

**Preston Business Venture Limited (Limited by
guarantee)**

**Directors' report and financial
statements**

Registered number 1783730

31 March 2000



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Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2000.

Principal activity

The principal activity of the company in the year was the encouragement of the growth of businesses in the Preston area.

Business review

The sixteenth year of operation has seen continued growth in the provision of advice and practical assistance to new and existing businesses.

Transfer to reserves

The surplus of income over expenditure of the company after taxation for the year is £10,942 (1999: deficit of £1,474).

Significant changes in fixed assets

Movements in fixed assets are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

Directors and directors' interests

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

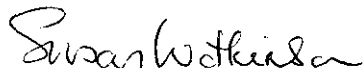
M Gibson	University of Central Lancashire
S Watkinson	Preston Business Venture Limited
M Livesey (resigned 29 October 1999)	Brabner Holden Banks Wilson, Solicitors, Preston
S Noble	Lancashire County Council
P Woodburn	Wallwork, Nelson & Johnson, Chartered Accountants, Preston
N Marshall	NatWest Bank plc
C Saunders	
DJ Walmsley	Moore & Smalley, Chartered Accountants, Preston
I Pettgrew (resigned 15 April 1999)	Barclays Bank plc
J Bretherton	Eckersley and Co, Chartered Surveyors, Preston
ES McFadyen	Lloyds Bank plc
DJ Hornby (appointed 15 April 1999)	Barclays Bank plc
J Rogers	Preston College
E Corcoran (appointed 13 April 2000)	Brabner Holden Banks Wilson, Solicitors, Preston

Directors' report

Auditors

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

By order of the board



S Watkinson
Executive Director

108 Deepdale Road
Preston
PR1 3BQ

19 October 2000

Statement of directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements 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 financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have a general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



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PRESTON
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Report of the auditors to the members of Preston Business Venture Limited (Limited by Guarantee)

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and, as described on page 3, the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

Basis of audit 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 financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, 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 financial statements 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 financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2000 and of its surplus of income over expenditure for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG
*Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors*

19 October 2000

Income and expenditure account

for the year ended 31 March 2000

	Note	2000 £	1999 £
Income		175,341	196,623
Administrative expenses		(164,718)	(198,607)
Trading surplus/(deficit)		10,623	(1,984)
Other interest receivable and similar income	6	319	510
Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure on ordinary activities before taxation	3-5	10,942	(1,474)
Tax on surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities	7	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after taxation retained for the financial year		10,942	(1,474)
Retained surplus brought forward		19,006	20,480
Retained surplus carried forward		29,948	19,006

Statement of total recognised gains and losses

for the year ended 31 March 2000

The retained surplus for the financial year of £ 10,942 (1999: deficit of £1,474) is the only gain or loss recognised in the financial statements.

Balance sheet
at 31 March 2000

	<i>Notes</i>	2000		1999	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		2,614		1,208
Current assets					
Debtors	9	22,721		5,936	
Cash at bank and in hand		14,250		16,431	
		<u>36,971</u>		<u>22,367</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(9,637)</u>		<u>(4,569)</u>	
Net current assets			27,334		17,798
Net assets			<u>29,948</u>		<u>19,006</u>
Capital and reserves					
Retained reserves			29,948		19,006

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 19 October 2000 and were signed on its behalf by:


C Saunders
Chairman

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Company status

The company is limited by guarantee and has no issued share capital. The liability of its members shall not exceed £1 each.

2 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost accounting rules.

Fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided by the company to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Office furniture - 20% straight line basis

Cash flow statement

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds of its size.

Income

Income represents the amounts derived from the provision of services during the year. In the opinion of the directors the activity of the business constitutes one class of trade.

3 Surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities before taxation

	2000 £	1999 £
<i>Surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging</i>		
Auditors' remuneration	-	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	816	1,277
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes (continued)

4 Remuneration of directors

	2000 £	1999 £
Directors' emoluments:		
Remuneration as directors	20,229	19,916
Pension costs	-	-
	<u>20,229</u>	<u>19,916</u>

5 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	Number of employees	
	2000	1999
Administration	2	2

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2000 £	1999 £
Wages and salaries	38,056	36,845
Social security costs	3,171	3,465
	<u>41,227</u>	<u>40,310</u>

6 Other interest receivable and similar income

	2000 £	1999 £
Bank interest	319	510

7 Taxation

	2000 £	1999 £
UK Corporation tax at 21% (1999: 21%)	-	-

Notes *(continued)*

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Office furniture £
<i>Cost</i>	
At beginning of year	13,893
Additions	2,222
At end of year	<u>16,115</u>
<i>Depreciation</i>	
At beginning of year	12,685
Charge for year	816
At end of year	<u>13,501</u>
<i>Net book value</i>	
At 31 March 2000	<u>2,614</u>
At 31 March 1999	<u>1,208</u>

9 Debtors

	2000 £	1999 £
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>22,721</u>	<u>5,936</u>

All of the above amounts are due within one year.

Notes (continued)

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2000 £	1999 £
Taxation and social security	2,839	2,909
Accruals and deferred income	6,798	1,660
	<u>9,637</u>	<u>4,569</u>

11 Capital commitments

There are no capital commitments at the beginning and end of the financial year.

12 Related party transactions

The sponsors of the company are in many instances represented within the company by their officers being appointed to the Board of Directors. The following is a list of sponsors (and officers representing them) together with donations made to the company in cash or kind although in no case does this involve a trading relationship.

Donations in cash	£
Barclays Bank	1,500
Boots	500
Lloyds Bank	1,000
Natwest Bank plc	250
Preston Borough Council	12,000
Ilyas Patel	100

Donations in kind	Support in kind
Brabner Holden Bank Wilson	M Livesey Director
Eckersley and Co	J Bretherton Director
Lancashire County Council	S Noble Director
Moore & Smalley	DJ Walmsley Director & Co Sec
Natwest Bank plc	N Marshall Director
Wallwork Nelson & Johnson	P Woodburn Director
Preston College	J Rogers Director

In addition to the above KPMG undertake the audit on an honorary basis

Income and expenditure account
 for the year ended 31 March 2000

		2000		1999
	Gross	Expenditure	Net	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Courses and seminars	2,075	623	1,452	1,835
Business development	61,331	46,761	14,570	19,453
STEP	37,090	30,360	6,730	5,643
Be your Own Boss	-	-	-	25
Mentors Club	-	-	-	(573)
Small Business of the Year	-	-	-	1,841
Rent Rebate Scheme	35,733	25,057	10,676	10,433
Volunteer mentors	2,337	75	2,262	-
New Deal	1,260	-	1,260	2,070
Business Boost	8,290	585	7,705	3,346
Start up Counselling	3,035	-	3,035	2,495
Grants project	8,243	-	8,243	-
	<u>159,394</u>	<u>103,461</u>	<u>55,933</u>	<u>46,568</u>
Donations			15,947	15,755
Bank interest received			319	510
			<u>72,199</u>	<u>62,833</u>
Expenditure				
Publicity		633		757
Bank charges and interest		410		326
Rent, rates and insurance		5,916		9,188
Office running costs		7,459		6,555
Telephone, postage etc		2,675		2,811
Salary and NI		41,227		40,310
Travel expenses		397		474
Sundry expenses		1,724		824
Depreciation		816		1,277
Relocation costs and repairs		-		1,785
		<u></u>	<u>(61,257)</u>	<u>(64,307)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation			<u>10,942</u>	<u>(1,474)</u>