has an interest in an application for assistance, he/she is required to declare the interest and thereafter to take no part in the investigation, processing or approval of the case. Such declarations by Board members/directors are recorded in the minutes of the appropriate Board meetings and in a register of interests.

Additional procedures, such as referring to Highlands and Islands Enterprise for processing and decision making, are invoked when the chairman of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company declares an interest.

Citizen's Charter

Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company is committed to the principles of the Citizen's Charter and the HIE network was re-awarded the Charter Mark in October 2000.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors at 31 March 2001 were those listed on page 2. Each of the directors is a member of the company and undertakes in the event of the company being wound up to contribute to the assets of the company such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

At the annual general meeting of the company M Carmichael;, J Sillars & G Hobhouse retire by rotation, and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. M Greig also retires by rotation, but is ineligible for re-election.

To the members of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE

During the year the company purchased and maintained liability insurance for its directors and officers as permitted by section 310(3) of the Companies Act 1985.

On behalf of the Board

Secretary

23rd May 2001

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income and expenditure of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF AUDITORS'

To the members of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company

We have audited the accounts on pages 9 to 23, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of land and buildings, and on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 12 and 13.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 6 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Law and accounting standards. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts and to report our opinion to you. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by Statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 March 2001 and of its net expenditure for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Registered Auditor

Inverness

23rd May 2001

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2001

	Notes	2001 £	2000 £
INCOME	2	6,976,408	7,178,519
Operating expenditure Administrative expenditure		6,212,990 878,837	6,289,194 841,539
NET OPERATING (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME Gain on sale of fixed assets Interest receivable	3 6 7	(115,419) 84,656	(65,289) 12,000 63,259
Interest payable	/	(1,819)	(1,830)
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		(32,582)	121,215
Tax on ordinary activities	8	22,349	29,152
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	15	(54,931)	92,063
STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS	AND LOSS	SES	
		2004	2000
		2001 £	2000 £
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		(54,931)	92,063
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of land and build	dings	20,000	8,000
		(34,931)	100,063

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2001

	Notes	2001 £	2000 £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets Investments	9 10	155,118 1,487,540	137,459 1,664,227
		1,642,658	1,801,686
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	11	1,738,501 83,178	2,283,969 27,111
		1,821,679	2,311,080
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	ar 12	1,811,358	2,245,828
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		10,321	65,252
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,652,979	1,866,938
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	13	1,585,458	1,764,486
		67,521	102,452
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Revaluation reserve	15 15	57,200 10,321	37,200 65,252
Accumulated surplus / (deficit)	10	10,321	05,252
At JAM	Directors		
		67,521	102,452

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the year ended 31 March 2001

	Notes	2001 £	2000 £
NET CASH (OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	3(b)	(1,729)	(76,604)
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE	16	82,837	63,435
TAXATION	16	(25,041)	(21,766)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT	16	~	60,000
INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	16	56,067	25,065
RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS			£
Increase in cash in period			56,067
Movement in net funds in the period			56,067
Net funds at 1 April 2000			27,111
Net funds at 31 March 2001			83,178

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of land and buildings, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

(b) Basis of operations

The company contracts with Highlands & Islands Enterprise to create and deliver business and social development, training and environmental programmes throughout the area of Argyll, Bute, Arran and the Cumbraes. Funding for the company's activities is provided principally by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the annual accounts are prepared on the assumption that the company will continue to be contracted with Highlands & Islands Enterprise for the foreseeable future. Although the company is limited by guarantee and has no shareholders, in accordance with s258 of the Companies Act 1985 it is a subsidiary undertaking of Highlands & Islands Enterprise by virtue of the control exercised over it through the negotiated operating contract.

(c) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than land and property, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Equipment and furnishings

25% per annum

(d) Land and buildings

Land and buildings held for industrial and commercial use are accounted for in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 19: "Accounting for Investment Properties". These are included in the balance sheet on the basis of open market value as defined by the guidance notes issued by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Surpluses or deficits on revaluation are taken to a revaluation reserve unless the deficit is considered to be permanent, in which case it is charged to income and expenditure.

