

**THE NORTHERN IRELAND
ASSEMBLY AND BUSINESS
TRUST**

**TRUSTEE REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2016**

**Co Reg No. NI 43484
Charity No. XR32312**

**RSM
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors**

THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY AND BUSINESS TRUST

TRUST INFORMATION AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

Non-Parliamentarian Trustees

Ms Norah-Ann Barron	(elected 15 June 2015)
Mr Michael Bell	(re-elected 16 June 2014)
Ms Nicola Bothwell	(elected 15 June 2015)
Mr Noel Brady	(elected 15 June 2015)
Mr Christopher Brown	(elected 16 June 2014)
Mr Stephen Kelly	(elected 16 June 2014)
Mr Barry Turley	(elected 15 June 2015)
Mr. John O'Farrell	(co-opted 15 June 2015)

Parliamentarian Trustees

Mr. Alban Maginness MLA	(elected 20 May 2013)
Mr Phil Flanagan MLA	(re-elected 20 May 2013)
Ms Judith Cochrane MLA	(elected 20 May 2013)
Ms Claire Sugden	(elected 16 June 2014)
Mr. Leslie Cree MBE MLA	(re-elected 15 June 2015)
Mr. Robin Newton MLA	(re-elected 15 June 2015)
Dr Gareth McGrath	(appointed 17 February 2016)
Mr Richard Stewart	(co-opted 15 June 2015)

Secretary

Ms Susie Brown

Deputy Secretary

Mrs Louise Close
Ms Roisin Fleetham covered post from
March 2015-January 2016 (maternity leave)

Treasurer

Mr Richard Stewart

Co-ordinator

Mr Ivor Gibson

Company number

NI 43484

Charity number

XR32312

Registered office

Room 135
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3XX

Auditors

RSM
Number One
Lanyon Quay
Belfast
BT1 3LG

Bankers

Danske Bank Limited
Knock Branch

520 Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3HD

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

The Company is a charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies both with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) as issued by the Charity Commissioners of England and Wales.

The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland has commenced registration of Northern Ireland Charities. During this registration process, the Commission deems charities to be organisations which have registered with Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) for charitable tax purposes. The NIABT has been registered with Her HMRC for charitable tax purposes since 2002 and will be registered by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in due course.

Legal status

The Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in Northern Ireland, registration number NI 43484, which was incorporated under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 on the 19 June 2002. The Company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The guarantors are the members and those past members ceasing to be members in the previous year. The liability of each guarantor is limited to £1.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Trust is to advance and encourage business understanding of the Assembly and Assembly Members' understanding of business.

Background

The establishment, in 2002, of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust (NIABT), offered parliamentarians and the business sector in Northern Ireland an alternative educational and information discussion forum around which each group could develop a greater understanding of respective needs. As an independent, neutral and self-financing educational charity, NIABT organises programmes for Assembly Members and Business representatives involving briefings, seminars, visits and fellowship placements.

Programmes must be non-partisan, non-lobbying, mutually educational and informative. NIABT is modelled on similar schemes, for example Westminster's Industry & Parliament Trust (IPT).

The NIABT works to forge links with, and promote the exchange of knowledge and information between local businesses and parliamentarians in Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Westminster, the European Parliament and other legislatures.

Open to businesses from all sectors and of all sizes, the NIABT organises activities including briefings, educational visits, fellowships and seminars.

The NIABT is a registered charity and is subject to its Articles of Association, which sets out the various rules and regulations by which the NIABT manages its internal affairs. This document also contains the aims and objectives of the NIABT.

A Memorandum of Understanding with the Assembly Commission states the relationship between the NIABT and the Northern Ireland Assembly, particularly in relation to resources.

It covers:

- a. Staffing
- b. Accommodation

- c. Hosting the NIABT
- d. Activities
- e. Financial arrangements
- f. Marketing and publicity
- g. Settlement of disputes

The Assembly is responsible for the costs attributed to MLAs on NIABT business and as such, the NIABT is subject to internal audit scrutiny.

