Industry and Parliament Trust

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INDUSTRY AND PARLIAMENT TRUST

CHAIRMEN'S REPORT DIRECTORS REPORT REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1999-2000



Ref: 01308583

Presidents: The Rt Hon the Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor The Rt Hon Michael Martin MP, Speaker of the House of Commons

Trustees: The Rt Hon the Lord Weatherill DL, Chairman The Rt Hon Richard Caborn MP, Minister for Sport Roger Sands, Clerk Assistant, House of Commons Michael Davies, Clerk of the Parliaments The Rt Hon the Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde PC Judge David Edward CMG QC The Baroness Hooper Sir Ken Jackson, General Secretary, AEEU Brian Kent, Chairman, Wellington Holdings Plc Miller McLean, Director, Group Legal and Regulatory Affairs and Group Secretary, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc Ken Minton CBE, Bill Olner MP John Sacher CBE Barry Stickings, Chairmann, BASF plc The Lord Tornlinson Bowen Wells

The Chairmen's Report

The Trust, like any business, has to be responsive to the changing needs and circumstances of its two sets of 'customers' if it is to be effective in promoting mutual understanding between those in business and Parliament. At the beginning of the financial year the Trustees and the Executive Committee adopted a two-year business and communications strategy with twin objectives. Firstly, of enabling the Trust to meet the changed needs of its clientele. Secondly, of positioning the Trust so that its provisions are an accepted part of the development of business personnel and parliamentarians. Key strategic actions where defined: a) anticipating needs; b) responding to changing needs; c) modernising delivery; d) constant assessment and evaluation; e) husbanding and developing the Trust's two resources - the Corporate and Parliamentary Fellows. This has involved a change of approach to existing activities and enhancements of the provisions available through the Trust. The degree to which these actions have already been implemented will, we believe, be apparent from the following pages.

Two major areas in which these actions have been expressed are the ADAPT Project and Learning Centre, opened by the Speaker in January (pages 12-13) and a new approach to company involvement (pages 3-4). Establishing the process for the academic accreditation of the Fellowships has taken longer than anticipated, but the first Fellows and Fellows-elect have been selected for the pilots. The second phase of the Emerging Issues Programme on Consultation has been successfully completed. This brought together Corporate and Parliamentary Fellows and company personnel to test a consultation process on an issue due to be the subject of regulation. The Department of the Environment is accessing the outcomes (page 20). Assuming they are positive, the next stage will be to develop a model of consultation based on the pilot experience.

The modernisation of the IPT's governance has seen the establishment of sub-committees which are already playing a role in the development of the Trust and the involvement of Corporate Fellows (page 28-29).

Involvement by enterprises requires a personal commitment from top management. If involvement within companies is not integrated into normal company activity it leaves the Trust particularly vulnerable to the effect of mergers and de-mergers - referred to in last year's report. This past year has seen a significant increase in the number of companies which have resigned from the Trust as a result of corporate restructuring and we expect this trend to continue. The impact is clear in the accounts from the reduction of core income, although overall the accounts show a surplus (pages 34-36). The cumulative effect on resourcing is significant. New regulations regarding notice of withdrawal, agreed by the Executive Committee and Trustees will be put to the Annual General Meeting to address this issue. In addition, we are using all efforts to attract new companies to the Trust, retaining our sector balance in the process. Other forms of resourcing through help in kind and fees have also been developed and are reported on for the first time in this report (page 34). The current business climate is also causing increasing personnel changes, disrupting Fellowship programmes, the relationship with the Trust and the willingness of personnel to participate in anything not directly related to their business targets. In such a climate it is essential that our Company Representatives and Corporate Fellows help the Trust in integrating its activities into their respective enterprises.

Despite these difficulties, the Trust has met its own targets for the year and those of ADAPT in respect to the Learning and Development Project.

During the period under review the Trustees have elected as participating companies Nycomed Amersham plc, Royal Armouries, ITN, The Go Ahead Group plc and United Kingdom Nirex Limited.

