REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005

FOR

THE SHROPSHIRE AND TELFORD & WREKIN CONNEXIONS PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

2993059



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COMPANY INFORMATION For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

DIRECTORS: K A Bradshaw

M J Lowe C A Davies R K Austin L Nicholson J E Jones I Yarroll P Taylor P Harrison P J Corston K Webb

SECRETARY: T J Smith

REGISTERED OFFICE: First Floor, Victoria House

Victoria Quay Welsh Bridge Shrewsbury Shropshire SY1 1HH

REGISTERED NUMBER: 2993054 (England and Wales)

AUDITORS: Howard Worth

Chartered Accountants and

Registered Auditors The Heysoms 163 Chester Road Northwich

Cheshire CW8 4AQ

BANKERS: The Co-operative Bank

42 Greengate Street

Stafford Staffordshire ST16 2BU

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31st March 2005.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of the provision of impartial support and advice on health, employment, lifestyle, housing, finance and learning to young people and adults, and support services to schools, colleges, employers and training suppliers in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The results for the year and financial position of the company are as shown in the annexed financial statements.

DIVIDENDS

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 31st March 2005.

DIRECTORS

The directors during the year under review were:

K A Bradshaw

M J Lowe

C A Davies

R K Austin

L Nicholson

J E Jones

I Yarroll

P Taylor

P Harrison

P J Corston

N C Phillips

- resigned 6/5/2004

K Webb

- appointed 8/7/2004

The directors holding office at 31st March 2005 did not hold any beneficial interest in the issued share capital of the company at 1st April 2004 (or date of appointment if later) or 31st March 2005.

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 profit or loss of the company for that period. 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 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.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

AUDITORS

The auditors, Howard Worth, will be proposed for re-appointment in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Zradshas

K A Bradshaw - Director

14th July 2005

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE SHROPSHIRE AND TELFORD & WREKIN CONNEXIONS PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of The Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Connexions Partnership Limited for the year ended 31st March 2005 on pages five to seventeen. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention (as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets) and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page two the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

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 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Report of the Directors 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.

We read the Report of the Directors and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom 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 31st March 2005 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Howard Worth

Chartered Accountants and

Registered Auditors

The Heysoms

163 Chester Road

Northwich

Cheshire

CW8 4AQ

14th July 2005

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

	Notes	31.3.05 £	31.3.04 £
TURNOVER		6,264,913	6,251,188
Cost of sales		5,317,987	5,244,655
GROSS PROFIT		946,926	1,006,533
Administrative expenses		965,363	980,930
OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT	3	(18,437)	25,603
Interest receivable and similar income		101,557	89,686
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITI BEFORE TAXATION	ES	83,120	115,289
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	19,296	17,040
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAFTER TAXATION	AR	63,824	98,249
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEA	R	63,824	98,249

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the current and previous years.

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

	31.3.05 £	31.3.04 £
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR Revaluation of property	63,824 117,500	98,249
TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES RELATING TO THE YEAR	181,324	98,249

BALANCE SHEET 31st March 2005

		31.3.0	05	31.3.0	4
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5		228,620		132,682
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	840,048		924,604	
Cash at bank and in hand	Ü	2,475,725		2,235,585	
Cush at bank and in hand					
		3,315,773		3,160,189	
CREDITORS		- ,- ,		, ,	
Amounts falling due within one year	7	2,434,650		2,364,452	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			881,123		795,737
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT					
LIABILITIES			1,109,743		928,419
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES					
AND CHARGES	9		79,755		79,755
AND CHARGES	9		79,733		
			1,029,988		848,664
					=====
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	10		2,000		2,000
Share premium	11		199,000		199,000
Revaluation reserve	11		141,000		23,500
Working capital fund	11		58,000		58,000
Profit and loss account	11		629,988		566,164
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	14		1,029,988		848,664
					=

