

FMO/IMS

30 September 2004

Institute Members in Scotland

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Green Jobs Strategy Team  
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Dear Sir

## **CONSULTATION – TOWARDS A GREEN JOBS STRATEGY**

On behalf of the Institute Members in Scotland (IMS) Group of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), I am pleased to set out below comments on the above consultation paper.

As, once again, Scotland's recycling ranking and consideration of environmental issues is far below that of our European neighbours, we believe that the time to take action is now.

We are supportive of the principles of this paper and as financial professionals, wholly endorse the belief that encouraging businesses to adopt greener working practices will help increase efficiency and productivity. We recognise that as a nation, we should view minimising the impact of economic activity on the environment of this country and others around the world, as being as important as increasing profitability.

There are many countries where this is the case and we can learn from them. In fact, the exchange of ideas and information on these matters can only benefit all parties involved.

We believe, however that the onus of this should not lie exclusively with the business community and that there is a real need for government organisations to lead by example. Local authorities should not just encourage environmentally beneficial practices but practice what they preach – and be seen to do so.

It is also important that we link the initiative with the wider activities of Scottish enterprise. Only then can these ideas work for business and for Scotland.

**ICAEW Members in Scotland**

In 2001, the ICAEW established the Institute Members in Scotland (IMS) Group to conduct the normal functions of participation and representation of its members available to ICAEW Members elsewhere in the UK and Northern Ireland. The Group represents over 1,200 Chartered Accountants, 75% of whom work in Scottish business organisations including financial services, oil, media and the public sector. The IMS Group can draw on the extensive resources of the ICAEW, a professional body with more than 125,000 members world-wide.

The IMS Group welcomes circulation of Scottish Executive consultations to allow our members to contribute to policy thinking. We hope that the brief comments we have made are helpful and we welcome the opportunity to be involved in future discussion.

We note that a series of meetings and seminars are planned and we should be pleased to receive information.

Yours faithfully



**FIONA ORMISTON**

**Executive**

**On behalf of Institute Members in Scotland**

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