



## SCOTTISH INNOVATIVE ACTIONS PROGRAMME

Minutes of the Seventh Innovative Actions Steering Group meeting  
held on Tuesday 2 August 2006 at 1100hrs  
in the Tay Room, Perth Concert Hall,  
185 High Street, Perth.

### Present

Graeme Dickson (Chair)	The Scottish Executive
Gavin Don	EQUITAS
Janet Brown	Scottish Enterprise
Laurie Russell	Strathclyde European Partnership Ltd
Laura Dingwall (for Calum Davidson)	Highlands & Islands Enterprise
Brenda Grant (for David Souter)	The Scottish Executive
Tom Tumilty	The Scottish Executive

### Apologies

David Gani	Scottish Funding Council
Maggie Symonds	Nextarc Limited
Iain McMillan	CBI Scotland
Dennis Malone	Highlands & Islands Partnership

### In Attendance

Ken Gordon	Strathclyde European Partnership Ltd
Moragh Hastie	Strathclyde European Partnership Ltd
Stuart Brown	SQW

## 1 Welcome & Introduction

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the seventh meeting of the Scottish Innovative Actions Steering Group. The group introduced themselves for the benefit of first time attendees and SQW.

## 2 Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Apologies were received from David Gani, Maggie Symonds, Iain McMillan and Dennis Malone. Calum Davidson and David Souter were also unable to attend, but a representative attended in their absence. Belated apologies were received from Judith Henderson who had intended attending the meeting on David Gani's behalf.

## 3 Matters Arising from Circulated Papers

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive confirmed that there were no outstanding issues with the additional funding for technical assistance granted to allow the extension of the Programme.

- 3.2 The group was advised that the majority of Notification of Change requests received from the projects were for an extension to the implementation timescales; the exception to this was the request from Intellectual Assets Centre which is being circulated for approval by written procedure and will utilise the remaining ERDF balance.
- 3.3 The group was advised that two nominations had been received for membership of the Innovating Regions in Europe Network. The application from Tom Tumilty, of the Scottish Executive, will be submitted.
- 3.4 The group was advised of a revision to the Activity Progress Report. A total of 18 projects have now asked for an extension with one project submitting an increased cost application.
- 3.5 The group agreed that it would be prudent to ask Jenny Honey for her continued support with the Marketing Tender. The group was asked to let the Programme Manager know if they would be interested in joining a sub-group to evaluate the tenders.

#### **4 Any Other Competent Business**

- 4.1 There were no other issues raised by the group for discussion at this time.

#### **5 IA Programme Interim Evaluation Report – SQW Ltd, Stuart Brown**

- 5.1 Stuart Brown, from SQW, attended the meeting and made a presentation on the Interim Evaluation report; the methodology used and explained the next stage of work including case studies. A copy of the presentation is attached for information.
- 5.2 The group agreed that the Interim Evaluation Report was a fair overview of the Programme thus far. The report presents challenging questions for the next phase in the Programme and the implementation of the learning from the pilot projects in policy and support initiatives. The group was pleased that such a small programme could potentially have such a big effect on future activities in Scotland.

#### **6 Activities Arising from Meeting**

- 6.1 It was recognised that, with elections next year, means to increase innovation in Scotland could well feature in manifestos – both party and business organisations. It would be important for the output of the programme to be made available before these were finalised.
- 6.2 A broader discussion is required on whom the Steering Group require to be influencing. The views and messages communicated should be consistent from both Public and Private sector members.
- 6.3 SQW agreed to provide the Action Line 1 Case Study report by mid to late September.
- 6.4 The report will form the basis of discussions with public sector bodies, the Scottish Executive, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the Scottish Funding Council about implementing project outcomes in forthcoming policy. A meeting will be scheduled for late September.

- 6.5 The Programme Manager should arrange one-to-one meetings with people involved in policy development within SCDI and CBI.
- 6.6 It was agreed that the case studies approach seemed to be a reasonable way forward for the evaluation.

## **7 Date of Next Meeting**

- 7.1 The next meeting of the group will be planned for November. Group members will be contacted nearer the time to check their availability.