

EIGHTY SEVENTH SNH BOARD MEETING, 10 JUNE 2003, EDINBURGH

CONFIRMED MINUTES

Members Present

John Markland, Chairman
Michael Scott, Deputy Chairman
Peter Chapman
Keith Geddes, Chairman, Audit and Risk Management Committee
Isabel Glasgow, Chairwoman, West Areas Board
Nick Kempe
Alice Lambert
Jeremy Rowan Robinson, Chairman, East Areas Board

In Attendance

Ian Jardine, Chief Executive
Andrew Bachell, Director
Ian Edgeler, Director
Colin Galbraith, Director
John Thomson, Director
Jeff Watson, Director
Jane Clark, Head of National Strategy
Alan Mowle, head of Corporate Services
Iain Rennick, Head of Secretariat, Press and PR
George Anderson, Head of Press and Public Relations
Pam Gaiter, Board Secretary
Veronica Burbridge (for item 5)
Ken O'Neill (for item 5)
Philip Immirzi (for item 6)
Ruth Grant (for item 7)
Rachell Hellings (for item 7)
Rob Threadgould (for item 8)
Hamish Reid (for item 4 closed session)
Rueben Singleton (for item 4 closed session)

Apologies

Simon Fraser, Chairman, North Areas Board
Janet Sprent, Chairwoman, Scientific Advisory Committee
Sue Walker

****CLOSED SESSION****

ITEM 1: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS)

1. No interests were declared in relation to the items for discussion in the closed session of the meeting.

ITEM 2: MINUTES (CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS)

2. The minutes of the 86th SNH Board meeting, held on 10 June 2003, were agreed as a true record.

ITEM 3: RELOCATION (RESTRICTED)

3. The Board was updated with progress on relocation since its last meeting and received an oral report of the meeting held with Ross Finnie. It was clear that Ministers are not willing to reconsider the relocation decision.
4. It was noted that there remained unanswered questions, not least about the position on redundancies, on which Mr Finnie had promised a letter. The Board was also interested in how much flexibility may be allowed over numbers of staff that must be in Inverness, and the timescale over which a move must take place.
5. The Board agreed that:
 - it would have to be satisfied about the financial package before any decision was implemented;
 - in the absence of Mr Finnie's letter it remained unable to give the Chief Executive a 'Direction' to relocate SNH HQ functions from Edinburgh to Inverness;
 - subject to receipt of Mr Finnie's letter, it should reach a clear decision on how it wished to respond to the relocation decision at its 1 July meeting, particularly bearing in mind the uncertainty which staff were continuing to face.

John Markland
Chairman