

Annual Review 2019/20



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A Summary from the Chief Executive

This Annual Review highlights what was a difficult year for many as we lived with uncertainty around funding and continued austerity measures in many sectors. 2019/20 was our first full year of access to UKRI and we recorded some encouraging success in several research councils as well as continuing to be successful in winning EU funds.

Our activities in the year to 31 March 2020 generated a £0.1m surplus before depreciation, which took the deficit to £2.2m for the year, up by £0.7m on the position in '18/'19. Overall, this position reflects the ongoing challenge of securing sufficient grants and generating enough other income to support the essential ongoing investment in and maintenance of the Institute's infrastructure and scientific equipment. Specific challenges in '19/'20 included a more difficult operating environment for our trading subsidiary, James Hutton Limited, resulting in reduced trading income for the Group.

We undertook a restructuring exercise during the second half of the past financial year, which has reshaped capability within a number of scientific and professional services areas to achieve a lower cost-base. Although the COVID-19 pandemic was escalating globally during the final quarter of the year, the Institute proved adaptable and resilient and was unaffected during that period of FY '19/'20. One of our primary areas of focus remained the preparations for the Tay Cities Deal investment that will create the Advanced Plant Growth Centre and International Barley Hub. This £62m investment will be a major milestone for the Institute, and a cornerstone of a sustainable future. The pandemic has continued to occupy everyone's efforts but also refocus our minds on how we build a better more resilient world. This and other world events all give impetus to meeting the global challenges we address on the climate and nature crisis and the increasingly adapted and aligned skills, knowledge and expertise across the Hutton Group are helping to tackle these.

Professor Colin Campbell Chief Executive

Accounts

Group Annual Report Figures (£000)

Income (£000)	2019/20	2018/19
Scottish Government (RESAS)	22,630	22,766
Capital		299
	22,630	23,065
Research grants & contracts	7,764	7,560
Trading income from subsidiaries	3,479	4,123
Other income	1,930	2,011
Total income	35,803	36,759



Expenditure (£000)	2019/20	2018/19
Staff costs	23,889	23,468
Scientific consumables	5,420	5,946
Depreciation	2,295	2,485
Support costs	6,382	6,357
Total expenditure	37,986	38,256
Surplus/ <mark>(deficit)</mark> for the year	(2,183)	(1,497)



Institute CO₂ emissions (tonnes CO₂)



There were no changes to the membership of the Board in the period.





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