The Northern Ireland Assembly's contribution and expenditure related to NIABT activities is audited by the Northern Ireland Assembly Audit Office.

The vast majority of NIABT expenditure and financial transactions relate to the NIABT bank account which is wholly funded by the business membership. Therefore, this account is subject to external auditing, which is carried out by RSM.

NIABT's mission statement:

"To advance and encourage business understanding of the Assembly and Assembly Members' understanding of business."

Activities are twofold:

- Providing Assembly Members with a better insight into how the local business sector operates thereby facilitating them in making more informed judgements on policy and legislation relating to the local economy, and;
- Improving the business community's understanding of how the Assembly and devolution works and how policy and legislation is initiated and developed.

Structure, Governance and Management

Board of Trustees

As at 31 March 2016, the Board of Trustees consisted of seven parliamentarians, seven non-parliamentarians from the business sector, one parliamentarian co-optee and one non-parliamentarian co-optee from the business sector who was a Trade Union representative.

Nominated Parliamentarians

Ms Judith Cochrane MLA	Alliance Party (Chairperson)
Mr. Phil Flanagan MLA	Sinn Fein
Mr. Leslie Cree MBE MLA	UUP
Mr. Robin Newton MLA	DUP
Mr. Alban Maginness MLA	SDLP
Ms Claire Sugden MLA	Independent
Dr Gareth McGrath	Director of Parliamentary Services
Richard Stewart (co-opted)	Director of Corporate Services (NIABT Treasurer)

Nominated Non-Parliamentarians

Norah Ann Baron	Pi Communications
Mr Michael Bell	Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association
Nicola Bothwell	NB Chartered Marketing
Noel Brady	NB1 Consulting
Mr Chris Brown	MCE Public Relations
Mr Stephen Kelly	Manufacturing Northern Ireland
Barry Turley	Turley PR and Public Affairs
Mr. John O'Farrell (co-opted)	Irish Congress of Trade Unions

Trustees' responsibilities

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period 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 period. 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust 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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

The Board is entitled to co-opt a Chairperson to the Board if required. It is in the constitution that the Chairperson shall be an elected representative. Mr Robin Newton MLA is the Chairperson of the Trust.

The Board is also entitled to co-opt a Vice-Chairperson to the Board if required. The Vice-Chairperson shall not be an elected representative. Mr Stephen Kelly is the Vice-Chairperson of the Trust.

Business membership

The following companies held membership of the NIABT during of the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

Achieve Enterprises
Aiken PR Ltd
Alana Interiors Ltd
Aldebaran Consultants Ltd
Anderson Spratt Group
Apple Recruitment
Armagh Observatory
Arrbarr Electronics
Arthur Cox Solicitors
Arts and Business Northern Ireland
ASA Marketing Group
Asda NI
B/E Aerospace
Baker Tilly Mooney Moore
BDO Northern Ireland
Belfast City Centre Management
Belfast Distillery
Beulah Business Solutions
Bombardier Aerospace
BT
Business Analysis
C&H Jefferson Solicitors
CA-NI
Carecall
Casa Lola
Causeway Chamber
CB Richard Ellis

CBI Northern Ireland
Centre for Competitiveness (NI) Ltd
Centre for Cross Border Studies
Chambré Public Affairs
Cherton Enterprise Ltd
Cleaver Fulton Rankin Limited
Colleges Northern Ireland
Construction Employers Federation
Consult Nb1 Limited
Core Systems NI Ltd
Cullen Demolition/Asbestos Limited
D A Forgie
Dalradian Gold
Danske Bank
David Murphy Towing
DCP
Deloitte LLP
Early Years
East Belfast Enterprise
Eir Business NI Ltd
Electro Automation (NI) Ltd
Emeritus Communications
Employers for Childcare
Entec Studios
Enterprise Equity Fund
Eye4education
Federation of Master Builders
Federation of Small Businesses
Fenix Solutions Ltd
Firmus Energy
Foyle International Ltd
Funeral Services NI
George Best City Airport
Giving Northern Ireland
GR White & Son Ltd
H & J Martin Ltd
Hardscape
Harland & Wolff Heavy Industries Ltd
Hospitality Ulster
Hugh J O'Boyle Training Ltd
Hughes McMichael Ltd
ICTU
Include Youth
Innovation Ulster Ltd
Insight Consulting Services
JJ Kelly & Co Accountants
John McKee Solicitors
JPR (NI) Ltd
JTI (Japan Tobacco International)
La Mon Hotel
Lafarge Tarmac Ireland
Law Society of N.I.
Legal Island
LK Communications
Londonderry Chamber of Commerce
Love PR
Lowry Building & Civil Engineering Ltd
LucidTalk Limited
Lumen Financial Planning
MacCorkell Legal and Commercial Ltd Solicitors
Mallusk Enterprise Park