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

K A Bradshaw - Director

M J Lowe - Director

Approved by the Board on 14th July 2005

CASH FLOW STATEMENT For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

	Notes	31.3.05 £	31.3.04 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities	1	188,592	303,345
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	2	101,557	89,686
Taxation		(17,040)	(11,839)
Capital expenditure	2	(32,969)	(11,844)
Increase in cash in the period		240,140	369,348
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds	3		
Increase in cash in the period	J	240,140	369,348
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows		240,140	369,348
Movement in net funds in the period Net funds at 1st April		240,140 2,235,585	369,348 1,866,237
Net funds at 31st March		2,475,725	2,235,585

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

1. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.05	31.3.04
	£	£
	(18 /27)	25,603
		69,224
	54,551	79,755
	84 556	(271,361)
		400,124
	188,592	303,345
ITED IN THE CASH	31.3.05	31.3.04
	£	£
	101,557	89,686
		
ng of finance	101,557	89,686
	(32,969)	(11,844)
	(32,969)	(11,844)
		At
		31/3/05
£	£	£
2,235,585	240,140	2,475,725
2.235.585	240.140	2,475,725
		
2,235,585	240,140	2,475,725
	At 1/4/04 £ 2,235,585 2,235,585	$(18,437) \\ 54,531 \\ 84,556 \\ 67,942 \\ \hline \\ 188,592 \\ \hline \\ TTED IN THE CASH FLOW STATION STATI$

2.

3.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties.

Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value, net of value added tax, of goods sold and services provided to customers.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold land and buildings - 2% on cost
Leasehold improvements - 20% on cost
Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 25% on cost and
20% on cost

Retirement Benefits

The company operates a defined benefit pension scheme. The regular pension cost is charged to the profit and loss account and is based on the expected pension costs over the service life of the employees. The current pension deficit is spread in the profit and loss account over the remaining service lives of current employees.

Revaluation of Properties

The freehold property was professionally revalued on an existing use open market value basis, in accordance with the Statement of Assets Valuation Practice No 4 and the Guidance Notes of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The freehold property is professionally revalued every five years with an interim valuation in year three.

Government grants

Grants received relating to capital expenditure are credited to the profit and loss account over a period equivalent to the estimated useful economic lives of the assets to which they relate, as in accordance with SSAP 4. Grants received relating to revenue expenditure are credited to the profit and loss account in the year relating to the associated expenditure.

Leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

2. STAFF COSTS

Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	31.3.05 £ 3,665,172 253,736 300,458	31.3.04 £ 3,459,636 240,725 222,942
	4,219,366	3,923,303
The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:	31.3.05	31.3.04
Office and management	168	167 ———

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

3. **OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT**

4.

The operating loss (2004 - operating profit) is stated after charging:

	31.3.05 £	31.3.04
Depreciation - owned assets Auditors remuneration Operating lease rentals	54,531 5,094 148,460	£ 69,224 6,000 111,202
Directors' emoluments	58,750	37,291
The number of directors to whom retirement benefits were accruing was as follows:		
Defined benefit schemes	1	1
TAXATION		
Analysis of the tax charge The tax charge on the profit on ordinary activities for the year was as follows:		
The tax charge on the profit of ordinary activities for the year was as follows.	31.3.05 £	31.3.04 £
Current tax: UK corporation tax	19,296	17,040
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	19,296	17,040
Factors affecting the tax charge The tax assessed for the year is higher than the standard rate of corporation tax explained below:	in the UK. The	ne difference is
	31.3.05 £	31.3.04 £
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	83,120	115,289
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2004 - 19%)	15,793	21,905
Effects of: Non taxable items	3,503	(4,865)
Current tax charge	19,296	17,040

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

			Fixtures,	
	Freehold		fittings	
	land and	Leasehold	and	
	buildings	improvements	equipment	Totals
	£	£	£	£
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1st April 2004	63,500	31,814	282,622	377,936
Additions	-	-	32,969	32,969
Revaluations	111,500	-	-	111,500
At 31st March 2005	175,000	31,814	315,591	522,405
DEPRECIATION			 -	
At 1st April 2004	4,750	22,170	218,334	245,254
Charge for year	3,000	4,719	46,812	54,531
Revaluation adjustments	(6,000)	-	-	(6,000)
At 31st March 2005	1,750	26,889	265,146	293,785
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2005	173,250	4,925	50,445	228,620
At 31st March 2004	58,750	9,644	64,288	132,682