All voluntary agencies are dependent on support and help to achieve their objectives. The Trust is very unusual, in that its activities and programmes are essentially derived from an exchange of time and expertise by the participating parliamentarians and business personnel. Many give over and above what would normally be expected and on behalf of the Trustees we would like to express our sincere appreciation, particularly to our Parliamentary and Corporate Fellows.

The Rt Hon The Lord Weatherill DL Chairman of the Trustees.

Barry Stickings

Managing Director, BASF Chairman of the Executive Committee and a Trustee

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The Director's Report

The Trustees and the then Management Committee adopted in October 1999 a two-year strategy paper setting out clear objectives for us to have achieved by December 2001, together with a Profiling and Communications strategy. In addition, in September1999 we set down a list of detailed objectives to be achieved by December 2000. I was able to report to the Executive Committee at the year-end, the successful meeting of these objectives. This year's report details the beneficiaries from all the Trust's activities over the period (page 5).

The circumstances surrounding the Trust's work have changed significantly since its founding and have shaped this two-year strategy. When the IPT was founded there was deep political division about economic policies and the private sector. That this no longer exists is in part due to the Trust. There is recognition within Westminster of a need to understand business in its broadest sense for two reasons. The public judges Governments largely on the health of the economy. Legislation, policy development and regulation are broadening in scope, deepening in complexity and much of it impacts on business. So, the circumstances have changed but the requirement for understanding remains, as even fewer Parliamentarians have a first hand knowledge of business.

Since I was appointed Director I have made it my personal objective that we should reach the position where the Trust is regarded as a resource for Parliament, rather than just as a useful or interesting activity. It is only if Members and officers automatically turn to the IPT, in the same way they do to the Research Library to answer their need to understand issues, that the IPT will be fully effective as a bridge to understanding.

We are close to achieving that positioning. Now, in addition to providing the basic Fellowships imparting an understanding of business principles, the Trust is increasingly being drawn on to provide an understanding of specific issues and policy areas. A concrete example of the Trust's positioning is the ADAPT Project (see pages 12-13). It is being used as a catalyst for change by all those elements of the House represented on the Advisory Group. It is also beginning to illustrate that many of the issues Members have to deal with in the management of their offices are similar to those in micro-businesses and larger businesses.

The Trust has its own form of competition. Firstly of time. The demands on Members time of legislation and constituency work have - and we have measured this - continuously increased by the year. We are competing for Members time with the Voluntary Sector and Parliament Scheme and the Armed Forces and Parliament Scheme and the Metropolitan Police and Parliament Scheme. So, we have to make IPT time worthwhile. This is why so much importance is placed on monitoring. The more effective the programmes and provisions, the greater the use. Our credibility relies on useful learning experiences. This would quickly vanish in such a close community if the experiences did not match the needs.

This report details the approach and outcomes. It is important though that we have objective analysis of the Trust's programmes and impact. The outcome of the IPT related questions included in the Corporate Social Responsibility survey being undertaken by PricewaterhouseCoopers (page 24) will be available in about two months.

Our Parliamentary customers are in one place and there for at least the duration of a Parliament so we can have a cumulative impact. This is far harder with our business customers. There are two and half million employees, spread through ninety-two companies, subject to career moves, mergers, de-mergers, board room upheavals. The most stable sector being our micro and small business sector. All the Trust's analysis show that many directors and rising executives do not regard it as necessary in coming to judgements or developing policy, to understand the processes which govern their operating framework.

This year the impact of mergers and de-mergers has had a major financial effect on the IPT. Perhaps, even more importantly, mergers and de-mergers make personnel uneasy and even less inclined to do anything other than keep totally focussed on their immediate objective – or even to hold on to a resource such as the Trust, to consolidate their position. This is particularly true of some Government Affairs Departments. Therefore considerable effort is going into integrating the Trust as an accepted resource within participating companies and to profile the IPT within the enterprises.