Manufacturing Northern Ireland
Mash Direct Ltd
MBA Association of Ireland
McClelland Salter
McDowell Financial Services
MCE Public Relations
Momentum Support (NI) Ltd
Mpact
NB Chartered Marketing
Neal Lucas Recruitment Ltd
Next Level Impact
NI Chamber of Commerce and Industry
NI Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA)
NI Food and Drink Association
NI Independent Retail Trade Association
NI Science Park
NIRSC
Norbrook Laboratories Ltd
NORIBIC
Northern Ireland Drinks Industry Association
NOW Group
Omagh Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Omagh Enterprise Company
Open University
OR Training & Personal Development Ltd
Ortus
Park Avenue Hotel
Paul McAlister Architects
Paul Meekin Partners Hair & Beauty
PeoplePlus NI
Phoenix Natural Gas
Pi Communications
Practical People Solutions Ltd
Precision Gear Company
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Priory Press
proParamedics Ltd
QPANI
Queen's University Belfast
Resolute PA
River House
RJ McKelvey Ltd
Rooney Fish
Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
Sandycove
SDC Trailers Limited
Social Enterprise
Springvale Learning
Stakeholder Communications
Stratagem
Tascomi
The Mind Model
The Outlet
TotalMobile
Tourism NI
Turley PR & Public Affairs
Ulster Bank Ltd
Ulster Community Investment Trust
Ulster Language Services
Ulster University
Urban Property Solutions Ltd

W Oliver (Exorna) Ltd
WALKER
Watson & Co Chartered Marketing
Webb Advisory Limited
Weber Shandwick NI
WJ Law & Co
Women in Business NI Ltd
Wrightbus Ltd
Young Enterprise NI
W Oliver (Exorna) Ltd
W5
Watson & Co Chartered Marketing
Weber Shandwick NI
WJ Law & Co
Women in Business NI Ltd
Wrightbus Ltd
Young Enterprise NI

Business Membership Contributions

At present the Trust is receiving a membership subscription fee based on turnover. The annual fees scale is as follows.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| • above/equal to £50 million | £1,250 |
| • below £50 million | £ 750 |
| • below £25 million | £ 500 |
| • below £10 million | £ 250 |
| • below £ 5 million | £ 125 |
| • below £ 2 million | £ 50 |

Associate membership is also available at a further reduction of 50% on the rates shown above. Associate membership has certain restrictions and limitations compared to full membership.

Aims and Expected Outcomes

The overall aims of the Trust and the Board of Trustees were identified at a strategic event and are as follows:

- Sharing best practice.
- Developing programmes that prioritise and identify cross-sector issues which target key areas
- Strengthen networking.
- Improving access to the Northern Ireland Assembly and the business sector.
- Strengthening the understanding of the Trust

The expected outcomes were identified as:

- Better policy making.
- More / better informed legislation.
- Realistic understanding by the business sector of what is achievable.
- More focused and targeted influence.

Objectives 2016- 2017

1. To develop a comprehensive programme of events and resources to support the aims of the Trust
2. To grow business membership, with a focus on ensuring diversity within the Trust
3. To increase the contribution from a diverse range of MLAs
4. To promote and market the work of the Trust to the Northern Ireland business community and within the NI Assembly

Programmes

Since restoration in 2007, the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust (NIABT) has been working to develop its programmes to meet the needs of its membership.

