

**BOARD MEETING**  
**COINNEAMH BÙIRD**

**MINUTE OF THE HIE BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2018  
BY TELECONFERENCE**

**PRESENT:** Lorne Crerar (Chair)  
Charlotte Wright  
Amanda Bryan  
Angus Campbell  
Paddy Crerar  
Alistair Dodds  
Donald MacRae  
Freda Newton  
Belinda Oldfield  
Calum Ross

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Carroll Buxton	Director of Regional Development
Douglas Cowan	Director of Strengthening Communities
David Oxley	Director of Business and Sector Development
Nick Kenton	Director of Finance and Corporate Services (by phone)
Sandra Dunbar	Head of Business Improvement and Internal Audit
Susan Smith	Head of Business Development
Dave MacLeod	Head of Property and Infrastructure
Paul Dzialdowski	Property Portfolio Manager
Kathy Ferguson	Business Development Support Officer
Chris Roberts	Head of Corporate and Media Relations
Marion McCormack	Head of Sponsorship, Scottish Government
James McMorro	Harper Macleod LLP
Gordon Hollerin	Harper Macleod LLP
Graham Nisbett	Harper Macleod LLP

**1 Welcome and apologies**

Apologies were noted from Board members Ailsa Gray and Robert McIntosh, Head of HR Karen Moncrieff, and Mary McAllan, Scottish Government.

**2 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 Extract of draft minute of Board meeting held on 30 October 2018**

The extract of the draft Board minute of 30 October 2018 relating to Cairngorm mountain was noted.

**4 Notes of Cairngorm Sub-Group meeting held on 8, 12 and 19 November**

Notes of three meetings of the sub-group of the Board that had been formed to discuss and advise on matters relating to Cairngorm were noted. The Board endorsed the guidance provided by the sub-group to HIE staff,

including authorising staff to proceed with negotiations with the current operator of the Cairngorm Mountain business.

## **5 Cairngorm Mountain: update on present situation**

The Head of Business Development and the Head of Business Improvement and Internal Audit updated the Board on the progress of discussions that had taken place since the Board meeting of 30 October with the directors of Cairngorm Mountain Ltd (CML), operator of the HIE-owned visitor attraction at Cairngorm, and its parent company Natural Assets Investments Ltd (NAIL). These discussions aimed to effect a transition of operations to HIE, with the agency's prime goals being to safeguard jobs, stabilise the business, and ensure continuity of this key driver of the local economy.

*Paragraph removed in the interests of the effective conduct of public affairs, and due to commercial sensitivity.*

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## **6 AOB**

There was no other business.

Chris Roberts  
21 November 2018