(e) Fixed asset funding

Under the operating agreement between the company and Highlands & Islands Enterprise, the proceeds arising from the disposal of any Highlands & Islands Enterprise funded assets shall be immediately returned to that entity. Accordingly, funding received in respect of capital expenditure is credited to an asset repayment provision and is released to income over the expected useful lives of the relevant assets by instalments so as to match the depreciation charge.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(f) Loans

Loans advanced by the company are shown as the amount outstanding at the balance sheet date less provisions for any anticipated losses. Where loans have been funded by Highlands & Islands Enterprise a reduction in annual funding will be made to reflect the loan repayments received by the company. Accordingly, funding received in respect of loan advances is credited to a loan repayment provision.

(g) Unquoted investments

Investments made by the company are included at cost unless, in the opinion of the directors, there has been a permanent diminution in value, in which case an appropriate adjustment is made. Such investments are deemed permanently impaired where there is no prospect of improvement in the fortunes of the company in the foreseeable future. Where investments have been funded by Highlands & Islands Enterprise a reduction in annual funding will be made to reflect investment realisations made by the company. Accordingly, funding received in respect of investments is credited to an investment repayment provision.

(h) Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(i) Pensions

Direct employees are members of the local government superannuation scheme. Seconded staff are members of Highlands & Islands Enterprise's defined benefit pension scheme.

Both schemes are defined benefit pension schemes which require contributions to be made to separately administered funds. Contributions to these funds are charged to the income and expenditure account so as far as is possible, to spread the cost of pensions over the employees/secondees' working lives with the company.

(i) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided using the liability method on all timing differences which are expected to reverse in the future without being replaced, calculated at the rate at which it is anticipated the timing differences will reverse.

2. INCOME

Income which is stated net of value added tax, represents funding for continuing activities received and accrued under the operating contract with Highlands & Islands Enterprise, together with amounts received and due from third parties. Income does not include £300,897 which was received from Highlands & Islands Enterprise to fund capital assets which is credited to either the loan/investment or asset repayment provision (note 13).

2. INCOME (continued)

	An a	nalysis of income by funding source is given below:	2001	2000
		nlands & Islands Enterprise opean Union er	5,519,727 1,227,943 228,738 6,976,408	£ 5,824,825 1,243,480 110,214 7,178,519
3.	NET	OPERATING INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		
	(a)	This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2001 £	2000 £
		Auditors remuneration Operating lease rentals - equipment - property Depreciation of fixed assets Asset repayment provision released	5,750 5,113 27,675 6,238 (6,238)	5,650 26,788 31,353 12,601 (12,601)
	(b)	Reconciliation of net operating expenditure to net cas from operating activities:	h flow 2001 £	2000 £
		Net operating income/(expenditure) Decrease / (increase) in debtors (Increase) / decrease in creditors Depreciation Decrease in asset repayment provision Provision and write off against investments Decrease in investment repayment provision	(115,419) 544,523 (430,833) 6,238 (6,238) (66,810) 66,810	47,786 17,610 (142,000) 12,601 (12,601) (73,986) 73,986
		Net cash (outflow) from operating activities	(1,729)	(76,604)

4. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

None of the directors who held office during the year received any remuneration (2000 - £nil).

Payments to directors for travelling and subsistence expenses, necessarily incurred in discharging their duties, totalled £13,933 (2000 - £12,146).

5. STAFF COSTS

The company has 32 direct employees (2000 - 34). Other staff members are employees of Highlands & Islands Enterprise who have been seconded to the company. The average weekly number of whole and part-time staff during the year was 35 (2000 - 37).

Details of total charges made for all direct staff and secondees services during the year were as follows:

		Secondees £	Core £	mployees Project £	2001 Total £	2000 Total £
	Salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	106,284 9,116 10,628	354,326 23,065 38,965	210,346 18,106	670,956 50,287 49,593	704,997 55,549 47,810
		126,028	416,356	228,452	770,836	808,356
6.	INTEREST RECEIVABLE				2001 £	2000 £
	Loan interest Bank interest				62,649 22,007	53,507 9,752
				· =	84,656	63,259
7.	INTEREST PAYABLE				2001	2000
					£	£
	Bank interest			=	1,819	1,830
8.	TAX ON ORDINARY ACTIV	/ITIES				
о.	INV OIL OUDINALLI VOLLA	IIILO			2001 £	2000 £
	Corporation tax at 20% (200 Underprovided in prior years	00 - 20%) S			22,349 -	25,986 3,166
				=	22,349	29,152

The charge for the year represents tax at 20% on interest receivable.