Cost or valuation at 31st March 2005 is represented by:

	Freehold		Fixtures, fittings	
	land and	Leasehold	and	
	buildings	improvements	equipment	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Valuation in 2005	135,000	-	-	135,000
Cost	40,000	31,814	315,591	387,405
	175,000	31,814	315,591	522,405

If freehold land and buildings had not been revalued they would have been included at the following historical cost:

	31.3.05	31.3.04
	£	£
Cost	40,000	40,000
	====	======
Aggregate depreciation	4,000	3,200
-		

Freehold land and buildings were valued on an open market basis on 19th May 2004 by Barbers, Chartered Surveyors.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

6.	DEBTORS
U.	DEDIONS

ο.	DERIORS		
		31.3.05	31.3.04
	A manusta falling dua within and again	£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year: Trade debtors	215 212	525.240
		215,212	525,240
	Other debtors	37,467	40,780
	Prepayments and accrued income	586,369	357,584
		839,048	923,604
	Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
	Called up share capital not paid	1,000	1,000
		===	=====
	Aggregate amounts	840,048	924,604
			=======================================
7.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		31.3.05	31.3.04
		£	£
	Trade creditors	349,238	188,184
	Taxation	19,296	17,040
	Social security and other taxes	248,837	244,838
	VAT	4,678	124,728
	Other creditors	785,719	800,061
	Accruals and deferred income	1,026,882	989,601
		2,434,650	2,364,452

8. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

9.

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid within one year:

	Land and buildings	
	31.3.05 €	31.3.04 £
Expiring:		~
Within one year	16,739	28,721
Between one and five years	66,498	22,800
In more than five years	49,291	59,400
	132,528	110,921
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	31,3.05	31.3.04
	£	51.5.0 1
Other provisions	79,755	79,755
1		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

9. PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES - continued

Other provisions relates to a dilapidation's provision on the leased premises that the company occupies. It is not possible to state the exact timing of transfer of economic benefit as the company occupies a number of leasehold premises, all of which have different lease expiry dates. The company is not expected to receive any reimbursement of costs.

10. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised:				
Number:	Class:	Nominal	31.3.05	31.3,04
		value;	£	£
1,480	'A' Ordinary	£1	1,480	1,480
520	'B' Ordinary	£1	520	520
	•			
			2,000	2,000
				===
Allotted and	issued:			
Number:	Class:	Nominal	31.3.05	31.3.04
		value:	£	£
1,480	'A' Ordinary	£1	1,480	1,480
520	'B' Ordinary	£1	520	520
	•			
			2,000	2,000

500 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each and 500 'B' ordinary shares of £1 each have been fully paid.

11. RESERVES

At 1st April 2004	Profit and loss account £ 566,164	Share premium £ 199,000	Revaluation reserve £ 23,500	Working capital fund £ 58,000	Totals £ 846,664
Retained profit for the year	63,824	199,000	25,500	36,000	63,824
Revaluation	-		117,500	- - 	117,500
At 31st March 2005	629,988	199,000	141,000	58,000	1,027,988
Profit and loss account excluding pension liability Pension reserve	629,988 (3,681,000)				
Profit and loss account	(3,051,012)				

The working capital fund may only be used to support the Connexions grant funded work and is repayable to the Department of Education and Skills in the event of the company being wound up.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

12. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The company operates a defined benefit scheme in the UK. A full actuarial valuation was carried out at 31st March 2004 and updated to 31st March 2005 by a qualified independent actuary. The major assumptions used by the actuary were:

	31/3/05	31/3/04	31/3/03
Rate of increase in salaries	4.65%	4.30%	4%
Rate of increase in pensions in payment	2.90%	2.80%	2.50%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.40%	6.30%	5.40%
Inflation assumption	2.90%	2.80%	2.50%

