

News release from Shetland Charitable Trust

Trust Chair praises work of councillor-trustees

Shetland Charitable Trust chairman Bobby Hunter last night paid tribute to the “enormous contribution” made to the organisation by councillor-trustees.

“As you know, council elections will take place in May and our current councillor-trustees will continue serving the Trust until then, but this is our last formal public meeting before those elections.

“I therefore feel it is important to put on record my own and the Trust's gratitude for the devotion shown not only by the current group of councillor-trustees but by their predecessors.

“They have brought to this Trust a wealth of knowledge and understanding that is, frankly, going to be missed.

“Whether we see a new group of four councillor-trustees after May is now up to the new council. The Trust would welcome that.

“But to our departing colleagues, thank you. Your commitment to the Trust and to Shetland has been absolute. You have given freely of large amounts of your time, and you have shown both insight and passion.”

Ends

For further information, please contact Paul Riddell of Platform Shetland on 07739 750543, 01595 697296 or paul.riddell@platformshetland.co.uk

Notes to editors

Shetland Charitable Trust is one of the largest such trusts in Scotland. The value of its investments is currently around £215m. Funded originally by Shetland Islands Council's “disturbance payments” from the oil industry between 1976 and 2000, it now relies entirely on its investment income.

The trust formerly comprised all councillors plus two independents. This changed in 2012 and it is now a completely separate organisation from the council, with a built-in majority of independent trustees.

Shetland Charitable Trust owns three companies: Shetland Leasing and Property Developments Ltd (SLAP); Shetland Heat Energy and Power Ltd (SHEAP); and SCT Renewables Ltd.

Registered Charity No. SC 027025