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

TARGED LIALD AGGLIG	Land and Equipment and buildings furnishings £		
Cost or valuation: At 1 April 2000 Additions Revaluations	125,000 20,000	163,104 3,897	288,104 3,897 20,000
At 31 March 2001	145,000	167,001	312,001
Depreciation: At 1 April 2000 Provided during the year	-	150,645 6,238	150,645 6,238
At 31 March 2001		156,883 	156,883
Net book value: At 31 March 2001	145,000	10,118	155,118
At 1 April 2000	125,000	12,459	137,459

The land and buildings were valued at their open market value at 31 March 2001 by Graham & Sibbald, Chartered Surveyors.

On the historical cost basis, land and buildings would have been included as follows:

Cost at 1 April 2000 and 31 March 2001

£87,800

10. INVESTMENTS

	Unquoted shares £	Loans £	Total £
Cost: At 1 April 2000 Additions Repayments Written off Redemptions	1,527,000 20,000 - (170,000)	840,356 277,000 (93,137) (143,739)	2,367,356 297,000 (93,137) (143,739) (170,000)
At 31 March 2001	1,377,000	880,480	2,257,480
Provisions: At 1 April 2000 Movement in provision Written off in year	350,000 215,000	353,129 (4,828) (143,361)	703,129 210,172 (143,361)
At 31 March 2001	565,000	204,940	769,940
			
Net book value: At 31 March 2001	812,000	675,540 ———	1,487,540
At 1 April 2000	1,177,000	487,227 ———	1,664,227

Details of the investments in which the company holds more than 10% of the nominal value of any class of share capital is as follows:

Name of company	Country of registration and operation		Proportion of class held	Nature of business
Bell Woven (Scotland) Limited	Scotland	Preferred ordinary Cumulative redeemab preference	100% ble 100%	Textile labels
Bras Direct (UK)	Scotland	A' redeemable preference	100%	Clothing distribution
Bute Fabrics Limited	Scotland	Cumulative participati preferred ordinary	ng 100%	Wool and wool blend fabrics
Flexible Technology Limited	Scotland	Preferred ordinary Preference Cumulative redeemab	100% 100% Ne	Electronic circuits
		preference Cumulative convertible participating preferred	-	
		ordinary	100%	

10. INVESTMENTS (continued)

11.

Name of company	Country of registration and operation	Shareholding	Proportion of class held	Nature of business
Highland Magnetics Limited	s Scotland	Preferred ordinary Preference	100% 100%	Manufacture wound Magnetic cores
Islay Cheese Company Limited	Scotland	Cumulative redeemable preference	100%	Dairy products
Telecom Services Centres Limited	Scotland	Cumulative convertible participating preferred ordinary Preference Preferred Ordinary Cumulative redeemable preference	100% 100% 100% 100%	Information technology specialists
Argyll Bakeries Limited	Scotland	'C' cumulative redeemable	24%	Bakery products
Kames Marine Fish Farming Limited	Scotland	Redeemable Preference Shares Ordinary Shares	100% 20%	Fish farm
Transaction Televis	ion Limited	'A' Ordinary Shares	6%	Electronic Information Service
Integrin Advanced f	Biosystems Ltd	Cumulative convertible Participating preferred Ordinary shares	100%	Marine Biotech Research
DEBTORS			2001	2000
			£	£
Highlands & Islands Other debtors Other taxes Prepayments and a	·		1,221,682 486,125 20,630 10,064	1,768,585 498,775 11,403 5,206
			1,738,501	2,283,969