The assets in the scheme and the expected rate of return were:

	Long-term		Long-term		Long-term	
	rate of		rate of		rate of	
	return		return		return	
	expected	Value	expected	Value	expected	Value
	at	at	at	at	at	at
	31/3/05	31/3/05	31/3/04	31/3/04	31/3/03	31/3/03
		£		£		£
Equities	7.50%	5,234,000	7.50%	4,388,000	7.50%	3,263,000
Bonds	4.70%	194,000	4.70%	191,000	4.50%	941,000
Property	6.50%	305,000	6.50%	382,000	6.50%	323,000
Cash	4.75%	119,000	4%	63,000	3.70%	18,000
Other bonds	5.40%	1,593,000	5.50%	1,335,000	5.40%	
Total market value of asset	s	7,445,000		6,359,000		4,545,000
Present value of scheme lia	bilities	(11,126,000)		(8,036,000)		(6,428,000)
Deficit in scheme		(3,681,000)		(1,677,000)		(1,883,000)
Net pension liability		(3,681,000)		(1,677,000)		(1,883,000)

Analysis of the amount that will be included within operating profit under FRS 17

	31,3.05	31.3.04
	£	£
Current service cost	507,000	447,000
Past service cost	156,000	15,000
Total operating charge	663,000	462,000

Analysis of the amount that will be included as other finance income under FRS 17

	31.3.05	31.3.04
	£	£
Expected return on pension scheme assets	448,000	332,000
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	(453,000)	(372,000)
Net return	(5,000)	(40,000)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

12. PENSION COMMITMENTS - continued

Analysis of amount that will be included within the statement of total recognised gains and losses under FRS 17

Actual return less expected return on pension scheme assets Experience gains and losses arising on the scheme liabilities Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of the sche Actuarial (loss)/gain	eme liabilities	31.3.05 £ 166,000 (1,128,000) (741,000) (1,703,000)	31.3.04 £ 789,000 (304.000) 485,000
Movement in deficit during the year			
		31.3.05 £	
Deficit in scheme at start of year		(1,677,000)	
Movement in year: Current service cost		(507,000)	
Contributions		367,000	
Past service costs		(156,000)	
Other finance costs		(5,000)	
Actuarial loss		(1,703,000)	
Deficit in scheme at end of year		(3,681,000)	
History of experience gains and losses	31.3.05	31.3.04	31.3.03
Difference between the expected and actual return on scheme	51.5.05	51.5.01	31.3.03
assets:			
amount (£)	166,000	789,000	(1,553,000)
percentage of scheme assets	2%	12%	(34)%
Experience gains and losses on scheme liabilities: amount (\mathfrak{L})	(1,128,000)	0	0
percentage of the present value of the scheme liabilities	10%	0%	0%
Total actuarial gain or loss: amount (£)	(1,703,000)	485,000	(2,251,000)
percentage of the present value of the scheme liabilities	15%	(6)%	35%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued For The Year Ended 31st March 2005

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The company is controlled by Shropshire County Council (SCC), Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC), and Shropshire Chamber of Commerce Training and Enterprise Limited (SCCTE), each of which own 37%, 37%, and 26% respectively of the company's issued share capital. M J Lowe and N C Phillips, both directors of The Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Connexions Partnership Limited, are also directors of SCCTE.

During the year the company purchased services from SCC totalling £259,398 in respect of consultancy, administrative and printing services, and also made sales for services to them totalling £170,828. In addition, £65,300 is included in trade debtors and £78,225 is included in trade creditors at the year end.

During the year, the company made sales for services to TWC totalling £17,700. Amounts owed from TWC were £3,144 at the year end.

14. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	31.3.05 £	31.3.04 £
Profit for the financial year Other recognised gains and losses	63,824	98,249
relating to the year (net)	117,500	
Net addition to shareholders' funds Opening shareholders' funds	181,324 848,664	98,249 750,415
Closing shareholders' funds	1,029,988	848,664
Equity interests	1,029,988	848,664

15. CONTROLLING PARTY

There is no controlling party of the company.