

SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE GLASGOW

Stuart Patrick – Operations Director

Scottish Enterprise operates out of several locations with headquarters in Glasgow. There are 12 Local Enterprise Companies, Careers Scotland and Business Gateway outlets throughout Scotland and internationally, SE has offices in the USA, Europe and Asia Pacific.

Services are mainly focused around the needs of our customers and are accessed via the Local Enterprise Companies which includes Scottish Enterprise Glasgow.

Scottish Enterprise Glasgow's purpose is to stimulate a strong Glasgow and Scottish economy. We have a vision of a Smart, Successful Scotland. What our customers gain from our service is competitive advantage, whether it's for their business, organisation, sector or community or by us helping them to become more competitive as an individual by improving their knowledge and skills. Overall our goal is measurable and sustainable improvement in the Glasgow and Scottish economy.

Scottish Enterprise has identified Tourism as a priority industry that has significant growth potential. We are supportive of development, at both local and national scale, that has ambition and vision and can contribute to make Glasgow and Scotland more Globally Connected. We have been encouraged by the scale and ambition of the Regional Casino proposals for Glasgow and believe they will help us to achieve comprehensive, integrated and sustainable regeneration of Glasgow.

The development of a Regional Casino, particularly in Glasgow, has the potential to make a significant contribution to our aims. The scale and nature of the regeneration that will be realised will transform the economic prospects of Glasgow. The city has a key role as the driver of the Metro region economy. Only by transforming the prospects of Scotland's largest city region, and the country's greatest concentration of untapped potential, can we impact on Scotland's overall economic performance.

SE Glasgow believes that the greatest benefit for our city can be gained through positive partnership working. We would wish to be represented at the EIP to engage with our partners in presenting Glasgow as the best location for a Regional Casino.

Scottish Enterprise Glasgow believes the economic benefits accruing from a Regional Casino development in Glasgow will be significant at a National Scale. A Regional Casino will play an important role in establishing step change in transforming the prospects of Scotland's largest city region and, in turn, can impact on Scotland's overall economic performance.

The development of a Regional Casino will:

- Contribute to the profile of Glasgow as a National and International city.
- Will enhance Glasgow's tourism offering.
- Contribute to Scottish Enterprise Priority Industries
- Allow Glasgow to develop Casino-related tourism as a specialism

Securing a Regional Casino will ensure that Glasgow can compete effectively at an international scale and will ensure that Glasgow and Scotland continues to benefit from business and leisure tourism with significant growth potential. The Scottish National Tourism Strategy "The Next Decade" launched in March 2006 by the Scottish Executive states that Scotland aims to have 50% revenue growth from tourism by 2015.

The development of a Regional Casino can be viewed in the context of the Scottish Executive Regeneration Policy Statement. The policy states '*Regeneration is about the transformation of specific places for the better. This transformation has economic, physical, social and environmental aspects*'.

The development of business tourism is also a key component of the New Economic Strategy to improve

Glasgow's international profile. A Regional Casino development will assist the City to bid for, and win, international conference business contributing to a step change in the cities economy.

The wider benefits of the proposal include quantitative and qualitative benefits that will contribute significantly to the Glasgow offering in terms of recreation and amenity, environment and image.

A Casino, hotel and associated leisure activities will provide significant job creation across both city, Metro Region and National Scale.

The Regional Casino and associated activity is seen a unique opportunity to provide a route into employment for Glasgow's economically inactive. It is hoped that many of the jobs to service this high cost, high impact development option will be sourced locally, thus actively contributing to the social inclusion agenda. Scottish Enterprise will assist in the development of a local labour programme to maximise construction opportunities for local people, building on best practice and using an innovative model of partnership. We will work with the Casino operator to link skills and learning to their needs.

In summary Glasgow is an important urban tourism centre and a gateway city for the rest of Scotland. A Regional Casino based in Glasgow will be of National significance.