Corporate Fellows are as important a resource as Parliamentary Fellows as they access the business expertise available to the Trust and are often essential to company retention. The actions taken to increase involvement have resulted in a very positive response, including a number who wish to be Business Mentors to Fellows during their programmes and who wish to be involved with the ADAPT Project.

We have achieved our targets, but not in time to offset the cumulative impact of the mergers and demergers. We are only fulfilling half our objective if we do not succeed in showing the relevance of an understanding of the legislative institutions to those in business, but we can only do this by answering appropriate company needs. This will be the challenge for the coming year.

Fredrick R Hyde-Chambers

Director of the Trust and Secretary General, The International Association of Business and Parliament

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Report of the Trustees

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2000

- 1 The Trustees submit their Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2000.
- 2 The objectives of the Trust are stated at the opening of the annual report. The principal activities and developments of the Trust are dealt with in the reports on pages 6 and 7.
- 3 The Trustees believe it appropriate and helpful to underline that the major contribution by supporter companies and parliamentarians is one of time. Parliamentarians, in addition to guaranteeing five working weeks in 18 months for their Fellowship, also guarantee to give time to the Parliamentary programmes arranged for company personnel. (If arranged by a commercial enterprise the Fellows' Company seminars would cost at least the equivalent of the annual subscription of a large member company).

4 Organisation of the Trust

The Trust's constitution has been revised to bring it into line with changes in charity law to facilitate greater participation by company personnel. These changes have to take account of the Trust's need to maintain the checks and balances, which ensure that its neutrality and integrity are transparently clear.

5 Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is made up of representatives of all the political parties, including minority parties, Parliamentary officers, EU Institutions and Trade Unions. New industrial Trustees are: the current Chairman of the Executive Committee, and former Chairmen of the Council and Management Committee.

6 Executive Committee

The members of the Executive Committee are appointed by the Board of Trustees from the list of Corporate Fellows of the Trust who are representatives of participating companies. The Executive Committee assists the Trustees in carrying out the aims and objectives of the Trust.

7 Sub-committees

Sub-committees are made up of a Trustee and Executive Committee member and Corporate Fellows. They enable the Trustees to draw on best business practice and encourage the broadest possible participation in the development of the Trust's activities. There are seven sub-committees:

Profile Sub-committee
Finance/Funding Sub-committee
Small Business Sub-committee
Training/Adapt Sub-committee
Corporate Fellows Sub-committee
Strategy Sub-Committee
Emerging Issues Sub-committee

8 The Corporate Forum

The Corporate Forum has taken the place of the Council. It is made up of the participating company representatives. It has responsibility for the companies relationship with the Trust, for developing the companies use of Trust resources within the company as well as for ensuring senior management support for the Parliamentary

Fellowships. It is the Corporate Forum, which elects the Trustees at the Annual General Meeting.

9 Programmes

In all its activities, the Trust's approach is of practitioner learning from practitioner. The role of the secretariat, through its particular skills, is to ensure that the potential of these activities is realised for the participants.

10 Review of the Financial Position

The Financial statements for the year will be seen on pages 35 to 36 of this report. Reserves at the end of the year amounted to £150,000.

11 Financially Parliament contributes directly to Fellowship expenses and provides services and facilities for all the Trust's Westminster based programmes.

12 Trustees

The present Trustees are: The Rt Hon Lord Weatherill DL (Chairman) The Rt Hon Richard Caborn MP (Fellow) George Cubie, Clerk Assistant, House of Commons Michael Davies, Clerk of the Parliaments Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde (Fellow) Judge David Edward, CMG QC Baroness Hooper (Fellow) Sir Ken Jackson, General Secretary, AEEU leuan Wyn Jones MP (Fellow) Archy Kirkwood MP Brian Kent, Chairman Wellington Holdings plc Miller McLean, Group Director, Legal and Regulatory Affairs and Group Secretary, The Royal Bank of Scotland Ken Minton OBE, Chairman, Arjo Wiggins Appleton plc Bill Olner MP (Fellow) John Sacher, CBE Barry Stickings, Managing Director, BASF Lord Tomlinson (Fellow) Bowen Wells MP (Fellow)

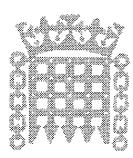
Statement of Trustees responsibilities

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

and

 prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.