The programme of events offered from April 2015 to March 2016 included an educational programme in the USA which incorporated a two day programme in Washington, one day in Baltimore and two days in New York. An NIABT Education Programme in Wales which incorporated visits to sites in Cardiff and Swansea also took place.

The Trust also arranged a series of briefings throughout the year, delivered both by prominent members of the local business community, MLAs and Ministers. The fellowship programmes continued throughout the year.

Events Held:

April 2015:

- Minister Dr Stephen Farry MLA delivered an Apprenticeship Scheme briefing. Following the Minister's overview, Brian Doran CEO of Southern Regional College and Michael O'Neill, Engineering Manager at Terex spoke of their involvement in the Scheme.
- The NIABT business membership were invited by the Chair of the Committee of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to take part in a stakeholder event which formed valuable input into the Committee Inquiry into Economic Growth & Job Creation following reduction in corporation tax in Northern Ireland.
- An NIABT Women in Leadership event was held and the audience heard from Minister Arlene Foster MLA, Eileen Mullan from Strictly Boardroom and Caitríona Ruane MLA. The contributors spoke about women leading in the business world, in the boardroom and leading in political life.

May 2015:

- Over 130 members attended the annual President's Dinner. Ambassador Matthew W. Barzun, Ambassador of the United States of America to the court of St James provided the keynote address.
- An NIABT delegation visited the United States of America for a week long educational programme. The delegation spent two days in Washington, one in Baltimore and two days in New York. During this visit the delegation had several engagements with political and business figures who had an interest in the Northern Ireland economy and political structures.

June 2015:

- Seán Rogers MLA visited Eye4education through the fellowship scheme. This visit allowed Mr Rogers the opportunity to find out more about the Eye4education initiatives that were having an impact on the education sector in Northern Ireland.
- John McCallister MLA visited Danske Bank through the fellowship scheme. This visit allowed Mr McCallister the opportunity to find out more about the banking sector in Northern Ireland.

September 2015:

- In partnership with Queen's University Belfast, the NIABT hosted the first of a two part event, themed on the upcoming EU Referendum and how this is likely to impact on Northern Ireland. Colette Fitzgerald, Head of the European Commission Regional Office in Northern Ireland, Professor David Phinnemore and Dr Lee McGowan spoke to the audience about the issues facing Northern Ireland on the outcome of an announcement of a Brexit.

October 2015:

- Members of the NIABT Board met with representatives from community and business leaders from EU countries to discuss issues of mutual concern. NIABT Board Members were also joined at the meeting by Patsy McGlone MLA, Chairperson of the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment.
- An NIABT delegation visited Wales for an educational programme. The delegation spent time in both Cardiff and Swansea meeting with a number of political figures and business representatives.

November 2015:

- The Ambassador of the Republic of Mauritania met with an NIABT delegation to discuss issues pertaining to the energy sector in Northern Ireland.
- In partnership with Queen's University Belfast, the NIABT hosted the second of a two part event, themed on the upcoming EU Referendum and how this is likely to impact on Northern Ireland. A panel comprising Colette Fitzgerald, Head of the European Commission Regional Office in Northern Ireland, Patsy McGlone MLA, Chair of the Enterprise, Trade and Investment Committee, Mike Nesbitt MLA, Chair of the OFMDFM Committee and Nigel Smyth, Regional Director CBI Northern Ireland took questions from the audience.

December 2015:

- The NIABT Christmas reception was held at Belfast Harbour Commissioner's Office. During the evening, the delegates were given a guided tour of the building, providing a history of Belfast Harbour through recent generations.

January 2016:

- Claire Sugden MLA participated in a fellowship visit with Willie Oliver at Exorna. This visit allowed Ms Sugden the opportunity to engage with a local business representative.
- Claire Sugden MLA participated in a fellowship visit with the Causeway Chamber. During this visit Ms Sugden had the opportunity to discuss local issues which were of interest to the business community.

