

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 33. Common Good Fund

#### 33.1 Common Good Fund Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2007

2005/06 £000	Income and Expenditure Account	Notes	2006/07 £000
150	Expenditure		68
<u>(334)</u>	Income		<u>(231)</u>
<u>(184)</u>	Surplus for Year		<u>(163)</u>
<b>Balance Sheet at 31 March 2007</b>			
3,404	Fixed Assets	1	3,365
1	Investments		1
<u>1,696</u>	Net Current Assets		<u>1,859</u>
<u>5,101</u>	Net Assets		<u>5,225</u>
Represented by:			
3,398	Fixed Asset Restatement Account	1	3,359
(15)	Capital Financing Account		(15)
1,501	Common Good Fund		1,664
11	Disabled Access Grants Reserve		11
<u>206</u>	Fit For Future Earmarked Fund		<u>206</u>
<u>5,101</u>			<u>5,225</u>

#### 33.2 Notes to the Common Good Accounts

##### 1. Fixed Assets

	Community Assets £000	Investment Properties £000	Total £000
<b>1.1 Movement of Fixed Assets</b>			
Balance per Balance Sheet 31 March 2006	2,848	556	3,404
Revaluations and Restatements	<u>(39)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(39)</u>
Balance per Balance Sheet 31 March 2007	<u>2,809</u>	<u>556</u>	<u>3,365</u>

##### 1.2 Information on Assets Held

The fixed assets owned by the Common Good Fund include the following approximate numbers at 31 March 2007:-

Community Assets -	
Monuments and Other Activities	3
Parks and Open Spaces	11
Non Operational Assets -	
Shops, Industrial Units and other Commercial Lettings	17

##### 1.3 Fixed Asset Restatement Account

	£000
Balance as at 1 April 2006	3,398
Revaluation and Restatement	<u>(39)</u>
Balance as at 31 March 2007	<u>3,359</u>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 33. Common Good Fund

### 33.2 Notes to the Common Good Accounts (Continued)

#### 2. Funds and Reserves

##### 2.1 Movement of Funds and Reserves

	<b>Common Good Fund £000</b>	<b>Disabled Grants Reserve £000</b>	<b>Fit for Future £000</b>
Balance at 1 April 2006	1,501	11	206
Surplus for Year	163	0	0
Balance at 31 March 2007	<u>1,664</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>206</u>

The Common Good Fund stands separate from the Council's accounts and has been described as "the ancient patrimony of the community". It was originally derived from the grants by the Sovereigns of Scotland at various times. The present fund is an amalgam of the funds of the City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh and the Royal Burgh of South Queensferry.

A report on the (Edinburgh) Common Good prepared by the Town Clerk and City Chamberlain in 1905 set out the historical background of the fund and listed its then assets in some detail. The report also stated a "General Principle" that the Fund should be administered "for the purpose of upholding the dignity and suitable hospitality of the City; performing the duties incumbent upon a Royal Burgh ..... maintaining the municipal establishment and managing the municipal affairs; vindicating or extending the corporate rights of the community and defending its interests; acquiring additional land or property for the corporate benefit, or improving existing corporation property, and generally for any purpose which in the bona fide judgement of the Town Council is for the good of the community as a whole, or in which the inhabitants at large may share, as distinct from the separate interests or benefit of any particular individual or class, however deserving or needy. The purpose must be limited to those which concern the City and its interests".

The Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 confirms this interpretation that use of the Fund shall "... have regard to the interests of all the inhabitants" of the area.

The Fit For Future reserve represents funds set aside from certain Common Good properties to assist in the funding of the Fit For Future project.

The market value of investments at 31 March 2007 was £nil (2006 £nil).