The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect other

Participation in the Trust is open to any enterprise as long as it meets the Trust's criteria and contributes to its objective of being fully representative of business in the UK. This takes account of size, sector, ownership, location and employment growth areas.

13 Contributing Enterprises

All companies who participated throughout the period except where otherwise stated are:

Aggregates Industries

Aims

Bank of England

Barclays plc

BASF plc

BG plc

Blue Circle Industries plc

The Boots Company plc

BEa Systems

British Airways plc

British American Tobacco

BNFL

The British Petroleum Amoco Company plc

British Telecommunications plc

Centrica plc

Chevron UK Ltd Conoco (UK) Ltd

Coutts Consulting Group plc

DHL International UK

The Electricity Association

Electronic Data Systems

EMAP plc

Ernst & Young Esso UK plc

The Federation of Small Businesses

FlowerCity

Fotolynx Ltd

GKN pic

Glaxo Wellcome plc

Go Ahead Group (joined February 2000)

HSBC Holdings plc

IBM United Kingdom Ltd

Imperial Chemical Industries plc

ITN (joined May 2000)

Jaquar Cars Ltd

Johnson & Johnson

JWP Solutions in Print

Kelda Group

Kingfisher plc

Laporte plc

The John Lewis Partnership

Lloyds

Lloyds TSB Group plc

The London Stock Exchange

Thomas H Loveday Ltd

Marks & Spencer pic

Mars UK Companies

Marsh Development Capital

Simon Martin Group (Launer) Merck Sharp & Dohme Ltd Millennium Inorganic Chemicals

Motorola Ltd

Muncaster Visitor Management National Botanic Garden of Wales

The National Grid Company plc

National Power plc

Nationwide Building Society

Natwest Group

Nettec plc

Norsk Hydro (UK) Ltd

Northumbrian Water Group plc

Nycomed Amersham plc

Pfizer Limited

Pilkington plc

Polestar plc

The Post Office

PowerGen plc

PriceWaterhouseCoopers

Prince's Trust

Railtrack plc

Reed Elsevier plc

Rio Tinto plo

The Royal Armouries (joined August 2000)

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

Severn Trent plc (joined December 1999)

Shanks plc

Shell UK Ltd

Short Brothers plc

The Standard Life Assurance Company

Thos Storey Fabrications Ltd

Swiss Re

Texaco Ltd

Ti Group

Tunstall Group plc

Unilever plc

United Utilities plc

Whurr Publishers Ltd

- 13 During the year, Anglian Water, Lambert Howarth, PAC Motoring Services, Shire Hall Communications, United Biscuits and, Zurich Financial Services left the Trust.
- 14 The Trust is prohibited by its Articles of Association from distributing income by way of dividend.
- 15 A resolution to reappoint the auditors, PriceWaterhouseCoopers will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting on 29th January 2001.
- 16 The Trustees would like to record their appreciation to the Members of the Executive Committee and its sub-committee members who have served during the year under review (see pages 30 and 31).

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

Fredrick R Hyde-Chambers

Company Secretary and Director of the Trust

Summary of fundraising from October 1999-2000

As has been referred to in the Chairmens' and Director's reports the Trust is vulnerable to the swift changes that are taking place within companies. The main source of its income is from company contributions. Therefore, during the year the Trust has sought to broaden the sources of income. The following gives details of fees and other funds raised, which appear in the accounts. The Trust also particularly wishes to acknowledge, with gratitude, the assistance given by the following: Coutts Consulting Group, plc (employment advice); EMAP plc (advice on the news letter); BASF plc (database advice), Motorola Ltd (web site advice).