February 2016:

- The annual President's Dinner took place and Madam Wang Shuying, Chinese Consul General in Belfast attended in a keynote speaking capacity. During the course of the evening the NIABT audience were treated to an exhibition of traditional Chinese dance and entertainment to mark the Chinese New Year.
- The NIABT provided a presentation on how to engage with the NI Assembly for members of the Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association.

March 2016:

- As part of the wider NI Assembly Women's Week celebrations the NIABT hosted an event entitled Women on Board which was themed on increasing women's participation on public and private sector boards. A panel comprising Judena Leslie, Commissioner for Public Appointments, Nicola Bothwell, NB Chartered Marketing, Judith Cochrane MLA, Eileen Mullan, Strictly Boardroom, Robin Newton MLA, Dr Joanne Stuart OBE, NI Science Park and Claire Sugden MLA each provided their particular perspectives and took questions from the audience.

Achievements and Performance

The NIABT set a number of objectives for the year. What follows is a summary of performance against key objectives.

NIABT Objectives 2012- 2016

Objective 1 – To develop a comprehensive programme of events and resources to support the aims of the Trust

Met

1. A target of running at least one monthly event during each session was met. These events included seminars, visits and fellowships. This target was maintained and exceeded throughout the year.
2. Two Inter-Parliamentary Educational Programmes (IPEPs) were delivered during the year. The IPEPs held were in the USA and Wales. Both of these programmes were the first of its kind and focused on the business relationships that Northern Ireland has with both the USA and Wales.
3. Bi-monthly Board of Trustee meetings held and programmes discussed. Five meetings were held throughout the year during parliamentary session.
4. A target of arranging four fellowships in the year was met. Four fellowships were carried out during the year.

Objective 2 - To grow business membership, with a focus on ensuring diversity within the Trust

Met

1. Business membership has reached a plateau of 158 companies during the year with each of the 18 constituencies represented. A large spread of business sectors are now represented within the business membership.

Not Met

2. The Board decided that it was not worthwhile to hold regional events so this initiative has not been progressed.

Objective 3 – To increase the contribution from a diverse range of MLAs

Met

1. A number of MLAs attended events for the first time throughout the year. 81 MLAs have been in attendance throughout all the years' events and this includes nine MLAs who have attended an NIABT event for the first time.
2. Secretariat staff continue to liaise with Party Support staff and with MLAs directly in relation to marketing events. Secretariat staff also liaises closely with relevant Committee staff in relation to the marketing of relevant events, to help ensure that MLAs are fully aware of all relevant NIABT events.
3. A number of Ministers have either been in attendance at or been directly involved with presenting at events to the Trust this year, including the Minister for Finance and Personnel, the Minister for Regional Development, the Minister for Policing and Justice and the Minister for Employment and Learning.

Not Met

1. The Board decided that it was not worthwhile to hold regional events so this initiative has not been progressed.

Objective 4 – To promote and market the work of the Trust to the Northern Ireland business community and within the NI Assembly.

Met

1. The website, www.niabt.org, contains information pertaining to the NIABT and includes details of events, past and present and is updated in a regular timely manner.
2. New membership flyers have been produced and used predominantly in communications with prospective new business members.
3. In an attempt to trim costs, e-invites have been used for events where possible. These have been created by NIABT secretariat staff.
4. The NIABT tweets regularly and has a following of over 1900.

Financial Review

The Trust receives monthly bank statements which are monitored against financial spreadsheets held within the NIABT Administration Team.

The Trust closed on 31 March 2016 with a balance of £41,134.32. This included contributions of £33,350 from business membership.

£68,613 was spent on NIABT activities throughout the year.

The carried forward balance of £41,134.32 will be used to continue supporting the work of the NIABT, e.g. in developing programmes and events to further meet the objectives of the NIABT.