12.	CREDITORS: amounts falling due wit	hin one year		
	-	•	2001	2000
	Highlands & Islands Enterprise Other creditors Current corporation tax Accruals		1,618,023 165,236 22,349 5,750	2,161,931 52,411 25,986 5,500
			1,811,358	2,245,828
13.	PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND	CHARGES		
		Loan/investment repayment provision £	Asset repayment provision £	Total £
	At 1 April 2000 Funding received from Highlands &	1,664,227	100,259	1,764,486
	Islands Enterprise Funding repaid to Highlands & Islands	297,000	3,897	300,897
	Enterprise Written off in the year	(263,137) (143,739)	- -	(263,137) (143,739)
	Depreciation for the year (note 9)	1,554,351	104,156 (6,238)	1,658,507 (6,238)
	Movement in provision against investr (note 10)	nents (66,811)	-	(66,811)
	At 31 March 2001	1,487,540	97,918	1,585,458

14. SHARE CAPITAL

The company does not have share capital and is limited by guarantee. The liability of members is restricted to £1 each.

At 31 March 2001 the company had eleven members.

15. MOVEMENT ON RESERVES

	Revaluation reserve £	Accumulated surplus £	Total £
Balance at 1 April 1999 Net income for the year Revaluation surplus Realised revaluation surplus on sale	77,200 8,000 (48,000)	(74,811) 92,063 - 48,000	2,389 92,063 8,000
At 1 April 2000 Net expenditure for the year Revaluation surplus	37,200 20,000	65,252 (54,931)	102,452 (54,931) 20,000
At 31 March 2001	57,200	10,321	67,521

16. GROSS CASH FLOWS

GROSS CASH FLOWS	2001 £	2000 £
NET CASH (OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(1,729)	(76,604)
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE Interest received Interest paid	84,656 (1,819)	65,265 (1,830)
TAXATION Corporation tax paid	82,837 (25,041)	63,435 (21,766)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT Loans advanced Payment to acquire shares Receipts from Highlands & Islands Enterprise to fund loans and shares Loans repaid Funding repaid to Highlands & Islands Enterprise Payments to acquire fixed assets Receipts from Highlands & Islands Enterprise to fund assets Proceeds from redemption of investments Funding repaid to Highlands & Islands Enterprise in respect of investments Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	277,000 20,000 (297,000) (93,137) 93,137 (3,897) 3,897 (170,000) 170,000	100,000 50,000 (150,000) (165,477) 165,477 (13,438) 13,438 (75,000) 75,000 60,000
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	56,067	(25,065)

17. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

Under the terms of the operating contract with Highlands & Islands Enterprise the company granted a floating charge over the whole of its assets to Highlands & Islands Enterprise.

18. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2001 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	· · ·	Property	Other						
	2001 £	2000 £	2001 £	2000 £					
Operating leases which expire:	٨	L							
within one year	-	-	1,575	4,351					
within two to five years	-	-	3,538	5,113					
after five years	27,677	27,677	- '	-					
	27,677	27,677	5,113	9,464					
		 							
OTHER COMMITMENTS									
			2001	2000					
Approved funding			£3,319,154	£2,408,391					

The above commitments represent future programme expenditure where approval has been granted for Finance for Business, Community Action Grants and Environmental Renewal projects at the year end. These commitments will be met through funding from Highlands & Islands Enterprise in the next financial year.

20. PENSION COMMITMENTS

19.

Staff seconded from Highlands & Islands Enterprise are members of a defined benefit pension scheme which is funded by Highlands & Island Enterprise and recharged to the company. Core employees are members of a local government superannuation scheme. The assets of both schemes are held separately from those of the company.

The accounts of Highlands & Islands Enterprise for the year ended 31 March 2001 include details of the actuarial valuation and the assumptions used therein.

Contributions to the local government scheme are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of annual valuations using the projected unit method. The result of the most recent valuation, which was conducted at 31 March 1999 was as follows:

	Local government
Main assumptions: Rate of return on investments Rate of salary increases (% per annum) Rate of pension increases (% per annum) Market value of scheme's assets (£million) Level of funding being the actuarial value of assets expressed as a percentage of the benefits accrued to	11.4 4.3 2.8 £5,590m
members, after allowing for future salary increases	108%

21. TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING DIRECTORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

During the year the following grant and assistance payments were made to businesses in which the company's directors or Chief Executive had an interest: <u>a</u>

	Director and interest	Martin Greig - Director	Martin Greig - Director	Martin Greig - Director	Martin Greig - Director	Martin Greig - Director	Martin Greig - Director	Wilma Campbell - Director/Chair	Wilma Campbell - Director	Michael Carmichael - Director	Allison Hay - Leader of Council	Georgina hobhouse - Committee Member	Georgina Hobhouse - Trustee	Terence Macnair - Secretary/Treasurer	Terence Macnair - Clerk to Trustees	Terence Macnair - Director	Ronnie Mann - Chair	John Sillars - Councillor	John Sillars - Councillor	Alastair Barge - Director		Peter Timms - Managing Director	Ronnie Mann - Accountant/Consultant	; ;	Martin Greig - Director	Konnie Mann - Accountant/Consultant														
	Nature of transaction	Environmental Improvement	HIE Activities	HIE Activities	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Service Delivery	Project Funding	Environmental Improvement	Community Action Grant	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Project Funding	Environmental Improvement	Grant assistance		Grant assistance	Grant assistance										
Percentage of total		11%	72%	25%	22%	34%	.,			42%	32%	30%		•	_	-		%6	12%							40%		30%			_	%6	20%	24%		•	13%			
Payment Pero approved	in yearproject costs	ы	4	•	ĊŲ.	ęί	£ 2,668	£ 5,875	£ 763	£ 3,286	сн	ધા	£ 25,000	£ 3,426	£ 2,124	E 60	£ 4,550	u u	сн	£ 20,135	ч	£ 13,247					£ 2,240	ч	£ 10,263	£ 6,439	£ 5,638	с н	н	4		£ 19,580	£ 56,032			
Pay Value of app	Approval ir		£ 106,500.00	£ 31,000.00	£ 94,000.00	£ 42,250.00		£ 15,000.00	£ 763.00	(°)	€ 6,080.00	£ 130,700.00	£ 26,000.00			~			£ 14,000.00	£ 25,000.00		•		~	_	£ 1,500.00			•	00.000.6	£ 9,000.00	3,000.00	5 4,750.00	£ 160,000.00		€ 88,000.00	£ 500,000.00			
	Business/organisation	AILLST Tourist Board	AILLST Tourist Board	AILLST Tourist Board	AILLST Tourist Board	AILLST Tourist Board	AILLST Tourist Board	Argyll College	Argyil College	Argyil College	Argyll College	Argyll College	Argyll & Bute Careers Partnership	South Kintyre Credit Union	Argyll & Bute Council	Arayll & Bute Council	Argyll & Bute Council	Colonsay Village Hall	Kilmartin House Trust	Loch Awe Improvement Asso	Tarbert Harbour Authority	Stray Theatre Company	Ayrshire & Arran Tourist Board	North Ayrshire Council	North Ayrshire Council	Otter Ferry Seafish	PAYMENTS ON PREV APPROV.	Flexible Technology	Auchrannie Hotel	Supplier Relationships	Royal Marine Hotel	Auchrannie Hotei								

21. TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING DIRECTORS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE (continued)

(b) Local organisations which received funding in the year and in which the directors have a non-financial interest include:

Argyll & Bute Council
Colonsay Village Hall
Argyll, The Islands, Stirling, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Tourist Board
Campbeltown & Kintyre Enterprise Trust
North Ayrshire Council
Argyll College
Ayrshire & Arran Tourist Board
Argyll & Bute Careers Partnership Ltd
Kilmartin House Trust
Loch Awe Improvement Assoc.
Tarbert Harbour Authority

The Directors and Chief Executive noted in part (a) above, were not involved in the decision making process of the payment of the relevant grant or assistance.

22. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

Following the enterprise networks review undertaken by the Scottish Executive into the status of Local Enterprise Companies in Scotland, the ownership of Argyll & the Islands Enterprise is being amended in order that Highlands & Islands Enterprise will become the sole member. It is intended this process will be completed by 31 March 2002.

23. PARENT UNDERTAKING

The parent undertaking of the group of undertakings of which the company is a member is Highlands & Islands Enterprise, a body established in Scotland.

Argyll & the Islands Enterprise Company has been included in the group accounts prepared by Highlands & Islands Enterprise, copies of which can be obtained from Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Bridge House, 20 Bridge Street, Inverness, IV1 1QR.