Funding income:

| Learning Centre project | £192,711 | European Social Fund |
|---|----------|---|
| Civil Service constituency attachment scheme | £10,000 | Cabinet Office |
| Northern Ireland Assembly consultation fees for assistance with Assembly and Business Trust | £4,057 | Assembly and Business Trust |
| Emerging Issues Phase II | £10,000 | Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions |
| 'Understanding Parliament' Speakers and Local Authority Dinner at the Royal Armouries | £2,691 | Kelda Group |

Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2000

Report of the Auditors to the Members of the Industry and Parliament Trust

We have audited the financial statements on pages 35 to 36.

Respective responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The Trustees who are also Directors of the Industry and Parliament Trust for the purpose of Company Law are responsible for preparing the Annual Report. As described on page 32, this includes responsibility for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and 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 United Kingdom Companies Act. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charitable 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 Trustees' remuneration and transactions is not disclosed.

We read the other information contained in the Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

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 charitable 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 charitable company's affairs at 30 September 2000 and of its net incoming resources including its income and expenditure for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
London WC2
11 December 2000



Income and Expenditure

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 30 September 2000

| | Notes | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | 2000 Total £ | 1999 Total £ |
|---|-------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Incoming resources: | ····· | | | | |
| Contributions of supporters | | 394,651 | _ | 394,651 | 436,850 |
| Income from study courses and semin | | 104,695 | - | 104,695 | 119,683 |
| Income from induction and information | _ | _ | _ | - | 375 |
| Income from Learning Centre | 4 | 40.000 | 192,911 | 192,911 | - |
| Interest receivable Miscellaneous income | | 12,038 9,868 | - | 12,038 9,868 | 12,046 |
| Miscella leous income | | 9,000 | | 9,000 | 11,548 |
| Total incoming resources | | 521,252 | 192,911 | 714,163 | 580,502 |
| Resources expended: | | | | | |
| Direct charitable expenditure: | | /++ +=- ! | | | |
| Study courses and seminars | | (69,379) | _ | (69,379) | (104,578) |
| Fellows' expenses | | (16,176) | _ | (16,176) | (33,504) |
| Induction and information events | 4 | (2,948) | (100,000) | (2,948) | (1,280) |
| Learning Centre | 4 | - | (109,806) | (109,806) | _ |
| Staff costs directly attributable to charitable activities | 2 | (148,739) | (33,226) | (181,965) | (182,000) |
| | | (237,242) | (143,032) | (380,274) | (321,362) |
| Other expenditure: | | (=0. ;= 1=) | (0,002) | (,, | (02 1,002) |
| Management and administration of | | | | | |
| the charity | 3 | (254,044) | (49,879) | (303,923) | (213,133) |
| Publicity and support material | | (9,765) | _ | (9,765) | (22,135) |
| | | (263,809) | (49,879) | (313,688) | (235,268) |
| T 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | | (504.054) | (100.044) | (000 000) | (550,000) |
| Total resources expended: | | (501,051) | (192,911) | (693,962) | (556,630) |
| Net incoming resources for the year | - | 20,201 | | 20,201 | 23,872 |
| Balance brought forward at 1 October | | 144,595 | - | 144,595 | 120,723 |
| Balance carried forward at | | | | | |
| 30 September | | £164,796 | | £164,796 | £144,595 |

There were no acquisitions in the year and no operations were discontinued. The Trust has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the surplus above and therefore no separate statement of gains and losses has been presented.

