



Shetland Charitable Trust

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Financial Controller: Jeff Goddard

Registered Charity Number SC027025

PRESS RELEASE

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Governance of Shetland Charitable Trust's Subsidiary Companies

Shetland Charitable Trust owns 2 companies, Shetland Leasing and Property Developments Ltd (SLAP) and Shetland Heat Energy and Power Ltd (SHEAP).

The Trustees of Shetland Charitable Trust have decided to appoint three non-Executive Directors to the Boards of each of SHEAP and SLAP to help focus the companies on commercial success. The non-Executive Directors will be chosen against set criteria, and will contribute to developing a successful strategy to grow the companies and increase the profits returned to Shetland Charitable Trust.

The process is underway, with adverts in Shetland media seeking applicants. The closing date is noon on Friday 2nd November 2012.

Selecting and appointing suitable, commercially focused non-Executive Directors is a key element in modernising the Trust's relationship with its subsidiary companies. The Trust is an investor and as such will expect the company boards, along with company management to take the companies forward. The Chair of each board will be one of the non-Executive Directors and will be expected to report progress against targets set to the Trustees of Shetland Charitable Trust, at least quarterly.

Drew Ratter, the Chair of the Trustee Board of Shetland Charitable Trust says:
"SLAP, SHEAP and the District Heating Scheme Infrastructure together are around 15% of the Trust's investment portfolios. They require a more commercially focused approach to grow and generate profits for Shetland Charitable Trust. Appointment of independent non-Executive Directors with suitable skills and experience is a key step in transforming these companies into modern businesses. At this point I would like to thank the outgoing Directors, who have worked diligently, and shown great commitment, for no remuneration".

ENDS
Financial Controller

Notes for editors:

SHEAP operates the Lerwick District Heating Scheme using heat from waste generated at the Shetland Islands Council's Energy Recovery Plant (incinerator). SHEAP has around 1,100 customers and has an annual turnover of over £2 million.

SLAP has a portfolio of over 30 investment properties, valued at £23 million. SLAP has an annual turnover of around £2.6 million.

Shetland Charitable Trust is an independent charitable organisation set up in 1976 to manage income from Sullom Voe oil terminal on behalf of the community. The income from the oil industry ceased in 2000. The Trust's only source of income now is investment returns. Its funds are currently worth around £215 million, with £175 million invested on the World's markets and £40m in the local economy, this includes the Trust's investments in SLAP and SHEAP.

SCT's policy is to pass on the oil funds to future generations by investing them in a self sustaining way.

Each year the Trust distributes over £10m to local charitable groups and projects, including Shetland Recreational Trust, Shetland Amenity Trust, Shetland Arts Development Agency, the rural care centres, and 17 voluntary groups.

More details about Shetland Charitable Trust can be found at:
www.shetlandcharitabletrust.co.uk