

ITEM 14b

Valerie Graham, currently a Director of the High Life (Trading) Board, has extensive experience as an Operations Director overseeing a large number of hotels over a large part of the UK. She oversaw significant budgets and also was able to generate profit savings through innovative strategies and operational efficiency. She has significant retail and catering experience and her experience in the hospitality and tourism sectors has provided extensive experience in driving customer-centric growth. From revitalising iconic venues like Edinburgh's Café Royal to successfully managing large-scale hotel and restaurant portfolios, she has a deep understanding of tourism dynamics in the Scottish Highlands and beyond. She has a track record in identifying and capitalising on growth opportunities and has consistently delivered measurable results in growth, innovation, and operational excellence.

Donella Steel has lived and worked in the Highlands of Scotland for over 30 years, 20 of those years in management in the public sector for a range of public bodies ranging from NatureScot to Historic Environment Scotland. She is a Finance professional with 10 years of finance director experience in public bodies and charitable public bodies. She has also had responsibility for corporate service functions such as IT, grants and legal. She has direct Board experience through previously being on the Highland Hospice Board of Trustees and the Inverness College Board of Management (and as Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee). She has provided strategic leadership; ensuring financial stewardship and able to hold the Chief Executive and senior management team to account in a culture of openness, courtesy, respect.