| Balance Sheet | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2000 | | D | | 4000 |
| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | 2000 £ | 1999 £ |
| Current Assets | | | | |
| Stocks of publicity and support material | 10,195 | - | 10,195 | 8,218 |
| Debtors and prepayments | 91,098 | 51,225 | 142,323 | 79,356 |
| Loans to employees | 2,556 | _ | 2,556 | 1,818 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 121,797 | (41,922) | 79,875 | 120,648 |
| | 225,646 | 9,303 | 234,949 | 210,040 |
| Current Liabilities | | | | |
| Creditors and accrued expenses | (51,797) | (8,519) | (60,316) | (65,070) |
| Other taxation and social security | (9,053) | (784) | (9,837) | (375) |
| | (60,850) | (9,303) | (70,153) | (65,445) |
| Accumulated Fund | £164,796 | | £164,796 | £144,595 |

Approved by the Trustees on 11 December 2000 Remark Leath mile

George Cubie

The notes on the following page form part of these accounts

35

Notes to the Accounts

30 September 2000

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("SORP") issued by the Charity Commission in October 1995. A summary of the principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently, is set out below. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

1 Principal Accounting Policies

- (i) The Trust qualifies as a small entity and as a consequence, it is exempt from the requirement to publish a cash flow statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised) 'Cash flow statement';
- (ii) The Trust maintains two types of fund:
 - restricted: where the purposes for which the funds may be used have been restricted by donors.
 (The Trust currently operates only one restricted fund, for the ADAPT-financed Learning Centre);
 - unrestricted: where the fund is not restricted as to use;
- (iii) All income is included in the accounts on an accruals basis;
- (iv) Direct charitable expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis and comprises all costs directly related to the Fellowship Programme and the other courses and seminars held throughout the year. This includes expenses reimbursed to Fellows and the direct cost of staff involved in organising the Fellowship Programme and other Trust activities;
- (v) Stock, comprising publicity and support material, is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value;
- (vi) Costs of operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term;
- (vii) The company has been granted charitable status and is exempt from taxation on investment income.

| 2 Staff costs | Year ended 30 September 2000 £ | Year ended 30 September 1999 £ | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Office salaries | 274,715 | 221,914 | |
| Other staff costs | 17,854 | 0 | |
| Social security costs | 28,138 | 22,444 | |
| Other pension costs – see note 5 | 26,582 | 22.324 | |
| Private healthcare costs | 7,315 | 7,073 | |
| | 354.604 | 273.755 | |

One employee earned between £40,000 and £50,000 in the year to 30 September 2000 (1999:1) and one between £50,000 and £60,000 (1999:0).

No Trustee received any emoluments in respect of services to the Trust during the year (1999:0).

The number of employees employed by the Trust during the year 1999/2000 was eleven full-time plus two on fixed-term contracts, and in the year 1998/9 was eight full-time.

| 3 Total re | sources used - other disclosures | 2000 | 1999 | |
|------------|--|--------|--------|--|
| | | £ | £ | |
| Audit fe | 9 | 1,754 | 1,768 | |
| Hire of p | plant and machinery – operating leases | 4,744 | 4,484 | |
| Hire of o | other assets - operating leases | 33,496 | 29,183 | |

4 Learning Centre project

At 30 September 2000 the Trust had a liability of £192,711 to the European Social Fund (ESF) contingent upon an audit of the project yet to be conducted by the ESF or its agents.

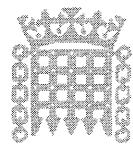
5 Pension scheme contributions

The Trust contributes to a number of money purchase pension schemes on behalf of certain of its employees.

6 Financial commitments

At 30 September 2000 the Trust had annual commitments under operating leases as follows, being non-cancellable except as shown:

| | 2000 | | 19 | 99 | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|------------|--|--|
| | £ Land and buildings | £ Other | £ Land and buildings | £ Other | | |
| Operating leases which expire: – within one year – in the second to the fifth year inclusive (1) Cancellable with six months' notice | 33,496 (1) | _ 4,874 | 33,496 (1) | 1,121 | | |



7 Company status

The Trust is a charitable trust limited by guarantee. The guarantors are the existing members whose liability is limited in the case of each class of members to the following amounts:

Subscribing members £1,000 Trustee members £1