NIABT Growth

Since the restoration of the NIABT from warm storage in 2007 following a period of suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly there have been periods of both steady and rapid growth. The membership has now risen to and maintained at a level of 150 to 170 members over the past few years. Membership has risen from 21 members in 2007 to 158 members in March 2016.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Target</u>
• 2007	21	n/a
• 2008	22	n/a
• 2009	35	n/a
• 2010	52	n/a
• 2011	88	n/a
• 2012	133	120
• 2013	160	160
• 2014	170	200
• 2015	170	200
• 2016	158	200

The number of events and attendees at NIABT events has fallen slightly over the past 12 months. This is due to the NI Assembly election falling within this financial year. This trend may also impact in the 2016/17 financial year.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Attendees</u>
• 2007/08	n/a	n/a
• 2008/09	8	120

• 2009/10	14	320
• 2010/11	21	1000
• 2011/12	22	1050
• 2012/13	23	1100
• 2013/14	24	1102
• 2014/15	33	1120
• 2015/16	18	900

Reserves Policy

Definition of Reserves

The term “reserves” is applied to that part of an organisation’s income that is freely available for its general purposes. Reserves are the resources the organisation has, or can make available, to spend for any or all of its purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. NIABT expenditure is to be spent at the Trustees’ discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the NIABT. All of the funds available to the NIABT fall under the “unrestricted” or “free” category and as a result are not limited to be used in any specified manner.

Why hold reserves?

Any organisation which enters financial commitments through the agreement to deliver services must ensure that it has sufficient resources. Against this background it is considered good practice for organisations to seek to build some financial reserves which will allow them to meet future commitments or unforeseen expenses without a negative impact on their ability to deliver their services or develop their businesses in the manner planned. Organisations that hold reserves can absorb setbacks and to take advantage of change and opportunity; to demonstrate that they have thought through how they might secure their viability beyond the immediate future and provide reliable services over the longer term;

What levels of reserves are required?

The Trustees are in agreement that a reserve figure which amounts to between six months to two years running costs should be in place.

Based on expenditure in 2014/15, this would represent a reserve figure of between £28,000 and £112,000.

However, this figure will be reviewed annually.

How does the NIABT ensure reserves are maintained at the agreed level?

The Trustees monitor the NIABT accounts at each Board Meeting, of which there are six held annually.

The Trustees will decide on what action to take if the reserves fall outside the agreed range.

Arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the Reserves policy

The Trustees will continue to monitor the finances at Board meetings and will review the policy annually and incorporate in the Trustee Account.

Review date

The next review date will be April 2016.

Next Steps

The work of the NIABT will continue to follow the Business Plan. The plan outlines the continued development of programmes for Assembly Members and business representatives involving briefings, seminars, company visits and fellowship placements.

Business membership will continue to be encouraged to grow unhindered and uncapped for the foreseeable future. Activity levels, however, will be capped at the current level due to available resources. The Trust will also continue to seek cross sectorial business representation from across Northern Ireland and raise its profile by having a presence at selected external events.

Events will become more MLA and Committee led as the NIABT plans to focus more on the work of relevant Committees where appropriate. This will enable the business community to find out more about the internal workings of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The NIABT has applied to the Northern Ireland Charities Commission to be registered as a Northern Ireland Charity and awaits the determination of the Commission. It is hoped that the NI Charities Commission will have made a determination in the Spring/Summer 2016.

The Board of Trustees plan to review the Memorandum of Understanding with the NI Assembly Commission in 2016 following the NI Assembly election. The Board of Trustees wish to hold a planning event in the summer of 2016, the results of which will feed into future business plans. A new business plan will be drafted for Board approval in September 2016.

Auditors

The auditors, RSM, are deemed to be reappointed under Section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Secretariat staff

At present the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust is incubated within the Northern Ireland Assembly. The Company Secretary is Susie Brown, the Company Deputy Secretary is Louise Close and the coordinator is Ivor Gibson from the Outreach Unit of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Anyone wishing further information please can contact Ivor at 028 90 418365 or info@niabt.org

Statement of Disclosure to Auditors

- (a) so far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- (b) they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the trust's auditors are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Ms Susie Brown

REGISTERED OFFICE

Room 135
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3XX

Date: