

The Humber Forum Limited

Report and Accounts

31 March 1998

 ERNST & YOUNG



The Humber Forum Limited

Registered No. 2784165

DIRECTORS

D L Stephenson
S R Parnaby
M M Barker
P D Fryer
J S Mulgrove
P Wheatley
D Wallis
I Male
G Guest
M A Kirk
L W Upfold (appointed 15 January 1998)

SECRETARY

D L Stephenson

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young
PO Box 3
Lowgate House
Lowgate
Hull HU1 1JJ

BANKERS

National Westminster Bank PLC
PO Box 944
34 King Edward Street
Hull HU1 3YN

REGISTERED OFFICE

The Guildhall
Alfred Gelder Street
Hull HU1 2AA

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 1998.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND REVIEW OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENTS

The aim of the company is to act as an exclusive body in relation to the economic promotion of the Humber Estuary and its area of economic influence, and as a consultative and advisory forum to local authorities on strategic planning, strategic transportation and economic development and promotion. Funds are normally raised through subscription and membership fees from local councils involved with the company; although no subscriptions were required in 1997/98 due to the financial position of the company. Activity in the year was focused on the waste minimisation project run through the Humber Resource Efficiency Centre, (HREC) which is funded by Government SRB grant and project or membership income from businesses. The Humber Forum Limited as the accountable body underwrites the HREC and would be responsible for any grant clawback if applicable.

RESULTS

The results of the business are set out on page 5.

DIRECTORS

The directors of the company during the year were those listed on page 1, together with C Inglis who resigned on 6 January 1998 and L A Taylor who resigned on 10 May 1998.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- comply with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that the accounts comply with the above requirements.

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 accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

YEAR 2000 COMPLIANCE

As is well known, many computer and digital storage systems express dates using only the last two digits of the year and will thus require modification or replacement to accommodate the year 2000 and beyond in order to avoid malfunctions and resulting widespread commercial disruption. This is a complex and pervasive issue. The operation of our business depends not only on our own computer systems, but also to some degree on those of our suppliers and customers. This could expose us to further risk in the event that there is a failure by other parties to remedy their own Year 2000 issues.

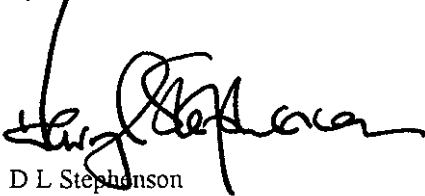
The company is well advanced in the phase of assessing the risks to our business resulting from the date change to the Year 2000. Once this phase is completed we can assess the likely impact on our activities and develop prioritised action plans to deal with the key risks.

Much of the cost of implementing the action plans will be subsumed into the recurring activities of the departments involved. The cost of modifications to our computer hardware and software will be expensed as incurred.

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young have expressed their willingness to continue in office. A resolution proposing their reappointment will be submitted at the Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Board



D L Stephenson
Secretary

24 November 1998

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

to the members of The Humber Forum Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 5 to 7 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on the basis of the accounting policies set out on page 7.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 2 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts and to report our opinion to you.

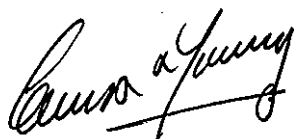
Basis of opinion

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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, 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 accounts 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 accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 March 1998 and of its deficit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.



Ernst & Young
Registered Auditor
Hull

24 November 1998

The Humber Forum Limited

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 1998

	Notes	1998 £	1997 £
OPERATING INCOME	2	101,506	18,295
Operating costs		(140,167)	(16,294)
OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS	3	(38,661)	2,001
Interest receivable		7,366	6,981
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		(31,295)	8,982
Taxation	5	-	-
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		(31,295)	8,982

STATEMENT OF RETAINED INCOME

	£	£
Balance at 1 April 1997	184,776	175,794
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(31,295)	8,982
Balance at 31 March 1998	153,481	184,776

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

There are no recognised gains and losses for the year other than the deficit of £31,295 shown above (1997 - surplus of £8,982).

The Humber Forum Limited

BALANCE SHEET

at 31 March 1998

	1998 £	1997 £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments and accrued income	3,395	12,347
Other debtors	61,372	13,890
Investments	80,000	115,000
Cash at bank	13,935	53,447
	<u>158,702</u>	<u>194,684</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year		
Other creditors	5,221	9,908
	<u>153,481</u>	<u>184,776</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	<u>153,481</u>	<u>184,776</u>
RESERVES		
Income and expenditure account	153,481	184,776
	<u>153,481</u>	<u>184,776</u>

D L Stephenson

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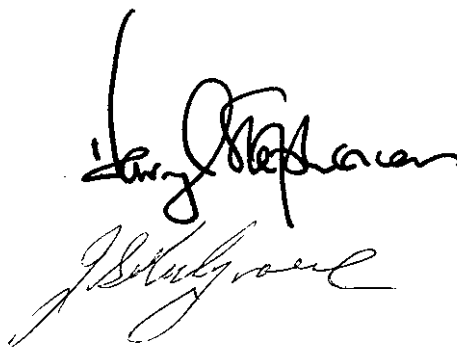
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) Directors

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M A Kirk

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24 November 1998

The Humber Forum Limited

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 1998

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Government grants

Government grants in respect of capital expenditure are credited to a deferred income account and are released to profit over the expected useful lives of the relevant assets by equal annual instalments. Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income so as to match them with the expenditure to which they relate.

2. OPERATING INCOME

Operating income represents the amount of subscriptions, contributions and fees receivable, exclusive of VAT, during the year.

3. OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS

This is stated after charging/(crediting)

	1998 £	1997 £
Auditors' remuneration	500	500
Directors' remuneration	Nil	Nil
Receipt of Government Grant	(64,000)	(122,477)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. EMPLOYEE COSTS

	1998 £	1997 £
Wages and salaries	104,106	70,820
Social security costs	10,465	6,919
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	114,571	77,739
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	1998 No.	1997 No.
Management	1	1
Administration	1	1
Operations	2	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	4	4
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5. TAXATION

There is no charge to taxation due to the company's activity.

6. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The company was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and therefore it has no share capital. The liability of the members is limited to £10 each.